



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, 2024
Volume 27- Issue 7
Editors: Lynn Dickerman
& Linda Tidmore



SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Happy Independence Day! In the United States, we celebrate our independence from British rule. We celebrate our freedom and independence on July 4th every year with fireworks, parades, picnics, and other fun activities. You may not have thought much about the cultural effects of celebrating independence day, but not all cultures believe rugged individualism and being independent is the best way to live. We are encouraged from the time we are little to learn to do everything on our own. I still smile as I remember one of our children at two years old, who was fiercely independent, saying to Kelli and myself, "I do it myself!" At 18 years of age, it is the customary expectation in the United States for a youth to leave their parents home and go to college, get a job, and start a family of their own or live independently. This is part of a rite of passage to adulthood. As we grow, we look forward to independence from our parents and grandparents and living independently. We are "free" from parental rules and can finally go out on our own and do what we want to do. Independence and freedom are a part of the American way.



Other cultures around the world have a different view. There are cultures that believe there is a human need for interdependence rather than individual independence as a way of living. When this belief is present, you will see several generations of a family living under one roof in a single home. This is not only because it is more affordable, but because there is an intimate connection with family. Grandparents care for their grandchildren while the children are young so that parents can work without worrying about their children as they grow up. When grandparents become unable to care for themselves, the children and grandchildren become their caregivers in the same home. You will not find day care centers or nursing homes in these cultures. The emphasis is not as much on individual gain and prosperity as it is to care for those in your community and your family. Your neighbor is as important as your family. In Africa, there is a term "Ubuntu" meaning "humanity" which is roughly translated, "I am because we are" or "I am because you are." Some understand Ubuntu as a way of life. Ubuntu is a soul force that helps hold us together as human beings and drives us towards selfless acts for others in need. If your neighbor is hungry and you have food, you share what you have with them. Provision for someone in need is based solely on their need for food and not what caused their hunger. The philosophy and communal ethos of Ubuntu also causes people to seek reconciliation and forgiveness with others. When one believes in living as one in community, vengeance and hatred towards others has no place. You can disagree, but you must respect the other person. Where there is Ubuntu, there is a belief that freedom can only be enjoyed when your neighbor also enjoys freedom. If your neighbor is not free, then you are not free. In a sense, the basis for living Ubuntu is

PASTOR'S PAGES (CONTINUED) . . .

found in Galatians 5:13. *“You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.”*

I believe that independence and Ubuntu are not mutually exclusive. As we celebrate independence day and freedom, we too can live according to Galatians 5:13. We are blessed to live in the United States. Thanks be to God, we are free. Our neighbors are free. We proudly proclaim that we are **“One Nation Under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all”**. We can be proud of our independence and still live the ethos of Ubuntu. If we believe we are **“one”** people and nation under God, indivisible, then we can respectfully disagree with one another without malice towards that person or slandering them. We can live the ethos of Ubuntu as we seek the founding principles of liberty and justice for all. We can live the ethos of Ubuntu as we recognize that our common bond as human beings and God’s creation outweigh our need to have our own way. We can be independent and have our own view without demonizing and dehumanizing another person. We can celebrate our freedom and independence and still live according to God’s plan for us. In our freedom, we can serve one another humbly in love. (Gal. 5:13) And in the words of 1 Peter 2:16, we can *“live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover up for evil.”* This is not a political statement, but a biblical quote and our calling as followers of Jesus. We are free in Christ Jesus. He taught us how to live, how to love, and how to forgive. May we walk in the ways of Jesus as we celebrate our independence.

HAVE A FUN AND HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!!

Pastor Jeff

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE . . .

What did colonists wear to the Boston Tea Party?
Tea-shirts!

What did one American flag say to another flag?
Nothing, it just waved!

What do you call an American Revolutionary who draws cartoons?
A Yankee Doodler!

PRAYER CHANGES THINGS . . .

Prayer is the first wireless connection. Prayer always has a great connection and never needs electricity to work, no matter your location. We are blessed to be able to come to our creator with everyone's every need. I was reminded that God cares about all aspects of our lives. God even knows how many hairs are in my head. Please know we welcome all to join the prayer warriors from wherever you are. We are instruments to share God's love, grace, healing and peace. Please contact the church office to join or to make a prayer request.

NEWS IN THE SHEEPFOLD . . .



HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

7/04/2024 Nancy Larrabee
7/05/2024 Michele Sova
7/06/2024 Heidi Dziubla
7/07/2024 Doug Walck
7/07/2024 Lanna Williams
7/08/2024 Daniel Bernabei
7/09/2024 Roland Cumor, Jr.
7/12/2024 Lee Collins
7/14/2024 Barbara Gega
7/16/2024 Ken Oberst
7/18/2024 Chuck Keller
7/19/2024 Randy Kuzel
7/20/2024 Andrea Tack
7/20/2024 Dorothy Hintzman
7/20/2024 Lisa Douglass
7/20/2024 Holden Bernabei
7/21/2024 James Bernabei
7/21/2024 Cadence Snover
7/21/2024 Jocelyn Snover
7/22/2024 Sue Walck
7/23/2024 Bill Masterson
7/23/2024 Diana Cowles
7/25/2024 Pat Spanitz
7/27/2024 David Roforth-Smith
7/29/2024 Joanne Hogan
7/31/2024 Bill Nicklay

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!



JULY ANNIVERSARIES . . . HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

07/11/2024 Peter & Margarete Krehan
07/19/2024 James & Lori Bernabei
7/19/2024 Jamshed & Pamela Bhatena
7/24/2024 Bruce & Judy Kobs
7/27/2024 Jeff & Kelli Ungs
7/30/2024 Paul & Beverly Smith
7/31/2024 David & Elouise Larson

RECEIVED HIS VICTORY IN THE LORD . . .

Ken Sebe received his victory in the Lord on Saturday, June 29, 2024 at Avow Hospice. Arrangements are pending.



CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Rod Barikmo & Family	Anita & Nick Lehr	Leila Sellman
Valerie Becker	The Linda Lentini Family	The Elaine Sima Family
Family of Carol Christian	The Lipke family	Micah Smith
Kathryn Connell	Marilyn Malinowski	Stanley
Family of Alan Espersen	Mary McDonald	Family of Raymond Swaby
Lisa Marie Farnsworth	Al & Pat McFadden	The Swain Family
Gail Fesnak	Irma Median	The Tommingo Family
Seanna (Kai) Grandinetti	Ed Michael	The Ungs Family
Charlie Hoffman & Family	Patty Musielak	Family of Tom Watts
Ingrid Hoerz	Ashley Nell	Michelle Wessler
Family of Jackie Jacobs	Peter Newell	
Joe	The Parker family	
Richard Jonas	Arlene Schamberger	
The Kramer family	Don Sebo	

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: Six Months Ended June 30, 2024

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$163,939	\$195,401	(\$31,462)
Operating Expense	\$201,824	\$208,002	\$6,178
Net Income (Deficit)	(\$37,885)	(\$12,601)	(\$25,284)

The lean summer months are upon us! People are away and vacationing. We appreciate our faithful givers, especially during the summer!



Happy July!!!!



Not sure what to do this summer? Check out our Free Thrivent Online Events!!

JULY 10, 2024 | 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM AND 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM ET

JULY 11, 2024 | 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM ET

[Estate Preservation for the Next Generation](#)

Please join us to learn from special guest speaker, Eric W. Bilger, FIC Financial Advisor for Thrivent, as he shares strategies around how to better prepare yourself for the “what-ifs” in life. This educational event is designed for our clients and their adult beneficiaries to help address their concerns about aging parents. We encourage you to invite any or all of your beneficiaries to attend.

RSVP - <https://bit.ly/EstateNext>

JULY 11, 2024 | 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM ET

[Trust Building Behaviors of Great Teams](#)

How do you attract and retain a great team? Join Thrivent along with culture consultant, Jenni Catron, where she will address trust building behaviors and ways you can foster trust that builds healthy teams.

RSVP - <https://bit.ly/4ajVSSJ>

JULY 25, 2024 – AUGUST 31, 2024 | DIFFERENT TIMES EACH EVENT

[Regional Member Appreciation Events](#)

To show our gratitude for your membership, you are invited to attend one of our in-person Member Appreciation Events with the Southeast Thrivent Member Network. Find the event nearest you by following the RSVP link.

RSVP - <https://bit.ly/MemberGratitude>

No products will be sold at our events. For additional disclosures, see [Thrivent.com/social](https://thrivent.com/social).

Contact us at SoutheastTMN@thrivent.com or see what’s happening at thrivent.com/southeast or at Facebook.com/SoutheastTMN.

Questions about Thrivent? Want to become a member?

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

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





JULY, 2024

SUN	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS	2	3 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS	4 4TH OF JULY OFFICE CLOSED	5 10:00 – 11:30 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP	6
	12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP		NO BIBLE STUDY	NO GRIEF SUPPORT MTG	NEWSKETTER MAILING	
7 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	8 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	9	10 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	11 2:00-3:30 P.M. GRIEF SUPPORT 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	12	13
14 EIGHTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	15 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	16	17 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	18 2:00-3:30 P.M. GRIEF SUPPORT 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	19 10:00 – 11:30 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP	20
21 NINTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	22 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS	23	24 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS NO BIBLE STUDY	25 2:00-3:30 P.M. GRIEF SUPPORT 7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	26	27
28 TENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	29 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	30	31 9:00 - 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS NO BIBLE STUDY			

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NAPLES, FL
PERMIT # 18**

Dated material mailed July 5, 2024
Please deliver between July 5 - July 9, 2024

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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 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**