



# 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

**NOVEMBER, 2024**

**Volume 27- Issue 11**

Editors: Lynn Dickerman  
& Linda Tidmore



**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**sinner**

**Saint**

The first time I saw this ambigram artwork was at a youth gathering in New Orleans. The theme at the youth gathering was “Citizens with the Saints.” An ambigram is intentionally drawn in order that the word or figure can have different meanings depending on the orientation of the artwork. As you look at the

top image, you see the word “sinner” and the bottom image is the word “saint.” Now turn the image upside down and it contains the same word in reverse print. The word “Sinner” becomes “Saint” when turned upside down. The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday. On this Sunday, we remember and honor the saints that have gone before us in the faith. It is a very spiritual and meaningful experience to honor the saints who have gone before us in our prayers by name and toll a bell in their memory.

Most of us know we are sinners, but we do not often think of ourselves as saints. We confess every Sunday that we have failed to fully love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. Much like the ambigram, Jesus invites us to change our perspective and to turn our eyes, our minds, and our hearts away from the ways of our sin, and the Holy Spirit will flip our focus from looking inward to seeing life through the eyes of God. When we follow God’s will for our lives with the help of the Holy Spirit, we become saints. Luther said we are simultaneously saint and sinner. We sin against God and our neighbor because of our human selfish desires. But because we have been baptized into Christ, when we turn from our sin, God removes our sin and makes us saintly. When we turn away from our sinful, selfish behaviors and look to the cross of Jesus, we see how much God loves us. God invites us to love others in the same way Jesus has shown us His love. Jesus changes our orientation on life. When we look at our lives through the lens of the love of God in Jesus, we recognize the many blessings God has given us. Christ has removed our sin and made us saints. In the words of Ephesians 2:19-20, “So then you are no longer strangers and aliens but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.” As citizens with the saints, freed and forgiven, our eyes are opened to our many blessings and we give God thanks.

November is the month of Thanksgiving. Ephesians 5:20 says, “(Give) thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Dear Saints of God, what are you thankful for this Holiday? Do you see the many blessings you have received? How do you demonstrate that you are thankful in a way that reflects that you are a citizen with the saints? Are your words and actions towards others kind? Do you see others as Christ sees them and love them with the love of God you have received? How do your words and actions towards others demonstrate that you are citizens with the saints? When others look at the way you live out your faith in your relationship with God and with your neighbor, which side of the ambigram will they see?

Have a blessed Thanksgiving, and keep your eyes on Jesus.

Pastor Jeff



## IT'S ALMOST ADVENT . . .

# REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A  
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans



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## PRAYER CHANGES THINGS . . .

Hello, Shepherd of the Glades. I am confident to address you all this way for we are all the real church. I have an unlimited FREE offer to all. It is effective, proven, and FREE. This offer is available no matter your location. It is prayer. For the season of stress, more people, traffic and challenges, God offers us an opportunity to take it ALL to our creator who loves and cares for us beyond measure and leave it in His hands and to be present with Him in unlimited peace, grace, and wisdom. The prayer warriors are ordinary people trusting God to do the best for each of us. Please let the office know if you wish to be added to the list receiving prayer requests or if you have a prayer request.

## **COUNCIL CORNER . . .**

### **SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH (Unapproved) October 15, 2024, COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Members in attendance: Pastor Unga, Bonny Dery, Penny Morken, Pam Bhatena, Bob Tidmore, Doug Walck, Charlotte Wahlig, Becky McDanel, Brad Caulder, and Colleen Hoffman. Absent: Gunar Strungs and John Sherman. The Council meeting was changed from October 8<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup> due to Hurricane Milton.

Devotions were given by Pastor Jeff. He read a section from the book “Canoeing the Mountains” which is about changes in our culture and how it affects the future for leaders and members in the church. He led a 40-minute discussion on how these changes could make a big impact on the church. The topics discussed were as follows:

What things have changed since Shepherd of the Glades formed 50 years ago? In Naples? In our State? In our country? In Lutheranism and in religion in general? In our culture?

How has technology changed the way we communicate in our lives and in the church since 1974? How has COVID 19 impacted not just Shepherd of the Glades, but churches in general? How have the changes in weather patterns made a difference for the church?

The committees on the Council were designed a long time ago and the structure and process of being elected to serve on the Council has been the same since 1974. To change any of the structures of how many members are on the committee or the way the Council members serve various committees would require changing the bylaws of our constitution. Is it time to think about how we might become more efficient and effective in the ministry by doing this?

Why do you think it is getting harder to get people (members and nonmembers) to volunteer with committees and serving the church?

If volunteers are getting harder to get, do we have enough staff to get us through season this year? What areas do we need to focus on?

We will continue these discussions over the next 5 meetings.

A motion to approve the minutes of September 10, 2024 was made, seconded, and approved as written.

Pastor’s Report – Pastor Jeff presided at the Memorial Service for Linda and Gene Lentini at a local Naples Cemetery. Leslie and Hank Beers will be leaving Naples and a new chairperson for the Fellowship Committee will be chosen.

Pastor Jeff requested Council leaders provide their committee reports prior to the meeting rather than giving verbal reports during the meeting. This will allow more time for discussion.

## **COUNCIL CORNER (CONTINUED) . . .**

**Treasurer's Report** – Bob Tidmore reported the Truist Investment account decreased during the month of September. Our income for the month was less than budgeted and expenses were less than budgeted. Our year-to-date income was less than our year-to-date expenses. This deficit was made up by withdrawal of funds from the Investment account and from 2023 funds.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Endowment**-Charlotte Wahlig reported that as of the end of August our Endowment Fund increased from July. Charlotte will be meeting with the committee this month to discuss what they can do to help others after Hurricane Milton.

**Property**- Doug Walck gave thanks to our volunteers for yard and grounds cleanup. He said the Property Committee could use some additional help, as we have had two hurricanes this season. Pastor Jeff said he has been in touch with two mission churches that will help us out whenever needed.

**Fellowship**- Penny Morken will be meeting with the committee next week. The committee has already talked about a new chairperson as Leslie Beers will be moving. The next activity is Trunk or Treat scheduled for the end of October.

**Evangelism**- Becky McDanel needs volunteers to help with the Sew-Sew Quilting. Becky suggested handing out information on Shepherd of the Glades at the Trunk or Treat event.

**Local Mission** – Pam Bhatena said we have continued to fill our food pantry for St. Mathews. This committee also needs volunteers to help with distributions each month and to discuss ways to encourage our surrounding community to attend our church.

### **New Business:**

**Memorial Garden**- Penny Morken announced that the Memorial Garden needs improved landscaping. It was suggested a sub-committee for landscaping be formed to maintain the grounds at the Memorial Garden. Pastor Jeff explained we do have a fund for the Memorial Garden and surrounding areas which can be used for purchases of soil and plants. Penny announced she already has willing volunteers to be part of this sub-committee.

A motion to approve the usage of Memorial Garden Funds for the purpose of maintaining the Garden and surrounding area was made, seconded and approved.

Council meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm with a prayer from Pastor Jeff.

Next meeting will be November 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Devotions by: Penny Morken

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Bhatena, Council Secretary



## NEWS IN THE SHEEPFOLD . . .



### HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

November 3 Linda Tidmore  
November 7 Hank Beers  
November 7 Darlene Momberg  
November 8 Alexa Tibbetts  
November 9 Pat Cumor  
November 10 James Green  
November 14 Helen Rasmussen  
November 15 Barbara Keith  
November 17 Gary Ramsey  
November 18 Marcia Schacht  
November 21 Bernard Schmidt  
November 23 Clay Baker  
November 23 Robert Besanceney  
November 24 Gunar Strungs  
November 25 Marcella Montgomery  
November 26 Sharon Eickhoff  
November 30 Barbara Collins

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!



### NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES . . .

#### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

November 2 Beverly & James Green  
November 7 Lisa & Phil Willman  
November 15 Sue & Steve Kautz  
November 28 Diane & David Roforth-Smith



## RECEIVED HIS VICTORY IN THE LORD . . .

Bill Marderness received his victory in the Lord on Wednesday, October 16th. Memorial services will be Saturday, November 2, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

## FOOD FOR THE SOUL . . .

“Abundance is not a result you create. It is an existing state you recognize.”

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

“Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer.”

*Maya Angelou, “Celebrations: Rituals of Peace and Prayer”*

## CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

### PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

Rod Barikmo & Family	The Linda Lentini Family	Leila Sellman
Pam Bhathena	Sandy Lofthouse	Cornelia Setzkorn
Ron Blasig	Family of Bill Marderness	The Elaine Sima Family
Kathryn Connell	Irma Median	John Simmons
Marilyn Day	Ed Michael	Micah Smith
Susie Espersen	Millie	Ryan Smith
Lisa Marie Farnsworth	Patty Musielak	Stanley
Gale	Willie Nation	Family of Raymond Swaby
Shelia Gardeneer	Peter Newell	The Swain Family
Barbara Gega	Linda Nolle	Michelle Wessler
Pastor Bob Hoffman	The O'Connor family	Family of Joyce Zaleznik
Richard Jonas	The Parker family	
Joe	Judy Quant	
Pastor Carl Kelly	Family of Rita Rosensteele	
Anita & Nick Lehr	The Sebe Family	

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: Ten Months Ended October 31, 2024

	Actual	Budget	Difference: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Operating Income	\$249,553	\$312,591	(\$63,038)
Operating Expense	\$311,434	\$331,627	\$20,193
Net Income (Deficit)	(\$61,881)	(\$19,036)	(\$42,845)

Our northern SOTG family is slowly returning. But we are still operating at a deficit. Hopefully, we will turn the corner financially by the end of November. Giving statements for the third quarter have been mailed. A hearty thankyou to all our regular givers!!

## **NOT GROWING WEARY IN WELL DOING . . .**

Our Sew-Sew quilters are starting their mission again! They meet from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Hanson Hall, every Tuesday thereafter during season. Everyone is welcome and no sewing experience is required. If your heart is moved to help provide warmth and love through these quilts to those most in need at the Center for Abused Woman and Children and St. Matthew's House, please join Sew-Sews on Tuesdays!



## **2025 CALENDARS . . .**

We have a few 2025 "God's Creation" scripture calendars left! At \$8 each, they make great Christmas gifts! Proceeds from the calendars will benefit an outreach program. You may purchase them at the church office Monday through Friday, 9:30-5:00 p.m.

## **LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE . . .**

What happens when potatoes drink too much? They get mashed!

Why did the cranberries blush? They saw the turkey dressing!

Why do turkeys eat so little? Because they're always stuffed!

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store for Thanksgiving Day, but couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?" "No, ma'am. They're dead."

What music did the Pilgrims listen to that first Thanksgiving? Plymouth Rock!

What's the difference between a pirate and a cranberry farmer?  
A pirate buries his treasure, but a cranberry farmer treasures his berries.

What's the best way to fix a broken pumpkin? Use a pumpkin patch!



## **AH SWEET FELLOWSHIP . . .**

On Thursday, October 17, 2024, the Fellowship Committee met to plan events at Shepherd of the Glades for the coming year. The events for the coming year follow:

Thursday, October 31, 2024 - TRUNK OR TREAT (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

Members may decorate their car trunks and hand out candy to community trick or treaters.

Sunday, November 10, 2024 - VETERANS' DAY CELEBRATION (After worship)

Veterans will be celebrated with cake and balloons after Sunday worship.

Thursday, November 28, 2024 - THANKSGIVING FEAST (1:00 P.M. in Hanson Hall)

See article at the bottom of this page.

Sunday, December 8, 2024 - BAKE SALE (After worship)

All proceeds of the Bake Sale will be donated to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Members may participate by providing or by purchasing baked goods after Sunday service.

Sunday, January 12, 2025 - "WELCOME BACK LUNCHEON" (After worship)

All worship attenders are invited for a ham luncheon in Hanson Hall to celebrate our entire SOTG family in fellowship. Sign up is required so that enough food is available to all.

Sunday, February 16, 2025 - STRAWBERRY SUNDAY (After worship)

Strawberry ice cream sundaes will be available after worship to all attending.

Wednesdays, March 5-April 9, 2025 - LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS (After Lenten worship)

All attenders of Lenten worship are invited to participate in a light soup supper following service.

Sunday, March 30, 2025 - "UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN BRUNCH" (After worship)

Before some of the SOTG family return North, all are invited to fellowship over a spaghetti & meatball brunch.

## **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND . . .**

Shepherd of the Glades is making plans to provide the "traditional" Thanksgiving dinner again this year. This dinner is for anyone in our congregation that would like to attend, including friends and family. If you are aware of someone that is alone, or new to the Naples area, please invite them to come for food and fellowship during this Thanksgiving holiday. The dinner will be served on Thursday, November 28, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. in Hanson Hall. We can use some assistance with food preparation. If you would like to help, please contact Kelli Ungs directly at 641-529-0969.

Each Sunday there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you are planning to attend the dinner (or bring a guest), please sign the sheet indicating the number of people. This will allow us to provide an adequate amount of food (and leftovers). We are requesting that if you are planning to join us for dinner, please either bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the St. Matthews food pantry or donate to the freewill offering to offset the cost of the food.

We are excited about providing this special holiday meal. Please plan to come for fellowship and fun so no one is alone for the holiday.



## NOVEMBER, 2024



NOVEMBER 7, 2024 | 12:00 PM ET

### [Making an Impact: Your Generosity Story](#)

Everyone has a unique generosity story, including you. Join Thrivent to discover the five primary ways each generation expresses generosity. Learn about the factors that shape and influence generosity and ways to create impact in your community.

RSVP - <https://bit.ly/GenerosityNov24>

NOVEMBER 19, 2024 | 12:30 PM ET

### [November 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.

RSVP - <https://bit.ly/MarketUpdateNov24>

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE 5 LOVE LANGUAGES WITH DR. GARY CHAPMAN? IF YOU, YOUR FAMILY OR FRIENDS WOULD LIKE TO JOIN IN PERSON, RESERVE SEATS FOR THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS NOW!!

### [The 5 Love Languages® with Dr. Gary Chapman](#)

Discover the keys to unlocking deeper connections and fostering lasting intimacy in your relationships as Gary Chapman shares his decades of wisdom and experience. Whether you're seeking to strengthen your bond with a partner, deepen familial ties, or enhance friendships, this event promises invaluable insights into the diverse ways we give and receive love.

NOVEMBER 21, 2024 - **Nona Church Moss Park Campus; 11221 John Wycliffe Blvd., Orlando, FL** RSVP - <https://bit.ly/5LLOrlando>

NOVEMBER 22, 2024 - **Grace Lutheran Church; 12200 McCormick Rd., Jacksonville, FL** RSVP - <https://bit.ly/5LLJacksonville>

*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](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? 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



# NOVEMBER, 2024



SUN	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 11:00 A.M. BILL MARDERNESS MEMORIAL SERVICE
<b>3</b> ALL SAINTS SUNDAY  9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>4</b> NO BONE BUILDERS  12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	<b>5</b> 8:30-11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS	<b>6</b> 9:30-11:00 A.M. EMBROIDERER'S GUILD NO.BONE BUILDERS 10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	<b>7</b>  7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	<b>8</b>  11:00-11:30 A.M. USHER TRAINING	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST  9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>11</b> 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS 12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	<b>12</b> 8:30-11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS  6:00 P.M.— COUNCIL MTG.	<b>13</b> 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS  10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	<b>14</b>  7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	<b>15</b>  NOON-NEW MEMBERS LUCHEON	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST  NEW MEMBER SUNDAY 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>18</b> NO BONE BUILDERS  12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP  DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS	<b>19</b> 8:30-11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS	<b>20</b> NO BONE BUILDERS  10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	<b>21</b> 2:00-3:30 P.M. GRIEF SUPPORT  7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	<b>22</b>  10:00 – 11:30 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP  10:00 A.M. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> CHRIST THE KING- SUNDAY 9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP	<b>25</b> NO BONE BUILDERS  12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP	<b>26</b> 8:30-11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS	<b>27</b> NO BONE BUILDERS  10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY	<b>28</b> 1:00 P.M. THANKSGIVING FEAST  7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP	<b>29</b>  OFFICE UNAVAILABLE	<b>30</b>

Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church  
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**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**