



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

APRIL, 2023
Volume 26- Issue 4
Editors: Lynn Dickerman
& Linda Tidmore

*Join us for glorious Easter worship on
Sunday, April 9th
at 7:00, 8:30, or 10:30 a.m.*



**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Jesus said to (Martha), “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26) As we approach Resurrection Sunday (also known as Easter) the question that Jesus asks Martha is a good question for us to think about. Do you believe this? The reason we worship on Sunday as the Sabbath day is because this is the day of the week that Jesus was resurrected! And on Easter Sunday, we end the season of Lent which focuses on the words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”



On Easter Resurrection Sunday, we begin a new time of remembrance. We remember that, although our time and life on this earth is temporary, Jesus reminds us that he IS the resurrection and the life. Even though our time on earth will come to an end and our earthly bodies will return to dust, we will never die! Because Jesus is the resurrection and the life, death has been defeated. The question Jesus posed to Martha is a good question for us to ponder because Easter is about more than the Easter Bunny, fun Easter egg hunts, and splurging on chocolate candy. These are merely symbols that point to the resurrected Christ. Easter Resurrection Sunday is about living by believing in Jesus and the power of resurrection to new life in Christ.

Do you believe this? If your answer is “yes”, then how do you demonstrate your belief and trust that Jesus is the resurrection and the life? Do others see you focused on a life that completely trusts in Jesus and his message of eternal life, or do they see you focused on and worried about the distractions in your everyday life? Do you chase after the things of this world that might make you feel good for a short time, but do not give you life? Or do you pray daily and listen to God’s plan for you and seek the peace that passes all human understanding? Jesus gave his life so that you might experience life to its fullest. What Jesus meant by living life to its fullest is recognition that where our treasure is, there our heart will be also. God gives us a choice and a free will. We can choose what we treasure. Our actions will demonstrate what we truly believe. Martha said she believed Jesus, and she went with him to her brother's tomb. She believed that Jesus is the resurrection and the life even though she had witnessed the death of her brother and she was grieving his death. And Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead and said, “Unbind him

PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

and set him free!” Lazarus lived, even though he had died. And by believing in Jesus, death would have no power over him. Lazarus would be set free from the power of sin and death, and he would live eternally. That same promise is true for us today. Resurrection Sunday unbinds us from our sin and sets us free to live this life for Jesus. And when our time on this earth comes to an end, we will be with Jesus and all the believers who have gone before us. We who believe in Jesus will not die, but live forever. Alleluia! Thanks be to God. Do you believe this?

In God's gracious grip,

+ Pastor Jeff

EASTER IS UPON US . . .

Holy week begins on Palm/Passion Sunday on April 2 with our traditional passion play reenacting the Christ's last week before his crucifixion from the Gospel of Matthew. There is no Wednesday Lenten service that week, but instead there will be a Maundy Thursday service on April 6 at 5:30 p.m. with communion. On Good Friday, April 7, there will be a Tenebrae service at 7:00 p.m. On Easter morning there will be three services: 7:00 a.m. Sunrise service in the courtyard and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. worship in the Sanctuary with special music and lots of hallelujahs! There will be an Easter egg hunt for the children between the 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. services. Come join us as we celebrate our risen Lord!

GRATITUDE IS AN ATTITUDE . . .

Thank you for using funds from your Garage Sale donations for Palms Deaf Church. We are humbled and thankful for your generosity. Thank you for believing in our mission! We cannot live out God's call without support from churches/communities like you.

God bless,

Pastor Lori Kul

PRAYER CHANGES THINGS . . .

Praise God for all the people who have joined the Prayer Warriors. We have lifted in prayer at least 22 different people and given praise for many of them finding strength, peace or healing. As the body of Christ we are all able to use the first wireless connection to our creator, prayer. Thank you to those who are in our communication links, and we welcome anyone who wishes to join us. Please contact the church office and let them know how you want to be connected. We are currently using text messages or email. If neither works for you we will find a way. God is good all the time. All the time God is good.

Blessings,

Kelli Ungs

COUNCIL CORNER . . .

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH March 14, 2023, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (Unofficial)

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

Members in attendance: Pastor Unga, Bob Tidmore, Penny Morken, Bonnie Brisky, Brenda Charleston, Bonny Dery, Doug Walck, Ed Ries, Charlotte Wahlig, John Sherman, Brad Caulder, and Elaine Sima.

Devotions: Brad Caulder

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2023, Council meeting and the Annual Meeting on February 19, 2023, was made, seconded, and approved as written.

Pastor's report: Pastor gave the Council an update on members who have been home bound, sick, or hospitalized. He visited with Maureen Drum before her passing. Maureen's service of life will be celebrated on Saturday, April 29th at 11:00 a.m. On February 10th, Pastor did a service of committal for Bob Dyer.

Pastor Jeff would like to thank Pastor Bob Hoffman for filling in during his absence, and a special thanks to ALL for the uplifting prayers during his recovery.

Pastor Jeff reported that he had meetings with Spiritual Advisory Board of AVOW Hospice, Caloosa Conference pastors, and weekly staff. Pastor met with the Evangelism committee and began working with Penny & Connee on the Passion Play for Palm Sunday.

Ash Wednesday service was well attended, and the mid-week prayer services continue to average around 40 people.

Pastor continues to have regular communication with Pastor Orlando Ramirez of Iglesia Conexion and Pastor DJ and Haitian Baptist Church leaders, and the Caloosa Conference. Hanson Hall continues to be utilized by Iglesia Conexion United Methodist Church, Haitian Baptist Church, Bone Builders, AA Groups, and HOA neighborhood groups.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Tidmore reported that the Truist Investment account showed a decrease as of the end of February. Our year-to-date income was higher than our year-to-date expenses. The discretionary funds will be distributed to those in need.

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

Committee reports:

Endowment – Endowment fund showed an increase as of January 31, 2023.

Parish Relations – Parish Relations is in the process of forming a committee for Shepherd of the Glade's 50th anniversary celebration which will be held sometime in March of 2024.

Property – The volunteers on the Property Committee have been very busy setting up Hanson Hall for many HOA meetings and the Lenten soup suppers. The Property Committee will help set up for the Barber Shop Concert being held Saturday, March 18th. They will replace a light fixture in the front office and have scheduled the removal of a dead palm tree and several large pine branches on the property. Property will provide palms for Palm Sunday services.

COUNCIL CORNER (CONTINUED) . . .

Education – Pastor Jeff’s weekly 10 a.m. Wednesday Bible study has been well attended. Pastor attended a Hospice continuing education workshop regarding palliative care. He learned that those who may not yet be ready for hospice care can still apply for palliative care through AVOW. The children’s Sunday school during worship service is going well.
Fellowship – Everyone enjoyed the strawberry sundaes served on Sunday, March 5th. The committee is now busy planning the Farewell Luncheon scheduled for Sunday, April 16th.

Stewardship – Brad reported that the Stewardship Committee calculated an increase of 17.8% in pledges this year.

Evangelism – The committee met on February 24th and discussed having another backpack project. The committee voted to expand the project to include the giving tree this year and to have an increase in participation by congregation. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available. We welcomed 6 new members on Sunday, February 12th. The Thanksgiving dinner was such a success, we recommended that we do it annually. Evangelism and Fellowship will discuss and make that decision.

Local Mission - Elaine submitted a list of the foods most needed at St. Matthews in Naples and The Friendship House in Immokalee.

Worship & Music – John Sherman reported that the concert held on Saturday, March 11th netted \$660.00 to be distributed to the victims of Ian. Everyone that attended the concert enjoyed themselves. A special thank you to John and all those involved!

New Business:

Pastor announced that there would be three worship services on Easter Sunday. There will be a 7:00 a.m. sunrise service, an 8:30 a.m. worship service and one at 10:30 a.m. There will be an easter egg hunt on the property for the children between the 8:30 and 10:30 service.

Brad Caulder is reviewing SOTG’s current insurance policy and will be meeting with liaisons from the Finance and Property Committees. Brad will meet with our current insurance representative and try to keep the cost increase to a minimum.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. with Council saying a prayer.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., with devotions by John Sherman.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Charleston
Council Secretary

LAUGHTER IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL. . .

Christmas comes before Easter in only one place. Where? The dictionary!

What kind of bean can’t grow in a garden? A jelly bean!

What do you call a rabbit with fleas? Bugs Bunny!

What’s the Easter Bunny’s favorite kind of music? Hip-Hop!

What’s the Easter Bunny’s favorite restaurant? IHOP

What’s the Easter Bunny’s favorite dance move? The bunny hop!

What happens if you get married on Easter? You live hoppily ever after!

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 APRIL BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

April 1	Vicki Dunlop
April 2	LaMorris Cook
April 5	Merlyn Bowers
April 5	Elizabeth Cianflone
April 7	Jacqueline Materson
April 11	Matthew McWaters
April 12	Marilyn Barikmo
April 13	Ken Sebe
April 13	Wilbur Johnson
April 14	Leila Sellman
April 14	Bev Smith
April 14	Lester Larrabee
April 15	Gary Dieterichs
April 16	Vern Rasmussen
April 16	Linda Salisbury
April 17	Don Pryor
April 17	Be Oppermann
April 21	Don Bassett
April 23	Leslie Beers
April 30	Lawrence Buettner
April 30	Marjorie Oberst
April 30	Jeffrey Seminario



APRIL ANNIVERSARY . . . **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

April 17	Bob & Linda Tidmore
April 20	Daniel & Stephanie Bernabei
April 28	Alan & Susan Espersen
April 29	Harlo "Pete" & Karen Peterson
April 30	Steve & Diana Snover

RECEIVED THEIR VICTORIES .

Maureen Drum's celebration of life will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2023 at Shepherd of the Glades at 11:00 a.m. A luncheon will follow in Hanson Hall. If you are planning to attend, please contact the Church office so that we may plan for food.



CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER . . .

Congratulations to Alisha Unga on her graduation from Wartburg Theological Seminary on May 14, 2023. Thank you to all who donated to provide her with her first set of stoles for her ordination. Colleen Hoffman will be hand making them, as she did for her husband, Pastor Bob.



EVENTS AT SOTG . . .

March was an event filled month. Following are the highlights. On Saturday, March 11, John Sherman organized a karaoke style benefit concert to aid victims of Hurricane Ian. \$660 was raised for this purpose.



On Saturday, March 18, the Everglades Barbershop Chorus performed at SOTG free of charge for the first time since the pandemic started. It was a nice afternoon's entertainment for those enjoying harmony!



All season long, the Sew-Sew ladies have been hard at work, constructing quilts to give to the Shelter for Abused Women and Children. On Sunday, March 26, they put them all on display in the Choir loft! Good work, ladies!

CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Lynn Arbeiter & Family	Jackie Jacobs	The Quehl Family
Ben Bairn	Christine Jensen	Renato's Family
Barikmo Family	Kyle Johnson	Dick Reumann & Family
Family of David Beers	The Michael Moor-Kelly Family	John Rogers
James Caulder	Nadine Kelly	Arlene Schamberger
The Charleston Family	Ken Konopka	The Sebe Family
Kate Connell	Al & John Lane	Leila Sellman
Family of Bev Cook	Anita & Nick Lehr	Elaine Sima
Marilyn Day	The Lentini Family	Joe Simmonasky
Family of Maureen Drum	Carl & Jean Lipke	Micah Smith
Tracey Dunlap & Lillian Mendez	Pastor Peter Lyberg	The Swain Family
Family of Bob Dyer	Kim MacDonald	Susanne Thomas
Alan & Susie Espersen	Al & Pat McFadden	Bill & Mary Ann Todd
Lisa Marie Farnsworth	Irma Median	The Ungs Family
Charlie Hoffman	Wendy Mitchell	Tom Watts
Lois Horky & family	Be Opperman & family	

Carl Hydes

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
 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: Three Months Ended March 31, 2023

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$117,385	\$129,030	(\$11,645)
Operating Expense	\$87,030	\$98,803	\$11,773
Net Income (Deficit)	\$30,355	\$30,227	\$128

Again this month, year to date income was short of budget projections, but year to date expenses were also short, resulting in a year to date positive net position of \$128. We are so grateful for all the faithful givers at SOTG!

AA GROUPS . . .

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 the office for more information.

On Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., a mixed AA group meets in Hanson Hall. If you or someone you know wishes to attend, please contact the office for more information..

Every other Friday morning at 10:00 a.m., a women's AA group meets in Hanson Hall. If you or someone you know wishes to attend, please contact the office for more information.

FOODS MOST APPRECIATED BY ST. MATTHEW'S . . .

We so appreciate all who donate items to be delivered to St. Matthew's House food pantry. The items they can most use are:

Long grain rice (bulk)	Jellies and jams
Black or red beans	Iodized salt
Dry or evaporated milk	Sugar (bulk)
Crackers	Coffee & Tea
Breakfast cereals	Cookies
Canned tomato products	Canned tuna or chicken
Fruit juice cans or jars	Soups, dried or canned
Peanut butter	Pasta, Mac & Cheese

FOOD FOR THE SOUL . . .

"We live and die; Christ died and lived!" *John Sott*

"Do not abandon yourselves to despair: We are the Easter people, and Hallelujah is our song." *Pope John Paul II*

"If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith."
1 Corinthians 15:14

"Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time." *Martin Luther*

"The stone was rolled away from the door, not to permit Christ to come out, but to enable the disciples to go in." *Peter Marshall*

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" *Jesus Christ: John 11:25, 26*

"Jesus didn't say, 'I am finished.' 'It is finished.' He was just getting started."
Anonymous

"1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given" *Anonymous*

He is risen!

Happy Easter to all!

Join us in April for these free Thrivent Member Network online events.
Your friends and family are welcome too!

APRIL 15 - 21, 2023 | ON DEMAND ALL WEEK

Ordinary People Can Do Extraordinary Things with Wine To Water

During National Volunteer Week 2023, let's recognize how ordinary people can do extraordinary things to make a difference in the lives of others. Thrivent is excited to showcase Wine To Water, a nonprofit organization that is transforming lives globally by providing access to clean water. Founded by Doc Hendley, a former bartender turned humanitarian, Wine To Water has made significant strides in addressing the global water crisis, impacting thousands of lives. Join us for this on-demand event to learn more about Wine To Water's mission and how you can leverage your Thrivent membership benefits to support their efforts. Let's come together to make a positive impact and inspire change.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/Wine2WaterApril>

APRIL 18, 2023 | 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM & 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM ET

Retirement & Taxes with IRA Expert, Ed Slott

Join us for **Retirement and Taxes** with guest speaker, Ed Slott. This totally unique, entertaining, and educational online webinar is for members, *like you*, who have spent a lifetime saving for retirement and now want to know how taxes will impact those savings... and what you can do about it. During this webinar, you will gain insight on balancing your retirement security with the impact of taxes. Ed combines his extensive IRA tax knowledge with humor and stories that anyone can relate to.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/TaxesWithEdSlott>

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 these events with your friends and family.

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



APRIL, 2023

S	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2 PASSION/PALM SUNDAY 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	3 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	4 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. QUILTERS	5 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	6 5:30 P.M. MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	7 7:00 P.M. TENEBRAE SERVICE 10:00 – 11:00 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP	8
9 EASTER SUNDAY 7:00 A.M. SUNRISE SERVICE –COURTYARD 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP IN SANCTUARY	10 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	11 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. QUILTERS 6:00 P.M. COUNCIL MTG	12 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	13 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	14	15
16 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP 10:30 A.M. FAREWELL LUNCH	17 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	18 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. QUILTERS	19 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	20 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	21 NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DUE 10:00 – 11:00 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP	22
23 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	24 9:00 –10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	25 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. QUILTERS	26 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	27 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	28	29 11:00 A.M. MAUREEN DRUM'S CELEBRATION OF LIFE
30 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP						

On Easter Sunday, an Easter egg hunt for the children will be between the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Worship service.

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

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**This Parish Paper is from:
Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church
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Naples, FL 34113
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Email: sotg6020@gmail.com**

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**