

# 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

**AUGUST, 2022**

**Volume 25- Issue 8**

Editors: Lynn Dickerman  
& Linda Tidmore



**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

*“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)*

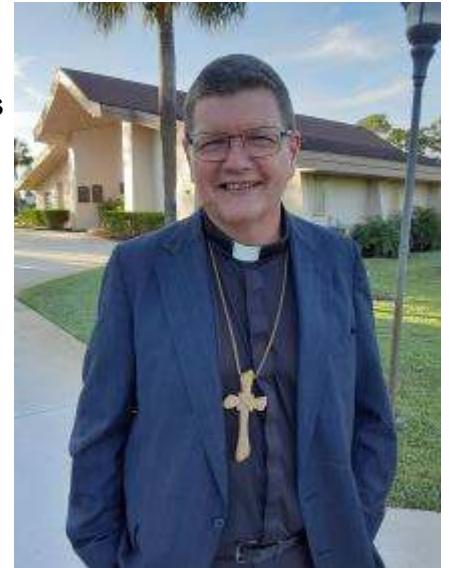
My call to Shepherd of the Glades began August 1, 2019. That means that I have served as your Pastor for 3 years. I guess I am not your “new Pastor” any more. When I was in seminary, there was an unwritten rule that was shared with future pastors; that you should not change anything in a congregation for the first 3 years. The biggest change that I had planned was to say, “Good Morning Church!”, before every worship service. But even if I wanted to keep things the same for my first three years here, it would not have been possible with Covid.

Change is inevitable. In three years, we have said farewell to many saints, and we have been blessed to receive many new members. As Ecclesiastes writes, there is a time to be born and experience new life, and there is a time to say farewell to those we love who die.

These changes are a normal part of the life of the ebb and flow of a congregation. But with Covid, we introduced some changes to worship when we could no longer meet in person. Some of those changes remain in place. Some of these changes are controversial because part of our instinct is to return to what was once considered normal. As your Pastor, I have made some decisions that other ELCA Pastors and Bishops did not agree with. Many still do not agree with having individual communion available for both those who attend worship in person and those who remain home for personal safety reasons. If you want to know why I continue offering communion this way, I will be happy to discuss it with you. The abbreviated reason is that I am called to administer Word and Sacrament to those who wish to receive. I believe Jesus is truly present in, with, and under the elements when they are consecrated. There are people who can be virtually present during worship and join us who otherwise may not be able to be in communion with the congregation when they receive the sacrament. Therefore, I will continue this relatively new practice during worship for some time.

Another change that people have questions about is why we continue to have online services when we can gather in person. Some members believe that more people would return to “in person worship” if we did not have online services. The short answer is that we have people who are immunocompromised and elderly who are shut-ins who truly enjoy watching online and feel connected to the congregation in ways they otherwise could not. The longer answer is that we are reaching out to as many people on a weekly basis online as we are in person. We are called to “go” and proclaim the Gospel, and not just fill the church pews. Some who have gotten Covid and are susceptible to getting it again have told me they are not comfortable returning to “in person worship” because they notice that almost no one wears a mask during worship. Others who are now watching regularly have not been members of a church and have not attended a church for a very long time because of their experience in the church, but they are hungry for God’s Word and happy to have access to worship. Some of our seasonal members have commented that they can remain connected even while they are away. There are many valid reasons we continue to offer online worship and bible study. Between in person and online attendance, our average weekly attendance and giving has increased over the summer.

Finally, another big change is renting Hanson Hall to two mission congregations. It is my hope that Shepherd of the Glades can continue experiencing the joy of partnering with these two vibrant new mission congregations. There is a time for every matter under heaven. And there is no better time than now to reach out to as many people as we can with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We are living out our mission statement of, “Transforming lives through the Living Word of God.” I guess I can no longer refer to myself as the “new Pastor” at Shepherd of the



## PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

Glades after three years. The time has gone quickly and I am blessed to serve as your Pastor. Thank you for putting up with some pretty big changes the first three years of my ministry. I guess sometimes you just have to let go of unwritten and unspoken rules and let the Holy Spirit get to work!

God bless,  
Pastor Jeff

## EVANGELISM OUTREACH PROGRAM . . .



We are overwhelmed by your support and generosity. Please know, your gift of \$629.45 and 60 student backpacks filled with school supplies for kindergarten through high school students will give confidence to the hardworking students that we serve each and every day. In gratitude,  
Lara Fisher, CEO, Grace Place (see letter on church bulletin board)

## CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

### PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayer:

Lynn Arbeiter & Family	Luis Hernandez	Family of Carol Lyberg
Ben Bairn	Family of Bobby Hicks	Family of Mark McGarity
Marilyn Barikmo	Carl Hydes	Ron Modjeska
Family of David Beers	John Lane	Jim Opperman
Brad Caulder	Family of Ed Larson	Jim Sauer
James Caulder II	Anita & Nick Lehr	Arlene Schamberger
Marilyn Day	The Lentini Family	Charlotte Sebe
Tom & Vicki Dunlop	Family of Dee Lipe	David Siegers
Alan & Susie Espersen	Carl & Jean Lipke	Micah Smith
Family of Jack Fee	Doc & Sandy Lofthouse	The Swain Family
Sue Haberkorn	Patricia Lussy	The Ungs Family

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

## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR ANYONE IN NEED . . .

Thank you to all the wonderful generous people of this congregation. We have been blessed to have available some durable medical equipment available to lend out to anyone in need. All the medical equipment is currently stored in Hanson Hall library. Please let the office know if you wish to use any the following items so we can keep an up-to-date list of what is available.

- 2 transport wheelchairs, ranging from 16–19-inch seats.
- 2 2 wheeled walkers
- 2 shower chairs in varied styles
- 1 bed rail
- 2 4 wheeled walkers with seats and storage. (1 large and 1 smaller)
- 2 1 tall set of crutches and 1 shorter set

There are also some absorbent pads for anyone in need.

## 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



## AA GROUP . . .

### 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.

## FINANCIALLY, HOW ARE WE DOING? . . .

PERIOD: Seven Months Ended July 31, 2022

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$234,684	\$234,214	\$470
Operating Expense	\$244,760	\$ 223,491	(\$21,269)
Net Income (Deficit)	(\$10,076)	\$10,723	(\$20,799)

Our income goals are on target! Now we just need to make up for some unexpected expenses. Thanks to all who have been contributing regularly through our leaner summer months.

# NEWS IN THE SHEEPFOLD. . .



## HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

August 1 Beverly Bartczak  
August 2 Renna Knotek  
August 2 Damon Delp  
August 4 Carol Christian  
August 6 Jay Berthe  
August 6 Joan Maywood  
August 6 Tom Moore  
August 8 Polly Orner  
August 8 Ron Modjeska  
August 8 David Willits  
August 8 Deborah Moeser  
August 9 Marilyn Stadler  
August 10 Ginny Trendel  
August 10 Phil Willman  
August 10 Steve Snover  
August 12 Linda Lentini  
August 13 Robert Dyer  
August 17 Elouise Larson  
August 18 Annette Larson  
August 19 Lynn Dickerman  
August 21 Scott Kischer  
August 22 Betty Sauer  
August 23 Bob Saaranen

August 23 Lori Bernabei  
August 25 Andrea Heldman  
August 26 Carole Michel  
August 27 Ron Dahl  
August 29 Nancy Bullock  
August 29 Jenna Snover  
August 30 Christine Willits



## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES . . . HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

August 2 Heidi & Mike Dziubla  
August 4 Virginia & Yerry Madison  
August 4 Leslie & Hank Beers  
August 5 Darlene & Lowell Momberg  
August 7 Debbie & Donald McWaters  
August 11 Sandy & Doc Lofthouse  
August 12 Be & Jim Opperman  
August 12 Margie & John Carr  
August 14 Colleen & Bob Hoffman  
August 14 Jane & Ron Limpus  
August 17 Maureen & Ken Drum  
August 18 Barb & Chuck Keller  
August 20 Vicki & Tom Dunlop  
August 20 Elaine & Jim Sima  
August 24 Karen & Don Johnson  
August 25 Mary Lee & Kenneth Jordan  
August 26 Bonnie & Ron Dahl  
August 29 Brenda & William Charleston  
August 30 Doris & Bill Marderness



## **Thrivent Online Events Continue in August!**

### **ARE YOU A BASEBALL FAN? AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION MONTH!**

See the Mighty Mussels in Fort Myers, the Jumbo Shrimp in Jacksonville, the Marlins in Miami and more!! Games in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia too!

Check us out at [Thrivent.com/southeast](https://www.thrivent.com/southeast) and click on Events for dates and times!

#### **August 9, 2022 | 7:30 PM ET - The Easiest Way to Win College Scholarships—Starting in 8thGrade**

Jeannie Burlowski is a nationally recognized college planning speaker. She is an academic strategist, podcast host, speaker for students ages 10–26 and their parents/grandparents—and she is the author of the book LAUNCH: How to Get Your Kids Through College Debt-Free and Into Jobs They Love Afterward. **RSVP** - <https://bit.ly/Scholarship123>

#### **August 11, 2022 | 12:30 PM & 7:30 PM ET - How to Convince Your Kids They Don't Need Student Loans**

Jeannie Burlowski is a nationally recognized college planning speaker. She is an academic strategist, podcast host, speaker for students ages 10–26 and their parents/grandparents—and she is the author of the book LAUNCH: How to Get Your Kids Through College Debt-Free and Into Jobs They Love Afterward. **RSVP** - <https://bit.ly/NoLoan1>

#### **August 16, 2022 | 12:00 PM & 7:00 PM ET - Balanced Homebuying**

Planning for Your Purchase. Learn valuable tips to prepare for one of the biggest financial decisions of your life, whether you want to buy your first home or move to another.

- Understand your financial baseline and what you can afford to spend on a home.
- Learn how your credit score affects the lending process.

- Find the right lender and real estate agent for you. **RSVP** - <https://bit.ly/HomeBuying123>

#### **August 27, 2022 | 7:00 PM - Thrivent Night with the Fort Myers Mighty Mussels**

Hammond Stadium, 14100 6 Mile Cypress Parkway, Fort Myers, FL

To show our gratitude for your membership, you are invited to join us on August 27th for a Fort Myers Mighty Mussels baseball outing at Hammond Stadium. The Mighty Mussels take on the Lakeland Flying Tigers at 7:00 PM! We have reserved a block of tickets for Thrivent members and their guests and will be accepting ticket orders here until August 20th or while supplies last! Each ticket is \$10 and includes:

- Reserved seating
- Pre-game dedicated hospitality picnic area along first base line, with buffet from 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
- Networking with other Thrivent members and guests

**RSVP** - <https://bit.ly/Mussels123>

Want to know more? Call Thrivent Financial Associate David Contessa at (239) 300-5139.

# AUGUST, 2022



Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs.	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 9:00-10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00 -10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>8</b> TODAY-NO BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:00 -10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> NINTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>15</b> 9:00 -10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 9:00 -10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00 - 8: 00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH  NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> TENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>22</b> THIS WEEK NO BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	<b>23</b> PRIMARY ELECTION POLLING IN HANSON HALL	<b>24</b> THIS WEEK NO BONE BUILDERS	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. IGLESIA CONEXION CHURCH	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>29</b> 9:00 -10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:00 -10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY			

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**This Parish Paper is from:  
Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church  
6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road (Corner of Santa Barbara Blvd.)  
Naples, FL 34113**

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**Web Page: <http://www.sotgweb.org>**

**Email: [sotg6020@gmail.com](mailto:sotg6020@gmail.com)**

**Sunday Worship Services: 9:30 a.m. (4/24 and continuing thru summer)**

**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**