

# 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

**DECEMBER, 2024**

**Volume 27- Issue 12**

Editors: Lynn Dickerman  
& Linda Tidmore



and  
suddenly  
there was with  
the *angel*  
a multitude of  
the heavenly host  
*praising God*  
and saying  
*Glory to God*  
in the highest, and on earth  
peace, goodwill towards

men  
Luke 2  
13-14

**SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

Yes, I know it is the Church season of Advent, but it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas - everywhere you go. (I know you are singing the song after seeing this!) If you are having trouble getting into the Christmas spirit, I highly recommend attending the Shepherd of the Glades annual Paul Todd Christmas concert on Wednesday December 4th at 7 PM. It is a two hour Christmas concert! Not only does he sing Christmas favorites that we will not sing during worship until Christmas Eve, his performance is filled with energy and passion for the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord. Paul is doing fewer concerts this year, so we are blessed to have him share his talent with our community. If a Christmas concert isn't for you, another way you can get into the Christmas Spirit is by choosing a name off our giving tree and buying a Christmas present for a child to help a family in need. I still remember how meaningful it was when I was doing my internship year and some members of the community I served helped us out and bought presents for our children when we could not afford them. They were angels sent by God to help our Christmas spirit be brighter as our children were filled with great joy. The joy of children certainly makes Christmas brighter. Hopefully their joy is contagious! Or maybe it would help you get into the Christmas spirit by signing up for a Christmas poinsettia at the church in memory of or to honor a loved one or special life event. Christmas can be a difficult time when you are alone or grieving the recent death of a loved one. Be gentle and kind to yourself if you are grieving this Holy Holiday season, and be intentional about doing something to help yourself through your time of grief. In January, we will be hosting another grief support group. Maybe you could give yourself the gift of the support and care of others.



Christmas is about much more than giving and receiving presents. It is about demonstrating love and care towards others and being reminded how much God loves us. God loves us so much that he gave us Jesus, so that we might have eternal life. God cared enough about us that God became human and faced the same joys and struggles we all experience. As we prepare for Christmas and the birth of the Christ Child Jesus, there are many ways we can demonstrate God's love. We can volunteer our time to hospitals, care facilities, and even individuals who could use our help. We can call on others who may be struggling with sadness and grief who live alone. As we look upon the manger scene, we are reminded that we are never alone. God is with us. It is good for us to remind others who may feel alone that they are loved and they are not forgotten. You may be surprised to find that in giving your time to others, you may be the one receiving the gift! But if you are one whose love language is buying gifts, please consider the many ways you can share God's love through purchasing a gift that will bring more than momentary joy. For as little as \$10.00 you can give the gift of a clinic visit for a child! ELCA good gifts offers many opportunities to make a huge impact on the life of someone in need. For that same \$10.00 you can purchase chicks that will eventually become a great source of eggs and meat. You could provide a fruit tree seedling that could last as a food source for generations! Maybe you occasionally get cold and appreciate having a blanket to warm you up. You could buy someone a blanket through ELCA good gifts to help them keep warm on cold nights. God has blessed us so that we might bless others. ELCA good gifts provides an inexpensive way to make a huge impact for many people. To see the many gifts you can give for Christmas to people in need, visit <https://goodgifts.elca.org/all-gifts>.

## **PASTOR'S PAGES (CONTINUED) . . .**

Finally, thank you for your generous giving to the church. Shepherd of the Glades shares the Good News of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond in so many ways. However, this year our giving is not currently meeting our budget goals for the year. I ask that you prayerfully consider making an additional financial gift to the church as we bring the year to a close. If the church has been a blessing to you, please consider helping us end this year by meeting our financial income goals in our 2024 budget. Your church council has done a fantastic job of stewarding your contributions and have kept expenses to a minimum. But minimizing expenses means minimizing our ministry goals.

Whatever you choose to do to help you get into the Christmas spirit this year, may the presence and peace of the Christ Child be with you.

+Pastor Jeff

## **SOTG ANNUAL MEETING . . .**

On Sunday, December 15, 2024, Shepherd of the Glades will hold its annual meeting after worship. This meeting is to elect new Council members, representatives for Synod Assembly, and Nominating Committee members; and to approve the budget for 2025. Information packets will be available at least one week before the meeting.

## **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.

## **EVANGELISM'S GIVING TREE . . .**



This year the Evangelism committee has chosen the children of the clients at “Lutheran Service of Florida” and some siblings of the students at Mike Davis Elementary school to be the recipients of the gifts from the Giving Tree. Lutheran Services is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the most vulnerable Floridians. The committee has decorated the tree in the Narthex with name tags of the children we hope to serve. The tags have the name, age, and gender of the child. If you would like to take part in the gift giving this year just take a name tag, purchase and wrap your gift, tape the name tag on the gift, and bring it to the church before Monday, December 16th. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

## COUNCIL CORNER . . .

### SHEPHERD OF THE GLADES LUTHERAN CHURCH (Unapproved) NOVEMBER 12, 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, Colleen Hoffman, Gunar Strungs, and John Sherman.

Devotions by: Penny Morken Our discussion questions centered around leading the church in a rapidly changing world. Chapter two of Canoeing the Mountains, Adventure or Die.

Do you agree with the statement...The world in front of you is nothing like the world behind you? Now, substitute the Church for the word World. Can you think of examples that might fit this statement?

Using the metaphor of the Lewis & Clark expedition, what does it mean for us as church leaders and for Shepherd of the Glades....Adventure or Die? What might the “adventure” look like? Are we in “uncharted territory”....what does that mean to you? Examples of the “what” and “why” and “How” we go on this Journey?

In this rapidly changing world, do we seek even more stability, comfort and a sense of control over our lives? How do we feel about our worship experiences? How can we meld that sense of comfort and stability AND begin to embark on new adventures?

What does missional theology mean to you? What could being a “mission church” look like at Shepherd of the Glades?

A motion to approve the minutes of October 15, 2024, was made, seconded, and approved as written.

Pastor’s Report – Official acts of October: Presided at Bill Marderness memorial. Thank you to everyone who helped. Attended required ELCA boundaries workshop. Led Florida Bahamas Synod First Call Theological Education meeting for first call Pastors and deacons.

October has been busy with visiting potential new members, talking with the nominating committee and council members who have the option to remain on the 2025 council, many hospital visits, meeting with the endowment committee regarding distribution of funds, preliminary conversations about budget for next year, and assisting with the Ken Sebe estate gift. We will be receiving 8 new members on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. They will meet for a light luncheon, fellowship, and orientation on Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to everyone who helped with Trunk or Treat this year. A new member, Patricia Clark, also joined us. We had over 300 children this year. We gave away business cards, information flyers, and water to adults and a lot of candy to the children. We also invited many people to church.

Thank you to Doug Walck and all who made the Veterans Day recognition Sunday a success.

The annual Caloosa Conference of the Florida Bahamas Synod met at Lamb of God Church in Fort Myers. Penny, Colleen and Pastor Bob also were in attendance. We met the new Director for Evangelical Mission and assistant to the bishop, learned about the 2024 ELCA youth gathering and congregations that were involved, and elected a treasurer and conference dean.

The AVOW Hospice spiritual advisory committee has disbanded and no longer meets due to a staffing change. Met with Mary Winsor to discuss the possibility of becoming an additional staff person. Mary is 23 years old and is the daughter of a Pastor. She has a bachelor’s degree and is discerning her call to the church. Mary has served one year on the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) in Mexico and is fluent in Spanish. This position would be a one-year contract.

#### Committee Reports:

**Endowment**-The committee met in October to discuss proposals for endowment awards. It was discussed that due to recent donations to the fund, combined with the investment performance

## COUNCIL CORNER (CONTINUED) . . .

of the fund, we were able to make several awards. The following awards were discussed and approved. 1. A \$10,000 donation to the Hurricane Helene and Milton Relief Funds, to be distributed through the Bishop of the ELCA Florida/Bahama Synod.

2. A \$10,000.00 donation to the Hurricane Helene Fund targeting specifically the Asheville NC area, to be distributed through the Bishop of the North Carolina Synod. 3. Creation of \$1,000 Roth IRAs (each) for Kelli Ungs and Abraham Ungs, in recognition of their weekly congregation outreach work with the SOTG Lutheran Audio/Visual System, as required for our internet presence. 4. An expenditure of up to \$5,000, as required, to upgrade and modernize the Church AV sound system, to facilitate our internet outreach program. 5. An expenditure of up to \$5,000, as required, to improve, update and maintain the Church internet web site. In addition to the approval of awards, the Committee also discussed a review of our investment manager (ELCA Foundation), specifically to determine if another investment advisor might be more responsive regarding customer service issues, reporting of fund results and offer lower fees for fund management. That review is in progress. Finally, there was discussion regarding designating some of the funds recently received through donations to increase the endowment's baseline funding level. A formal decision has not been made yet. Submitted by: Charlotte Wahlig and Gunar Strungs.

**Property**-Committee reported 1. Yard debris pile will be picked up after Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. 2. Receiving bids for Hansen Hall roof replacement that was damaged by two hurricanes 3. Have figured out a method to install the heavy memorial plaque. It will be scheduled for installation November 26. 4. So far, and we are only into February for the HOA reservations, we have three HOA reservations that require multiple tables and 100 chairs each. More are coming and into April. That is a lot of work for our small committee plus taking care of the exterior. Help would be appreciated. Contact the church office or Doug for scheduling. Also, don't forget the soup supper setups. Submitted by: Doug Walck.

**Fellowship**-A planning meeting was held with the current chair, Leslie Beers along with Sue Kautz and Liz McGuire to discuss the Fellowship Committee leadership transition process as Leslie is moving out of state. A meeting was held with Pastor Jeff, Leslie, Fellowship Chair, and a representative from Hacienda Lakes, a new senior living facility in East Naples. Hacienda Lakes has offered to provide some assistance to help offset financial costs for several planned fellowship activities. More information to follow. First fellowship activity held October 31 – Trunk or Treat and was a success. Candy was donated by the congregation and given to over 300+ children. Nice evening, good crowd of children and their families. Next fellowship event will be November 10 after church services. A special cake/coffee hour to recognize our veterans. Upcoming fellowship events: Assistance with Thanksgiving Dinner scheduled for November 28. The Fellowship Committee will decorate tables on November 27. This Committee will donate \$400 from their budget to assist with food costs for the meal. Christmas Bake Sale is scheduled for December 8 after church services. Submitted by: Penny Morken

**Evangelism**-The Giving Tree will be going up the day after Thanksgiving. This year the recipient will be Lutheran Services of Florida. Information will be on the ornaments. The Sew-Sew group could still use more help. They meet Tuesday mornings from 8:30-11:00, no sewing experience needed. The group wants to thank the generous donor who left a big box of pre-cut quilt squares. All donations are greatly appreciated. Submitted by: Becky McDanel

**Education**-Charlotte Wahlig is our Sunday School teacher, and she is a willing teacher for our small Sunday School. Submitted by: Bonny Dery

**Social Concerns/Local Mission**-Committee Chairperson, Pete Peterson, suggested ways to get volunteers for the Social Concerns/Local Mission committee. Regarding our food pantry, the committee wants to thank everyone for another outstanding amount of food donations during the month of October.

## COUNCIL CORNER (CONTINUED) . . .

It is always helpful to have a suggested food list in the Sunday bulletin. These donations were taken to St. Mathews House. Please remember to drop off boxes or sturdy bags to help with transferring the food. Submitted by: Pam Bhatena

Council meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm with a prayer from Pastor Jeff.

Next meeting will be December 10, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Devotions by: Doug Walck

Respectfully submitted,  
Pam Bhatena, Council Secretary

## CHRISTMAS IS AROUND THE CORNER . . .



### Paul Todd & Friends SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

**Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00**  
at Shepherd of the Glades in Naples, FL

Join Paul Todd and his very special guests  
for a spectacular concert event that you won't want to miss!  
Enjoy **Christmas Music** that celebrates the season!

Doors open at **6:30 p.m.** - Tickets are **\$25 per person**  
available in the parish office during regular business hours



**Call (239) 272-0297 for more information**

## CHRISTMAS EVE IS A TIME FOR WORSHIP . . .

Come worship at Shepherd of the Glades on Christmas Eve at either 5:00 or 7:00 p.m. There will be special music, candlelight, and communion. Christ's birth is the event that set salvation's plan in motion whereby our souls were made eligible for redemption. Come feel the joy and hope that His birth brings to mankind.

# CHRISTMAS IS COMING . .

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ORDER FORM!

Please help us beautify our sanctuary in praise to our Savior this Christmas! Poinsettias will be placed around the altar for Christmas. You may take your poinsettia(s) home after Christmas Eve worship. Please order one or more poinsettias by completing the form below. The cost is still \$20 per poinsettia. The deadline for ordering is Wednesday, December 18, 2024.



Please place your order form in the offering plate, leave in the basket

I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER \_\_\_\_\_ POINSETTIAS AT \$20 EACH, DEDICATED AS INDICATED BELOW: (PLEASE PRINT)

BULLETIN DEDICATION #1

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BULLETIN DEDICATION #2

---

BULLETIN DEDICATION #3

---

BULLETIN DEDICATION #4

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MY CHECK OR CASH IS ATTACHED FOR \$\_\_\_\_\_.

MY NAME:

---

MY PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ MY ENVELOPE NUMBER:

---

Office use only:

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_ Dedication entered \_\_\_\_\_ Amount paid \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

## NEWS IN THE SHEEPFOLD . . .



### HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO . . .

December 1 Gloria Blaho  
December 2 Jennifer White  
December 4 Suzanne Yuhaschek  
December 8 Nola Halverson  
December 10 Lisa McGarity  
December 11 Dorothy McKenzie  
December 12 Alice Bassett  
December 12 Harlo (Pete) Peterson  
December 12 George Giacometti  
December 14 Myrka Gonzalez  
December 20 Olivia Tibbetts  
December 24 Doris Marderness  
December 25 Liz McGuire

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!

December 26 Judy Quandt  
December 27 Pat Cooper  
December 28 Penny Morken  
December 30 Edward Ries  
December 31 Bonnie Kischer



### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES . . . HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

December 23 Roger & Kathy Burtchin

## RECEIVED THEIR VICTORY IN THE LORD . . .

Leila Sellman passed away on Monday, November 18, 2024. She has been a member of Shepherd of the Glades since before 1987-at least 37 years. Leila was 97 years old when she passed. Leila's Celebration of Life service was on Saturday, November 16, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at Shepherd of the Glades.

Nola Halverson passed away on Wednesday, November 20, 2024. Her funeral arrangements will be announced as soon as they are available.



## AH SWEET FELLOWSHIP . . .

Everyone is invited to participate in the Annual Bake Sale on Sunday, December 8th. If you are baking, please bring your goods to the Church Narthex on Saturday, December 7th between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. for pricing and set-up. We will be selling our SOTG Cookbooks (Feeding the Flock) for \$15.00. Proceeds of the sale and cookbooks will be donated to Lutheran Disaster Response.  
**PLEASE BAKE AND BUY GENEROUSLY!**



## CARING CONNECTIONS . . .

### PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers:

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

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 November 30, 2024

|                      | Actual     | Budget     | Difference:<br>Favorable<br>(Unfavorable) |
|----------------------|------------|------------|---|
| Operating Income     | \$272,144  | \$350,546  | (\$78,402)                                |
| Operating Expense    | \$337,695  | \$362,520  | \$24,825                                  |
| Net Income (Deficit) | (\$65,551) | (\$11,974) | (\$53,577)                                |

Usually during November, we start to make progress in recovering from the lean summer months. However, this November we are still falling behind in our difference between income and expenses. We appreciate all our generous donors!

# HAPPENINGS AT SOTG. . .

On All Hallows' Eve Shepherd of the Glades welcomed the community's children with "Trunk 'n Treat" where parishioners decorated their car trunks and gave out candy to the neighborhood children. Over 300 children were served!



## HAPPENINGS AT SOTG . . .

On Sunday, November 10, 2024, Shepherd of the Glades honored our Veterans before worship and celebrated with cake afterwards. Thank you for your service!



## ENDOWMENT NEWS . . .

With thanks for a generous contribution made by a church member, your endowment committee has been very active. This additional donation was providential coming at the same time as hurricane Helene hit Florida and North Carolina. We have been able to support the disaster relief efforts created by hurricanes Helene and Milton in Florida. \$10,000 was donated directly to the synod for its relief work. In North Carolina, \$10,000 was also donated directly to its synod for disaster relief efforts created by hurricane Helene in the Ashville, NC area.

### Special Recognition:

Each Sunday we have two people who come to church but they never sit in the pews to worship. WHO are they? Kelli and Abraham Unga are the team that do the Audio/Visual work that is displayed on the screens and recorded for those who will watch the service online. They are volunteers and want to keep it that way. To honor their wishes, and to recognize their continuing work, the Endowment committee is giving both Kelli and Abraham \$1000 to be put in a ROTH IRA. Funds can be added and will grow with time. Later they can be redeemed tax free.



### Additional Needs:

Two other needs were discussed and approved by the Endowment Committee.

\$5000 was approved to upgrade the AV sound system in the church. This should help minimize feedback and distortion.

\$5000 was approved to improve and update the church web site.

All of these Endowment efforts are separate from the church budget and made possible due to donations and bequests. Please give prayerful consideration to supporting this work.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU . . .

On Sunday, November 17, 2024, Shepherd of the Glades welcomed the following new members into fellowship! Please warmly welcome them!

Robert F. Besanceney joined SOTG by affirmation of faith.

Bob grew up in Elmira, NY. He has served in the U.S. Army and loves to watch sports. He is retired and is interested in church outreach programs such as St. Matthews House.



Patricia Clark joined SOTG by reaffirmation of faith.

Pat lived in New York city and is interested in child care and adult communication. She loves swimming and hiking.



Sandy Haberman joined SOTG by reaffirmation of faith.

Sandy grew up in Big Lake, Minnesota. Comes from a large family and has worked in customer relations. She now works in real estate and has a condo watch business. She loves baking, sewing and bike riding.



Rachael Harvey joined SOTG by reaffirmation of faith.

Racheal grew up in White Bear, Minnesota. She has worked in computer technology for corporations. She works in real estate now and is active in the National Ski Patrol. She enjoys boating, golfing, and her four grandchildren.



Kevin Wayne Holland joined SOTG by reaffirmation of faith.

Kevin is from Fox Lake, Illinois. He loves coming to Florida and been working in electrical contracting for 20 plus years. He loves boating and has 3 sons and 7 grandchildren.



Sandra Lacefield joined SOTG by reaffirmation of faith.

Sandy comes to us from Emmanuel Lutheran. She has 4 children and 4 grandchildren. She is retired from the catering business and loves to travel.



## GETTING TO KNOW YOU . . .

Liz McGuire joined SOTG by reaffirmation of faith.

Liz retired from an administrative position at a church here in Florida. She loves spending time with her 2 daughters, 3 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren. She enjoys riding in the equestrian events in her retirement.



Sharon "Shari" Pressentin (not pictured) joined SOTG by letter of transfer from Bethel Lutheran Church in Madison, WI

Husband: Bradley

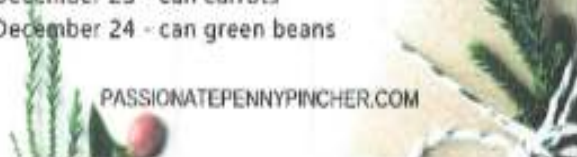
Shari is a retired elementary teacher. She and her husband Bradley enjoy spending time with family, reading, traveling, and watching college sports.

## TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING . . .

### 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



## THRIVENT UPDATES . . .

thrivent

*We wish You a Merry Christmas and  
A Happy New Year!*

You are invited to join Thrivent for our December 2024 Events.

DECEMBER 3, 2024 | 12:00 AM – 11:59 PM ET

### [Giving Tuesday](#)

**Donate. Participate. Celebrate.**

Giving Tuesday is an opportunity to make our communities stronger one act of giving at a time. Join us in supporting Family Promise on Tuesday, December 3. For every \$2 donated to Family Promise on Thrivent's giving platform and at in-person events, Thrivent will match \$1 up to a total of \$20,000.\* Thrivent will also cover online processing fees so your gift makes an even greater impact.

*\*Donations made online to featured organizations through Thrivent's giving platform and at in-person events on Giving Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024, will be matched \$1 for every \$2 donated up to \$20,000 per Thrivent Member Network. Thrivent, in partnership with Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing®, offers you the opportunity to make online personal donations to the organizations you care about.*

**RSVP - <https://bit.ly/GiveTuesday2024>**

DECEMBER 10 THROUGH DECEMBER 25, 2024 | TWO WEEKS ONLY - ON DEMAND

### [Home for the Holidays](#)

Join the Thrivent Member Network for Home for the Holidays, a virtual Christmas concert featuring five-time Grammy® Award-winning artist, Steven Curtis Chapman.

Take some time to treat yourself to the sounds of this joyous season. Grab your friends and family and sing along to your favorite Christmas classics.

This on-demand Concert is available for two weeks only – December 10-25.

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

DECEMBER 14, 2024

### [Night Garden at Fairchild Botanical Garden](#)

**Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden; 10901 Old Cutler Rd, Miami, FL 33156**

We invite you to immerse yourself in Holiday Lights at the Fairchild Botanical Garden.

Fairchild is transformed into an illuminated magical fairyland with colored pathways, Archie their favorite talkative wise old tree, and so much more, this light show extravaganza is the perfect way to celebrate the holidays with the entire family.

**RSVP - <https://bit.ly/FairchildGarden2024>**

Find more Events in and around Florida your family will enjoy at <https://bit.ly/ThriventEvents>.

*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](https://thrivent.com)/southeast or at [Facebook.com/SoutheastTMN](https://facebook.com/SoutheastTMN).

**For More Info 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



# MONTH AT A GLANCE . . .

# DECEMBER, 2024



| SUN   | Mon   | Tue   | Wed   | Thurs  | Fri  | Sat       |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|-----------|
| <b>1</b><br>FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT<br>HONORING VOLUNTEERS<br>9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP | <b>2</b><br>9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS<br><br>12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP   | <b>3</b><br>8:30-11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS                                | <b>4</b><br>9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS<br>9:30-11:00 A.M. EMBROIDERER'S GUILD<br>10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY<br>7:00 P.M. PAUL TODD CONCERT | <b>5</b><br>7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP  | <b>6</b><br>10:00 – 11:30 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br>SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT<br>9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP                       | <b>9</b><br>9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS<br><br>12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP   | <b>10</b><br>8:30-11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS<br><br>6:00 P.M. COUNCIL MTG. | <b>11</b><br>9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS<br>10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY  | <b>12</b><br>7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP | <b>13</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| <b>15</b><br>THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT<br>ANNUAL MEETING<br>9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP     | <b>16</b><br>9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS<br><br>12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP  | <b>17</b><br>8:30-11:00 A.M. SEW-SEWS                               | <b>18</b><br>9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS<br>2:00-3:30 P.M. GRIEF SUPPORT<br>10:00 A.M. PASTOR JEFF'S BIBLE STUDY                                      | <b>19</b><br>7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP | <b>20</b><br>10:00 – 11:30 A.M. WOMEN'S AA GROUP<br><br>10:00 A.M. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY | <b>21</b> |
| <b>22</b><br>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT<br>9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP                      | <b>23</b><br>9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS<br><br>12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP<br><br>DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS | <b>24</b><br>5:00 & 7:00 P.M. CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES                | <b>25</b><br>CHRISTMAS DAY<br>OFFICE CLOSED<br><br>NO BONE BUILDERS   | <b>26</b><br>7:00 – 8:00 P.M. AA MIXED GROUP | <b>27</b>  | <b>28</b> |
| <b>29</b><br>FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS<br>9:30 A.M. LIVE STREAMING WORSHIP                    | <b>30</b><br>9:00 – 10:00 A.M. BONE BUILDERS<br><br>12 NOON AA MIXED GROUP  | <b>31</b>   |   |  |  |           |

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

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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**