



# 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

**JANUARY, 2022**

**Volume 25- Issue 1**

Editors: Lynn Dickerman  
& Linda Tidmore



**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

I begin with a word of thanks to everyone who made Christmas worship so special again this year. We are blessed to have Megan as our director for music. She always puts together a wonderful Spirit filled Christmas worship. Thank you to Megan and all our musicians. I also want to thank everyone for your generosity and your Christmas gift to myself and the staff. Shepherd of the Glades is always so generous. May you be blessed for being a blessing to others.

I wish everyone a very blessed and Happy New Year as we get used to writing and saying it is 2022! As I reflect on the coming year, I think about the movie, "It's a Wonderful Life" where the main character, George Bailey says, "*I know what I'm gonna do tomorrow, and the next day, and the next year, and the year after that.*" If you have seen the movie, you know that George Bailey's life does not go as he envisioned and planned. So often we set New Year's resolutions and have great plans for the new year. We envision and think we know our future. But soon, like George Bailey, we begin to recognize that we may have great plans and intentions for the coming days and years to come, but sometimes things do not go as we plan. No one planned a global pandemic that would cause us to change our plans and the way we do things in the church and in our daily lives. And now we have approached a new year, and we recognize that there are things that we plan that may not go as we hope and plan. Yet we move forward each and every day **by faith**, trusting that God is with us. Faith in Christ is truly a wonderful gift that God has given to us. When we put our trust in God, our anxieties fade away, and we have peace as we see the wonderful things God is doing in our life and in the world. Like George Bailey, we might even begin to see the many blessings in our lives rather than the things that do not go as we hope or plan.

Recently we have seen the blessings of stepping up and out in faith. When we put the giving tree up and asked for Christmas presents for young children in the Naples area we did not know who would feel led to buy the presents, or even if we would have enough people volunteer to take a name from the tree. We had people who are not even members of the church who heard about this ministry outreach who took names from the tree and purchased gifts for children they would never see or know! And all the names on the tree were taken, and all the gifts were purchased for the children. The Evangelism Committee put the giving tree up in **faith** that people would provide. And God used you to provide for the children! Thank you! We also had someone who stepped up in **faith** to give a gift to feed families in need of a Christmas meal. And we provided 100 meals to families PLUS we gave an additional gift to the food ministry of Meals of Hope and the Harry Chapin Food Bank in Naples so others who are hungry would be fed. When we live by faith in Christ and not by fear, God does great things.



## **PASTOR'S PAGES . . .**

This year, we invite you to prayerfully consider what God is calling you to do **by faith**. The Stewardship Team will have a ministry festival in January that will put the ministries of this church on display, and the committees will share what they have been led to do in Jesus' name **by faith**. They will invite you to prayerfully consider what ministry you might be led to participate in more fully in 2022. As we say every week during the offering, we are invited to share with God what God has first given us as we receive our offering. That includes your time and God given gifts. But it also includes your financial support of the church and the ministry we share. With the increase in the budget this year, will you prayerfully consider increasing your offering for 2022 and do so **by faith** that God will provide for you? Thank you for all that you do in Jesus' name. May you have a very blessed New Year, and may 2022 be filled with great things.

Pastor Jeff

## **NEW YEAR'S FOOD FOR THE SOUL . . .**

"Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading."  
*Oswald Chambers*

"We're most happy when we're enjoying God and fulfilling His purpose for our life."  
*Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth*

"Enter the coming year with renewed hope in the power of God to do through you what you cannot."  
*John MacArthur*

"Wherever you are, be all there. Live to the hilt every situation you believe to be the will of God."  
*Jim Elliot*

"Being in Christ, it is safe to forget the past; it is possible to be sure of the future; it is possible to be diligent in the present."  
*Alexander MacLaren*

"God specializes in giving people a fresh start."  
*Rick Warren*

"Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned."  
*Peter Marshall*

"In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."  
*Proverbs 3:6*

"Nothing paralyzes our lives like the attitude that things can never change. We need to remind ourselves that God can change things. Outlook determines outcome. If we see only the problems, we will be defeated; but if we see the possibilities in the problems, we can have victory."  
*Warren Wiersbe*

# COUNCIL CORNER . . .

## DECEMBER 14, 2021 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Penny Morken, Vice 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: Penny Morken, Bonnie Brisky, Brenda Charleston, Pat Cooper, Bonny Dery, Barb Keller, Charlotte Wahlig, Doug Walck, and Phil Willman. Pastor Unga was also in attendance.

Bob Tidmore & Paul Hashagen were absent.

Devotions: Doug Walck

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 ZOOM meetings with East Naples Ministerial group and personal spiritual direction meetings. He has attended weekly staff meetings and met with the Property Committee re: Paul Todd concert, sanctuary lighting bids; fire detection alarm system; and the Finance Committee regarding 2022 budget.

Pastor has met with the Pastors of both the Spanish and Haitian churches.

He has been visiting and praying with members that have been hospitalized or sick, and he has been doing homebound communions.

Hanson Hall continues to be utilized by Iglesia Conexion United Methodist Church, Haitian Baptist Church, Bone Builders, AA Groups, HOA neighborhood groups and our Sew-Sews. We continue to follow CDC guidelines and are monitoring local Covid cases. Christmas Eve candlelight services are a concern due to rising numbers of Covid in our area, but at this point we will celebrate two standard candlelight services. Communion continues to be offered by intinction at the communion railing.

A special thank you to Pat Cooper, Paul Hashagen and Phil Willman for your services on the Council.

**Treasurer's Report:** In absence of the Treasurer, a written report was given stating that the Truist investment account showed an increase as of November 5, 2021. Our YTD giving is under budget as of the end of the November, but Church expenses are also under budget.

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

**Committee reports:**

**Endowment** – Balance in Ministry Growth Fund shows an increase as of October 31, 2021.

**Parish Relations** – Mutual Ministry Team did not meet in November.

**Property** - Doug Walck reported that the installation of the lighting modules & the new electrical beam is scheduled for the beginning of January.

**Education** – Pastor Unga provided a Bible study class every Thursday at 3:00 p.m. (This will change to Wednesday morning at 10:00 starting in January). Elaine Sima provided a women's Bible study the second Friday of every month beginning at 10:00 a.m. (This will change to the first Friday of the month in starting in January).

**Fellowship** – The "Bake Sale" was a great success. Thank you to everyone that brought in fresh baked goodies to sell.

**Stewardship** – Committee met and discussed the correspondence letter which will be mailed in January, 2022.

**Evangelism**- The Paul Todd concert was very enjoyable! All those that attended were filled with Christmas spirit. As part of the concert proceeds, a check for \$1,470.00 is being sent to Grace Place in memory of Carol Lyberg. We will be distributing the gifts from the "Giving Tree" on

## **COUNCIL CORNER (Continued) . . .**

Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. A special thank you to the congregation for their gracious participation in this event.

Local Mission- The “Christmas Meals” will be distributed to the families utilizing the benefits of the Lutheran Social Services of South West Florida on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Worship & Music – Pat Cooper reported that the choir will be starting again in December. We will continue to provide special music whenever possible. Beginning Sunday, January 2, 2022 we will have two worship services. The 8:30 a.m. service will be held inside the church and the 10:30 a.m. worship service will be held in the church courtyard.

### New Business:

Introduction of the (5) new Council Members

Council meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. with closing prayer by Pastor Jeff.

Next meeting will be January 11, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., with devotions by Pastor Jeff.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Tidmore,  
Administrative Assistant

## **ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES . . .**

December 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 10:25 a.m. by the President, Bonny Dery. Forty voting members were in attendance. The meeting opened with prayer by Pastor Jeff Unga .

The minutes of the February 21, 2021 Annual Meeting were approved as written.

The 2021 nominating committee was Leslie Beers, Lawrence Buettner, and Pete Peterson  
The committee nominated the following to fill the vacancies for the 2022 Church Council:

James “Brad” Caulder – 3 years

John Sherman – 3 years

Penny Morken – 3 years

Elaine Sima – 3 years

Doug Walck – 3 years

There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed with all in favor.

The 2022 nominating committee will be:

Phil Willman

Pat Cooper

Paul Hashagen

Nominations were closed with all in favor.

Pastor Bob & Colleen were nominated and confirmed to represent Shepherd of the Glades as voting members at the Florida/Bahama Synod assembly in June, 2022.

Treasurer, Bob Tidmore, gave a brief explanation of some of the budgeted items in the 2022 budget. A motion was made, and seconded, that the 2022 budget be approved as written. The vote was affirmed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m. and closed with a blessing by Pastor Unga.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Tidmore,  
Administrative Assistant

## 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: womenbythebookaa@gmail.com for Zoom information.

### Mixed AA Group

On Mondays at noon, a mixed AA group meets in Hanson Hall. If you or someone you know wishes to attend, please contact Tom Gallagher at 239-348-2205.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY . . .

After a long pause from COVID-19, we are scheduling the Women's Bible Study on the first Friday of each month. Our third Women's Bible Study will be held on Friday, January 7, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. We use the "Gather" Bible study for the month. If you do not receive the magazine, we will provide copies for you. All women are welcome, and we meet in the choir room. Please bring your magazine and your Bible.

## UPCOMING EVENTS . . .

Our annual Welcome Back Luncheon will be held January 16th following the 10:30 a.m. service. If attending, please fill out the menu plan.

## CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

### PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayer:

Afghanistan people & troops	Ed & Sherry Larson	Micah Smith
Lynn Arbeiter & Family	Anita & Nick Lehr	Helen Sobe
Roger Bennett	Carl & Jean Lipke	Nina Smarejesse
Sharon & Alan Bos	Doc Lofthouse	The Swain Family
Family of Maryann Buettner	Patricia Lussy	Ron & Kristi Thompson
Velma Carrasco	Family of Carol Lyberg	Pastor Jeff Ungs
Brad Caulder	Family of Mark McGarity	Family of Kenny Ungs
Family of Henry Cholewa	Jim Opperman	Delores Ungs
Tom & Vicki Dunlop	Family of Wayne Pahr	Terry Vallon
Family of Jack Fee	Catherine Victoria Parker	Rob Whistler
Family of Carol Freitag	Family of Eleanor Pitzer	Family of Anna Wood
Sue Haberkorn	Family of Wayne Roberts	Adam Yakubowski
Family of Sharon Hicks	Judy Schroeder	
Carl Hydes	Charlotte Sebe	

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

## LAUGHTER IS MEDICINE FOR THE SOUL. . .

A child watched her exasperated mother sift through and delete a long list of junk e-mails. "This reminds me of the Lord's Prayer," the child said. "What do you mean?" the mother asked. "You know the part about delivering us from e-mail."

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5, and Ryan, 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, he would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake. I can wait.'" Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

Jemima was taking an afternoon nap on New Year's Eve before the festivities. After she woke up, she confided to Max, her husband, 'I just dreamed that you gave me a diamond ring for a New Year's present. What do you think it all means?' 'Aha, you'll know tonight,' answered Max smiling broadly. At midnight, as the New Year was chiming, Max approached Jemima and handed her a small package. Delighted and excited she opened it quickly. There in her hand rested a book entitled: 'The meaning of dreams'

The topic for my ninth-grade class was palindromes, words or sentences that are the same read forward and backward. I asked the question "What is the first thing Adam said to Eve?" I was expecting the answer "Madam, I'm Adam," but one student had a better reply: "Wow."

## REMEMBER THOSE IN SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY . . .

Staff Sergeant Adam Crown

Warrant Officer, Christopher Farnsworth

Airman Corey Malinowski

Marine Tom McJilton

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: Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2021

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$299,364	\$346,845	(\$47,481)
Operating Expense	\$342,102	\$346,845	\$4,743
Net Income (Deficit)	(\$42,738)	\$0	(\$42,738)

# 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 JANUARY BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

January 1	Barb Tommingo
January 2	Katherine Cianflone
January 5	Barb Keller
January 7	John Sherman
January 7	Deniece Spaulding
January 8	Roger Burtchin
January 9	Catherine Biederman
January 12	Rev. Carl Kelly
January 16	Mary Sherman
January 17	Maryann Buettner
January 18	Corine Roscoe
January 18	Sherry Larson
January 18	Abraham Unga
January 19	Milan Blaho
January 22	Leo Malinowski
January 22	David Hackethal
January 23	Ron Eickhoff
January 24	Sally Moore
January 26	Guy Cooper
January 28	Brenda Charleston
January 29	Al Lane
January 29	William Christian
January 31	Joan Kelly

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES . . .

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

January 10	Luana & Gerald LaStella
January 18	Sue & Doug Walck
January 19	Betty & Chuck Teal
January 29	Joan & Carl Kelly
January 31	Lori & Bryan Cook



## **RECEIVED HIS VICTORY . . .**

Henry Cholewa passed away the end of December, 2021 in Howell, MI. Arrangements are pending.



# CHRISTMAS MEMORIES . . .



## PAUL TODD CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On December 6, SOTG kicked off the Christmas season with a Paul Todd & Paul Todd, Jr. Christmas Concert. The proceeds, \$1,470, were donated in memorial of Carol Lyberg, Pastor Peter Lyberg's wife, to Grace Place for Children & Families.



## 2021 GIVING TREE

SOTG collected over 50 gifts for needy children in our community. The first week the giving tags were put on the tree in the Narthex, all but eight were taken.



## CHRISTMAS MEALS

SOTG partnered with Lutheran Services of Florida to give 100 bags of groceries to needy people in Collier County. The bags included approximately \$50 worth of pasta, sauce, rice, beans, ham, fruit, vegetables, and a pie or cheesecake. Also, a donation will be made to the Harry Chapin Food Bank.



Thanks to all the generous members and friends at SOTG who made all this





Wishing everyone a Happy New Year in 2022 overflowing with renewed energy and exciting opportunities! Remember, if opportunity doesn't knock, build a door!

Join Us for the Thrivent Member Network January 2022 Events January 14-17, 2022 | (Anytime) - The Healing Power of Art Virtual Exhibition Four Days Only Art has the power to spark joy, heal our souls and generously renew our spirit helping us to learn and grow. Join us with Joanna Lindell, Director & Curator of the Thrivent Art Collections, for a time to reflect and become recharged through "The Healing Power of Art" virtual exhibition. Enjoy favorites from the Collection of Religious Art and embrace pieces from the newly reimagined Corporate Art Collection. We invite you to engage with these artworks, unearth connections, and discover what the images mean to you. Get your FREE virtual ticket at <https://thrivent.me/art>

January 18, 2022 | 7:30 PM - The Washington Update® presented by Jeff Bush  
January 20, 2022 | 12:30 PM and 7:30 PM Join us for an exclusive Washington Update® presented by Jeff Bush. This webinar will be hosted by the Thrivent Member Network— Southeast Region. You'll learn about: • The SECURE Act 2.0. • Changes to retirement savings strategies. • Infrastructure plan details and the accompanying tax changes. • Strategies available today to manage your tax exposure. • A sneak peek into the 2022 mid-term elections. Clients and guests are welcome, and registration is required. Register for FREE - <https://thrivent.me/jeffbush>

January 26, 2022 | 12:00 PM and 7:00 PM - Understanding Annuities & Social Security Would you like to know how to navigate retirement well so that you can live your best life? Join us for an exclusive webinar with nationally recognized Social Security speaker, Robin Mueller. You'll gain insights on the impact of annuities and Social Security so you can continue to live a more content, confident, and generous life. Register for FREE - <https://bit.ly/3rpAzKn>

No products will be sold at our events. For additional disclosures, see [Thrivent.com/social](https://thrivent.com/social). We help Christians find financial clarity, enabling lives full of meaning and gratitude. All are welcome to attend our free virtual events. Feel free to share the events with your friends and family. Contact us at [SoutheastTMN@thrivent.com](mailto:SoutheastTMN@thrivent.com) or see what's happening at [thrivent.com/southeast](https://thrivent.com/southeast) or at [Facebook.com/SoutheastTMN](https://facebook.com/SoutheastTMN).

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



# JANUARY, 2022

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs.	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> NEW YEAR'S DAY
<b>2</b> 2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>3</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP 7:30 P.M. AA WOMEN'S GROUP	<b>4</b> 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS	<b>5</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 7:30-9:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10:00 A.M. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING 11:30 A.M. WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING	<b>10</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP 7:30 P.M. AA WOMEN'S GROUP	<b>11</b> 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS 6:00 P.M. COUNCIL MEETING	<b>12</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY 7:30-9:00 P.M. IGLESIA	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING 11:30 A.M. WELCOME BACK LUNCHEON	<b>17</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS AA MIXED GROUP 12 NOON 7:30 P.M. AA WOMEN'S GROUP	<b>18</b> 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS	<b>19</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY 7:30-9:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 3RD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>24</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS AA MIXED GROUP 12 NOON 7:30 P.M. AA WOMEN'S GROUP	<b>25</b> 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS	<b>26</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY 7:30-9:00 P.M. IGLESIA	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 4TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>31</b> 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS AA MIXED GROUP 12 NOON 7:30 P.M. AA WOMEN'S GROUP					

Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church  
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U.S. POSTAGE  
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NAPLES, FL  
PERMIT # 18**

Dated material mailed January 7, 2022  
Please deliver between January 7 - 11, 2022

Current Resident or

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Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.  
Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Pastor Jeff Unga, 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**