

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

JULY, 2021

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Editors: Lynn Dickerman
& Linda Tidmore



**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

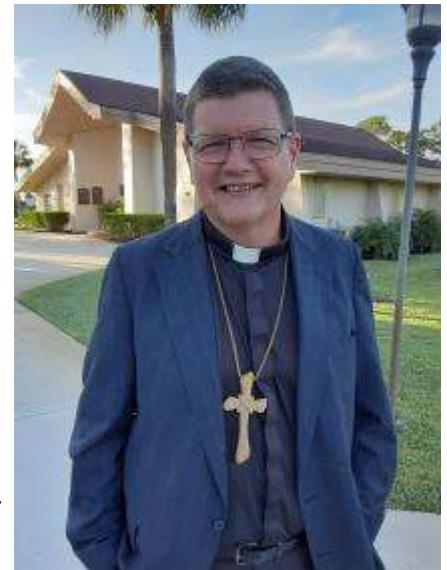
PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

In 1 Corinthians 3:6, St. Paul says, "*I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.*" As I visited rural Iowa in June, I could not help but notice how beautiful the crops looked coming out of the ground. Spring and summer are my favorite seasons because they are seasons of growth. A tiny seed that is planted somehow begins to grow into a plant and produces the crops that multiply and are harvested in the fall. I do not know much about agriculture, but I do know that farming has changed a lot in my lifetime. When I was a child, it was often said that corn should be knee high by the fourth of July. Now everyone expects corn to be at least shoulder high by the fourth of July. Most of the seeds that have been planted are now hybrid seeds that were created to produce even more crops from a single seed. The seeds are also more resilient towards extreme weather conditions and a light drought is no longer a problem with regard to production. It is amazing to watch the seeds that were planted growing and producing an abundant crop. Unless there is something that gets in the way of natural development, the seeds will do what they were created to do. Produce more fruit. Paul uses this image of agriculture to remind us that we all have a part in planting and caring for the seeds of faith that have been given to us. Paul planted, Apollos watered. But God gives the growth. This is important for us to remember as a church. Programs do not and will not grow the church. Pastors will not grow the church. Though certain programs help bring people to the church, and some pastors are more charismatic than others, it is God and God's Word alone that will grow the church.

Some theologians teach a concept known as Natural Church Development. The basic principle of Natural Church Development is that the seeds of God's Word have been planted. Like the seeds St. Paul planted and Apollos watered, the church will continue to grow naturally unless something happens that prevents growth. The case studies that support the Natural Church Development theory are very interesting to read. Their case studies found churches that are focused on nurturing 8 different quality characteristics within their church are experiencing growth. These eight quality characteristics are:

- Empowering leadership
- Passionate Spirituality
- Inspiring Worship services
- Need-oriented Evangelism
- Gift based ministry
- Effective Structures
- Holistic Small Groups
- and Loving relationships.

Those who teach Natural Church Development believe that a church is only as strong as its weakest characteristic, and no quality characteristic can be missing to experience growth.



PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

You may not agree with the studies and conclusions of Natural Church Development, but as you look at the eight quality characteristics that are listed, I invite you to think about what areas are strong qualities at Shepherd of the Glades, and what areas might need some strengthening. We live in a community where the population is exploding. New churches are being planted right in our area. There is no reason Shepherd of the Glades should not be experiencing continuous new growth. Summer has traditionally been a time to see attendance numbers and participation in worship decline as our seasonal members return North. That is a natural flow for us. But there are many new people who have moved to Naples that are seeking a place to worship. God will give the growth if there is nothing to prevent the growth. I invite you to reflect on what quality characteristics we might water and nurture to allow growth to happen even in the summer. Just like things have changed for farmers, things have changed for the church. We can no longer be passive and expect people to come to the church because it is a Lutheran church. The church can grow like the hybrid seeds that are resilient in times of drought and produce a bountiful harvest. We can plant and we can water and nurture the seeds of faith, and God will bring the growth. I look forward to conversations with you about which quality characteristics you believe Shepherd might focus on to nurture our growth. Have a blessed summer.

Pastor Jeff

FOOD FOR THE SOUL . . .

“America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination, and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.” *Harry S. Truman*

“...the source of our blessings is a loving God, in whom we trust. Therefore, I ask all the members of the American family, our guests and friends, to join me now in a moment of silent prayer and meditation in gratitude for all that we have received and to ask continued safety and happiness for each of us and for the United States of America.” *President Gerald R. Ford*

“To the weary, hungry, unequipped Army of the American Revolution, the Fourth of July was a tonic of hope and inspiration. So is it now. The tough, grim men who fight for freedom in this dark hour take heart in its message - the assurance of the right to liberty under God - for all peoples and races and groups and nations, everywhere in the world.” *President Franklin D. Roosevelt, July 4, 1942*

“Years ago, a group of good, wise, brave, God-fearing men stood up to claim and defend the human right for independence. Those men are now dead. Their work is not. If good, wise, brave, God-fearing men fail to stand up in their stead, that independence will cease to exist.” *Richelle E. Goodrich, Making Wishes Wise*

COUNCIL'S CORNER . . .

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH June 8, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Bonny Dery, President.

The meeting of the Shepherd of the Glades Council was held in person and via conference call because of the Corona Virus. Members in attendance: Bonnie Brisky, Brenda Charleston, Pat Cooper, Bonny Dery, Paul Hashagen, Barb Keller, Penny Morken, Bob Tidmore, Charlotte Wahlig, Doug Walck, and Phil Willman. Pastor Ungs was also in attendance.

Devotions: Paul Hashagen

A motion to approve the minutes of the last Council meeting as written was made, seconded, and passed.

Pastor's report: Pastor Jeff reported that he has had a Caloosa Conference meeting in person at Babcock Ranch, ZOOM meetings with East Naples Ministerial group, personal spiritual direction meetings; property committee regarding 2021 property improvements and Capital Campaign, and videos with virtual greeters. Pastor has been visiting and praying with members that have been hospitalized or sick, and he has been doing homebound communions. Pastor welcomed nine new members on Sunday, May 23rd and are already making plans for another new member class. Pastor Jeff had memorial services for Eleanor Pitzer and Karen Puerner and both services were live streamed for family unable to attend. Pastor will be on vacation from June 14-21. Pastor Bob Hoffman will provide pulpit supply and emergency Pastoral care, and Frank Kerr has been hired to set up and operate the A/V system.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Tidmore reported that the summary report shows that actual giving was above budget for the first time in many months. Expenses were higher this month due an annual insurance premium being paid in a lump sum. This amount had been budgeted over a 12 month period. The BB&T investment account showed an increase as of May 31, 2021.

Both the Pastor's and Treasurer's reports were motioned for approval, seconded, and passed.

Committee reports:

Endowment – Balance in Endowment Account shows an increase as of May 31, 2021.

Parish Relations – Barb Keller reported that the Mutual Ministry met in May. Pastor suggested that Parish Relations may want to assist with starting new groups that want to use the church for activities such as a book reading group.

Property - Doug Walck reported that Condee Electric will begin maintenance service on all of the A/C units beginning June 30th.

Education - No report

Fellowship – June 6th was our first fellowship after Worship service and it was a huge success.

Stewardship – No report

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COUNCIL'S CORNER (CONTINUED) . . .

Evangelism-Bonnie Brisky reported that we are already making plans for a “New Member” class. We have three people interested in joining.

Local Mission-Food was blessed and taken to St. Matthew’s in Naples and the Friendship House in Immokalee, and was greatly appreciated.

Worship & Music – Songs for Worship have been selected through July. We will have two guest flautists for the 4th of July worship service.

Old Business:

Chuck Keller, chairman of the Endowment Committee, attended the council meeting to discuss the benefits of investing in the ELCA “A” Fund account, and to answer any questions the Council members might have regarding the transfer our funds.

Following this discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and passed to transfer the Endowment funds from America-Trade to the ELCA Endowment Fund “A”.

\$63,230 has been committed to our capital campaign. This is an increase of \$6,230 since our May council meeting.

We continue to follow CDC guidelines and are monitoring local Covid cases. Masks are no longer mandated for worship. We are offering sealed individual cups and the option of coming to the communion rail for personal distribution. Starting June 13th, we will be using common cup and intinction or sealed individual cups as a congregational choice.

New Business:

We continue to host and rent to Iglesia Conexion United Methodist Church in Hanson Hall. They paid June rent, and again expressed how grateful they are to have use of the building. There have been some concerns regarding availability of the Hall for Shepherd of the Glades use. We are listening to those who have concerns and we are addressing them.

Council was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. with closing prayer by Pastor Jeff.

Next meeting will be September 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., with devotions by Phil Willman.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Tidmore, Administrative Assistant

LAUGHTER IS MEDICINE FOR THE SOUL . . .

Teacher: More than 200 years ago, our forefathers defeated the British in the Revolutionary War.

Caleb: Wow! They must have been pretty strong, four men defeating a whole army!

Pedro: What was the patriots’ favorite food in the Revolutionary War?

Ordep: I don’t know. What?

Pedro: Chicken Catch-a-Tory!

Beth: What did one flag say to the other flag?

Eric: Nothing. It just waved!

Robert: What did the colonists wear to the Boston Tea Party?

John: I don’t know.

Robert: Tea-shirts.

AA GROUPS . . .

Women's AA Group

On Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. you are invited to join the "Women by the Book" closed AA meeting for women only. You are welcome to email: [womenbythe bookaa@gmail.com](mailto:womenbythebookaa@gmail.com) for Zoom information. The meeting will be on Zoom year round and we will begin meeting at Shepherd of the Glades, Hanson Hall starting on November 9, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Mixed AA Group

On Mondays at noon, a mixed AA group meets in Hanson Hall. Also, another group meets on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday mornings, at 9:00 a.m. If you or someone you know wishes to attend, please contact Tom Gallagher at 239-348-2205 or Frank Zalar at 239-784-7351.

INTRODUCING YOUR MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM . . .

Welcome to your newly established Mutual Ministry Team! They are Ron Modjeska, Nadine Kelly, Bob Hicks, and Pam Bhathena. They were chosen by the Church Council and the Pastor to serve this new ministry. The purpose of the mutual ministry team is to assist the congregation in

establishing and continuing healthy communication. Congregation members are encouraged to visit with any one of the members of the mutual ministry team to share "praises and pinches." What are you really pleased with that is happening in the church? Your praise may be included in the newsletter by the committee as a form of thank you to those who make great things happen. What things are you concerned about? The committee has been tasked with listening closely to your concerns and investigating what happened and what might be done differently to prevent whatever has occurred that may be unhealthy.



PAM BHATHENA



NADINE KELLY



BOBBY HICKS

The concern and the actions that are taken regarding this concern *may* also be communicated anonymously in the newsletter by the mutual ministry team. This team will report and be under the guidance of the person serving the council on Parish Ministry. As we begin this new ministry, two will serve 2 year term and two will serve a 4 year term. Ideally, the committee will consist of two males and two females, two newer members and two longer term members. After the first two serve for 2 years, two new people will be appointed for 4 years. That way, new people will rotate on this committee every two years. Welcome and thank you to our newest ministry team!



RON MODJESKA

CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayer:

Lynn Arbeiter & Family	The Phil Kalbaugh Family	Jim Oppermann
Maryann Buettner & Family	Sharon Hicks	Catherine Victoria Parker
Adam Caulder	Anita & Nick Lehr	Karen Peterson
Liza & Bruce Corson	Pat Lussky	Family of Eleanor Pitzer
The Robert Cumor, Jr. Family	Carol Lyberg	The Karen Puerner Family
Tom & Vicki Dunlop	Mark & Lisa McGarity	Charlotte Sebe
Families affected by Miami building collapse	The Carl Morken Family	Nina Smarjesse
Carol Freitag	Beth & Ed O'Brien	Micah Smith
Sue Haberkorn		

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

A CAPITAL IDEA . . .

2021 Property Capital Campaign Update

The 2021 Capital Campaign projects are all complete and paid for!

The total for the new sign on Santa Barbara, new parking lot lights, and pavement totaled \$81,738. To date, at the writing of this article, \$68,930 has been donated towards this large capital improvement project: \$10,000 from memorial funds, \$10,000 from the endowment funds, and \$48,930 from individuals. We are thankful and appreciative for all the donations to this long term project that reflects on our image to our community and keeps our property safe for all who attend.

The shortfall of income to expense for this project, \$12,808, has been taken from our current income so that way we can celebrate "independence" of debt incurred for this project.

Don Bassett, Chair

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



FINANCIALLY, HOW ARE WE DOING? . . .

PERIOD: Six Months Ended June, 2021

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$160,321	\$195,640	(\$35,319)
Operating Expense	\$178,999	\$176,940	(\$2,059)
Net Income (Deficit)	(\$18,678)	(\$18,700)	(\$37,378)

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 JULY BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

July 1	Delores Lipe
July 2	Barbara Glaser
July 4	Nancy Larrabee
July 5	Bailey Tait
July 6	Heidi Dziubla
July 7	Doug Walck
July 8	Ann Wood
July 8	Ann Hashagen
July 8	Daniel Bernabei
July 9	Roland Cumor
July 10	Mike Boyd
July 12	Lee Collins
July 13	Linda Dean
July 18	Chuck Keller
July 19	Randy Kuzel
July 20	Andrea Tack
July 20	Holden Bernabei
July 21	James Bernabei
July 21	Cadence Snover
July 21	Jocelyn Snover

July 22	Sue Walck
July 23	William Masterson
July 25	Pat Spanitz
July 25	Bruce Kobs
July 26	Bud Moran II
July 27	Shelby Moran
July 29	Joanne Hogan
July 29	Jeanne Jones
July 30	Ruth Smith



JULY ANNIVERSARIES . . .

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

July 11	Peter & Margarete Krehan
July 19	Lori & James Bernabei
July 19	Jamshed & Pamela Bhathena
July 24	Judy & Bruce Kobs
July 27	Kelli & Pastor Jeff Ungs
July 29	Carol & Pastor Peter Lyberg
July 30	Beverly & Paul Smith
July 31	Elouise & Dave Larson



WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY . . .



Dear Undy Sunday Supporter,

Catholic Charities has successfully completed its 26th Undy Sunday clothing drive, asking for underwear and socks for kids in kindergarten to 6th grade for those low-income families who cannot afford to purchase basic necessities. This program is based in Collier County, and now has a virtual component for contributions and support.

Through the help of our local parishes as well as 33 other religious organizations, Catholic Charities' 26th drive was able to provide large bags to 38 different schools and organizations. There were 74 bags donated, 37 for girls and 37 for boys. Inside each bag, were approximately 15 packages of underwear and ten packages of socks, in various sizes. In total, over 11,100 items were donated.

Despite the current pandemic in the world, Catholic Charities made it easy for donations this past year. Volunteers and donators were able to purchase items directly from an Amazon Charity Wishlist and an online donation portal where all proceeds went to purchasing more items. Cash donations were also accepted to purchase unused socks and underwear for these children.

Since it has been so easy to collect donations between the Amazon Charity Wishlist, as well as the online portal, Catholic Charities is still collecting donations today. Although the program is promoted in September and October for distribution in November, Catholic Charities continues to provide to children throughout the year. You can find for information and the links to contribute at <https://catholiccharitiesdov.org/undysunday2020>.

Thank you for supporting this worthy project to help our needy school children throughout Collier County!

THRIVENT UPDATES . . .



You're Invited: July 2021 Events

Please join the Thrivent Member Network - Southeast Region this month at our upcoming events. We help Christians find financial clarity, enabling lives full of meaning and gratitude. All are welcome to attend our free virtual events. We also offer events in Spanish.

The 5 Love Languages with Dr. Gary Chapman

Wednesday, July 14th | On Demand Event 1 day only

Get your virtual ticket at <http://bit.ly/lovejuly14>

Retirement & Taxes with IRA Expert, Ed Slott

Wednesday, July 21st | Live at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Register at <http://bit.ly/EdTaxes>

Rise Above with Professional Surfer, Bethany Hamilton

Wednesday, July 18th | Live at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Get your virtual ticket at <https://bit.ly/BHamiltonflyer>

Decisiones monetarias para toda la familia

Money Canvas – Monetary Decisions For The Whole Family (Spanish only)

Martes 13 de Julio 8 p.m.

Registro: <https://bit.ly/3wgyoeh>

Padres, Hijos y Asuntos de Dinero

Parent, Kids and Money (Spanish only)

Martes 27 de Julio 8 p.m.

Confirme su asistencia aquí: <https://bit.ly/3tO11gl>

Feel free to share the events with your friends and family. Contact us at SoutheastTMN@thrive.com or see what's happening at thrive.com/southeast or at [Facebook.com/SoutheastTMN](https://www.facebook.com/SoutheastTMN).

Questions about Thrivent?

Call Thrivent Financial Associate David Contessa at (239) 300-5139.

MONTH AT A GLANCE . . .

JULY, 2021



Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs.	Fri	Sat
				1	2 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	3 AA MIXED GROUP 9:00 A.M.
4 SIXTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	5 OFFICE CLOSED FOR 4TH OF JULY AA MIXED GROUP 12 NOON AA WOMEN'S GROUP 7:30 P.M.	6 AA MIXED GROUP 5:30 P.M.	7 7:30-9:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	8	9 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	10 AA MIXED GROUP 9:00 A.M.
11 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	12 AA MIXED GROUP 12 NOON AA WOMEN'S GROUP 7:30 P.M.	13 AA MIXED GROUP 5:30 P.M.	14 7:30-9:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	15 NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	16 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	17 AA MIXED GROUP 9:00 A.M.
18 EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	19 AA MIXED GROUP 12 NOON AA WOMEN'S GROUP 7:30 P.M.	20 AA MIXED GROUP 5:30 P.M.	21 7:30-9:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	22	23 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	24 AA MIXED GROUP 9:00 A.M.
25 NINTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	26 AA MIXED GROUP 12 NOON AA WOMEN'S GROUP 7:30 P.M.	27 AA MIXED GROUP 5:30 P.M.	28 7:30-9:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	29	30 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH NEWSLETTER MAILING	31 AA MIXED GROUP 9:00 A.M.

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

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Pastor Jeff Ungs, Pastor [cell phone: 641-529-2479]
Megan Cianflone, Director of Music
Bonny Dery, Council President
Lynn Dickerman and Linda Tidmore, Admin. Assistants to the Pastor
Rev. H. Peter Lyberg, Pastor Emeritus