



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

MARCH, 2024
Volume 27- Issue 3
Editors: Lynn Dickerman
& Linda Tidmore

Join us for worship during Holy Week:

3/24 - Palm Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

3/28 - Maundy Thursday at 5:30 p.m.

3/29 - Good Friday at 7:00 p.m.

3/31 - Easter Sunday at 7:00, 8:30, 10:30 a.m.



SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES
LUTHERAN CHURCH

PASTOR'S PAGES . . .

March is a marvelous month! This time of year our neighbors to the North begin to see new life budding on the trees and plants. On Sunday March 17th, some will celebrate St. Patrick's Day as a religious holiday. The Irish have observed this religious holiday for over 1,000 years, and since it occurs during Lent every year, the Catholic Church in Ireland released people from the prohibition of meat for this religious holiday! People dance, drink and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage on St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, known for bringing Christianity to the country. There are many legends about St. Patrick such as the famous story of him driving all the snakes out of Ireland. However, historians report that Patrick never even encountered snakes in Ireland, so this is just a mythical legend. Unfortunately historians say it is also a myth that St. Patrick used Shamrocks to teach heathens (non-believers) about the Trinity. But what is true is that St. Patrick was a slave brought to Ireland who became a great Christian missionary to the country and brought many to faith in Christ. Thanks be to God for missionaries around the world who bring the Good News of Jesus.



This March will be a very special month for Shepherd of the Glades. On March 3rd we will experience an adult baptism. On March 17th, Kellen Snover will receive his First Communion! March also happens to be the 50th anniversary of Shepherd of the Glades. Although I am sure there are some mythical tales of how and why this ministry began, there are many documented facts. As we look at the beautiful property, landscaping, and architecture that exist today, it is hard to believe that 51 years ago the location we now know as Shepherd of the Glades was just a forested area at the intersection of a two lane dirt road, Polly Avenue, (that would later be renamed Santa Barbara Boulevard) and Rattlesnake Hammock. Thanks to Pastor Peter Lyberg we have some pictures of the ground breaking ceremony 50 years ago. We will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of Shepherd of the Glades on March 10th. Bishop Pedro Suarez of our Florida Bahamas Synod will preach and preside over Holy Communion. Other Pastors that have served Shepherd of the Glades will also be participating in the 9:30 AM service. We will have a short program following worship, and then we will proceed to Hanson Hall (or building 1 as it was called 50 years ago) for a wonderful catered meal accompanied with music.

If that is not enough for you to believe that March is marvelous, Easter falls on March 31st! We celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Easter Sunday is the reason the church exists! The reason we worship and celebrate the Sabbath on Sunday is because Jesus was raised to eternal life on Sunday morning. Jesus has promised eternal life to all who believe. I hope you can

PASTOR'S PAGES (CONTINUED) . . .

join us for all the marvelous events in March this year. For 50 years, Shepherd of the Glades has been transforming lives through the life giving Word of God. Please look inside this issue for the Holy Week worship schedule. This Easter we will have three opportunities for you to celebrate Resurrection Sunday. Sunrise worship will be at 7 AM and indoor worship will be at 8:30 and 10:30 AM. May God bless you with hope, healing and happiness as we give God thanks and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ our LORD and Savior.

Have a Blessed Easter!

Pastor Jeff

MUSIC TO OUR EARS . . .

In years past the Chorus of the Everglades has performed their a capella magic at Shepherd of the Glades. This year they are holding their annual concert at Berean Baptist Church in Naples, 1851 County Barn Road, Naples, FL. The performance is free of charge but donations are greatly appreciated! Seats are on a first come, first seated basis.

WHEN: Saturday, March 23, 2024

3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Berean Baptist Church in Naples

1851 County Barn Road, Naples, FL

SOTG JUST WANTS TO HAVE FUN . . .



On Sunday, February 18, Shepherd of the Glades held its annual Strawberry Sundae Sunday before the annual Congregational Meeting. The weather was not conducive to holding it in the Courtyard, but it was still enjoyed by all inside in the Choir Room!

COUNCIL CORNER . . .

SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH FEBRUARY 13, 2024, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (Unofficial)

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bonny Dery at 6:00 p.m. Members in attendance: Pastor Ungs, Bob Tidmore, Doug Walck, Charlotte Wahlig, Becky McDanel, Bonny Dery, Pam Bhatena, Gunar Strungs, and Brad Caulder. Absent: Penny Morken, John Sherman, and Colleen Hoffman. Devotions: Pastor Ungs, Romans 12

A motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2024, Council meeting was made, seconded, and approved as written.

Pastor's report:

Meetings -Hosted Caloosa Conference meeting at SOTG * East Naples Ministerial meeting * AVOW Hospice Spiritual advisory board meeting * A/V team – evaluations on how to simplify – possible upgrade needs * Weekly Pastor's text study * Bible studies weekly at 10 AM on Wednesdays. About 12 were in attendance including some who are not members. Good attendance for Women's bible study. Held 4th Friday each month. Pastor Jeff continues to make congregation home visits/ member visits, home bound communions, and hospital visits and Pastor Bob assisted with some of these. Pastor Jeff also visited three potential new members. Time & Talent sheets have been received and there has been an increase in the number of Pledge Cards received this year. Pastor announced we had over 200 people attend last Sunday's service. We will continue to have one service on Sundays this year. If attendance continues like this next year, we may have two services during February & March.

We need a liaison for the Sew-Sew Quilters – Becky McDanel volunteered.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Tidmore reported the investment account stayed about the same as last month as well as the income and expenses. Details were distributed. A discussion on the purpose of the investment account was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Endowment – Charlotte announced the Endowment Fund has increased, as of end of December.

Parish Relations – No Report

Property – The grass cutting service price has increased. The application of pesticides is done 2-3 times a year. Palm trees have been trimmed and 4 trees were cut down and we had 4 compressed loads of brush removed. We placed 12 bags of mulch below the stain glass window.

Fellowship - The John Sherman concert was a success; all enjoyed the music. We had close to 100 people attend, which raised approximately \$800 toward our 50th Anniversary celebration.

Local Mission – We had two carloads of food distributed to St Matthews House this month.

COUNCIL CORNER (CONTINUED) . . .

The council was asked to please bring boxes to the church so the food can be moved more easily. A suggestion was made to get boxes from Costco, Google, or Prime deliveries. Boxes that hold printing paper are best or moving company boxes.

New Business:

Two bids were received on the parking lot resurfacing. The council agreed with the TNDK quote but will want to see references from them, proof of insurance, and their license to do business in Collier County. These contingencies were motioned for approval, seconded, and passed.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. with a prayer from Pastor Jeff. Next meeting will be March 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Bhatena, Council Secretary

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING . . .

February 18, 2024-ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES (Unofficial)

Meeting was called to order by Council President, Bonny Dery, at 9:40 a.m. There were 32 voting members in attendance.

Bonny Dery made a motion to accept the February 19, 2023, minutes as written.

Bob Tidmore gave a financial report and offered to answer any questions concerning the 2023 investments. The report was accepted as written.

Pastor Jeff explained our membership during 2023 was down but our attendance has increased.

Megan Cianflone thanked everyone for the many comments of appreciation and enjoyment of our musical program.

Pastor Jeff said a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Bhatena, Council Secretary

REMEMBER THOSE IN SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY . . .

Staff Sergeant Adam Crown

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



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 MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

March 1	Lowell Momberg
March 2	Lillian Hydes
March 2	Scott Krenz
March 3	Marilyn Lane
March 4	Carole Martin
March 6	Bill Marderness
March 8	Sandra Maki
March 9	Rich McDanel
March 10	Ken Drum
March 13	Lorna Gauthier
March 16	Lisa Willman
March 17	Ron Ripke
March 18	Bonny Dery
March 18	Donald McWaters
March 19	Connee Zeman
March 19	Bob Hoffman
March 19	Jeff Ungs
March 22	Beverly Adams
March 22	Brad Puerner
Mrch 22	Brandan Cowles
March 24	Colleen Hoffman
March 25	Karen Johnson
March 26	Nickolas Lehr
March 27	Megan Cianflone
March 31	Beb Green
March 31	Rod Barikmo

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES . . .

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

March 14 Arvid & Marlous Prickett

PRAYER CHANGES THINGS . . .

Prayer works, as we look at some of the wonderful ways God has answered prayer: Raymond, James, Elaine, Rod, Steve, Ellen, Anita, Phyllis, Bob, Donna, Dennis, Charlie, Millie, and Valerie, and have had healing or continue to heal, to mention just a few. Thank you for your prayers! It means so much! If you would like to be a Prayer Warrior, please contact Kelli Ungs or the church office. Prayer is the first wireless communication!!

RECEIVED HIS VICTORY IN THE LORD . . .



Alan Espersen received his victory in the Lord on Saturday, February 10, 2024. A service celebrating his life and witness was held on Friday, February 23, 2024 at Shepherd of the Glades.

CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Rod Barikmo & Family	Richard Jonas	Ashley Nell
Valerie Becker	Ellen Klopfer	David Nilemo
David Blazek	Bob Koostra	Family of Doug Powers
Brenda Charleston	The Kramer family	Arlene Schamberger
Kathryn Connell	Anita & Nick Lehr	Don Sebo
Family of Maureen Drum	The Lentini Family	Leila Sellman
Family of Alan Espersen	The Lipke family	Elaine Sima
Lisa Marie Farnsworth	Marilyn Malinowski	Micah Smith
Brian Feeney	Al & Pat McFadden	Raymond Swaby
Charlie Hoffman & Family	Irma Median	The Swain Family
Ingrid Hoerz	Ed Michel	The Ungs Family
Family of Carl Hydes	Michael Moor-Kelly Family	Family of Tom Watts
Family of Jackie Jacobs	Patty Musielak	
Steven Jungerberg	Dianna Myers	

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

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.

At 10:00 a.m., a women's AA group meets in Hanson Hall on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month. If you or someone you know wishes to attend, please contact the office for more information.

FINANCIALLY, HOW ARE WE DOING? . . .

PERIOD: Two Months Ended February 29, 2024

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$65,264	\$72,849	(\$7,585)
Operating Expense	\$64,429	\$63,783	(\$ 646)
Net Income (Deficit)	\$ 835	\$9,066	(\$8,231)

Although our income exceeds expenses year to date, we are not building up a surplus to assist us through the lean summer months, as indicated by our net budget deficit.

Thank you to all our regular, faithful givers!

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MINISTRY . . .

It is indeed a blessing to be celebrating 50 years of ministry at Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church.

On Sunday, March 10, 2024 our congregation will be celebrating this wonderful occasion with a special worship service followed by a catered luncheon in Hanson Hall.

Bishop Pedro Suarez, our Bishop of the Florida Bahamas Synod will be participating in our worship service that day. In addition, former pastors of Shepherd of the Glades will be honored during a short program following our worship service.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend this special 50th Anniversary worship service. Following worship, a catered lunch will be served in Hanson Hall. Reservations will be required. We need an accurate count of those planning to attend. Sign up sheets will be available in the church narthex and after Sunday services. Reservations must be made by March 1, 2024.

Celebrating our 50th Anniversary is an exciting time for our congregation. Please join us as we give thanks for the past 50 years of ministry and look forward with praise and thanksgiving to the future of Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church.

50th Anniversary Steering Committee

FOOD FOR THE SOUL . . .

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." *John 3:16*

"It's not about the bunny; it's about the lamb." *Unknown*

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

"Easter is the only time when it's perfectly safe to put all of your eggs in one basket." *Evan Esar*

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE . . .

What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why they no longer lived in Eden? *Your mother ate us out of house and home.*

How do you make Easter easier? *Replace the "t" with an "i."*

Why did the jelly bean go to school? *Because he really wanted to be a Smartie.*

Therapist: What's been up lately? Chocolate bunny: *I don't know Doc, I just feel so hollow inside.*

Why did the Easter Bunny have to fire the duck? *Because he kept quacking the eggs!*

EASTER IS COMING! . . .

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM!

Please help us beautify our sanctuary in celebration of our Savior's resurrection this Easter! Lilies will be placed around the altar for Easter worship services. You may take your lily home after the last service. Please order one or more lilies by completing the form below. The cost is \$20 per lily. The deadline for ordering is Friday, March 22, 2024. Please place your order form in the offering plate, leave in the basket in the narthex, or deliver to the Church office.



I would like to order _____ lilies at \$20 each, dedicated as indicated below: (Please print)

Bulletin Dedication #1: _____

Bulletin Dedication #2: _____

Bulletin Dedication #3: _____

Bulletin Dedication #4: _____

My check or cash is attached for \$_____.

My name: _____

My phone: _____ My envelope Number: _____

LENTEN AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE . . .

Join us Wednesdays through Lent at 5:30 p.m. for Lenten worship with soup suppers following.

Passion/Palm Sunday, Sunday, March 24, 2024 - 9:30 a.m. worship service.

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024 - 5:30 p.m. worship service.

Good Friday, March 29, 2024 - 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae service.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES:

Shepherd of the Glades will have three (3) worship services this Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024. The Sunrise worship service will be held outside in the courtyard at 7:00 a.m. Services at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. will be held in the sanctuary.

THRIVENT UPDATES . . .



Thrivent Events for March 2024

Are you wondering where the market is headed? Thinking of your financial strategy? Have you been considering your generosity giving? Join us for these FREE online events.

MARCH 07, 2024 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ET

The Generosity Crisis: The Need for Radical Connection

Join us for a conversation with Brian Crimmins as he shares a startling analysis of the changing nature of generosity in America. He will offer inspirational solutions to the dramatic downturn in giving, showing you how to re-establish the interconnection that drives reciprocity, love, and generosity.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/3RfkPap>

MARCH 19, 2024 | 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM ET

March Market and Economic Update presented by Thrivent

Are the current markets making you wonder how to best navigate your financial strategy? Join us for a livestream of Thrivent's Market and Economic Update, presented by Thrivent leaders. Don't miss the opportunity to hear Thrivent's perspective and what the latest trends may mean for you.

Register to attend the event or indicate you'd like to receive a recording.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/MarchUpdate2024>

No products will be sold at our events. For additional disclosures, see 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 Associate David Contessa at (239) 300-5139.

AH, SWEET FELLOWSHIP . . .

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN BREAKFAST!

The Fellowship committee is planning a farewell breakfast for Sunday, April 7, 2024, immediately following our worship service. The breakfast will be served in Hanson Hall. The committee needs to know how much food to prepare, so if you are planning to attend, please register on the signup sheets in the Narthex.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY . . .

Women's Bible study will be held on Friday, March 22nd beginning at 10:00 a.m. The topic of the class will be "Women of the Bible". Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

MARCH, 2024



SUN	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 10:00 – 11:00 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP	2
3 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	4 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	5 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. SEW-SEW QUILTERS	6 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 5:30 P.M. LENTEN SERVICE 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	7 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	8	9
10 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELIBRATION 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	11 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	12 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. SEW-SEW QUILTERS 6:00 P.M. CHURCH COUNCIL MTG.	13 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 5:30 P.M. LENTEN SERVICE 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	14 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	15 10:00 – 11:00 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP	16
17 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	18 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	19 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. SEW-SEW QUILTERS	20 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 5:30 P.M. LENTEN SERVICE 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	21 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	22 10:00 A.M. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS DU E DEADLINE	23
24 PASSION/PALM SUNDAY 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	25 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	26 8:30 - 11:00 A.M. SEW-SEW QUILTERS	27 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	28 5:30 P.M. MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	29 7:00 P.M. GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY 7:00 A.M. SUNRISE SERVICE 8:30 & 10:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP						

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6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Road
Naples, FL 34113

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NAPLES, FL
PERMIT # 18**

Dated material mailed March 1, 2024
Please deliver between March 1–4, 2024

**This Parish Paper is from:
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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**