



GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Newsletter September 2023

XLVII, ISSUE IX

<i>Rally Day & Members 90 or Above Recognition</i>	1
<i>A Word from Pastor</i>	2
<i>Bereavement Food Ministry</i>	3
<i>Social Ministry Monthly Emphasis</i>	4
<i>Fall Fest Save the Date</i>	4
<i>God's Young Followers</i>	4
<i>September Learning Opportunities</i>	5
<i>Good Shepherd Foundation</i>	6
<i>Thank You</i>	7
<i>Calendar</i>	8-9
<i>Pathfinders of Good Shepherd (POGS)</i>	10
<i>Seminary Luncheon</i>	10
<i>WELCA News</i>	10
<i>Photo Page</i>	11
<i>Worship Volunteers</i>	12
<i>September 2023 Meetings</i>	12
<i>Food Pantry Update</i>	12
<i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	12
<i>Tuesday Morning Bible Study</i>	13
<i>Wednesday Zoom Bible Study</i>	13
<i>Save the Date Congregational Retreat</i>	13
<i>Birthdays</i>	13
<i>Lectionary</i>	14
<i>Prayer Lists</i>	15
<i>Staff and Council Members</i>	16
<i>Calendar: Upcoming Events</i>	16



Join us in the FAB on Sunday, September 10 after the worship service for our annual Rally Day celebration and to recognize some very special Good Shepherd members who are 90 years old or above.

Come to learn more about our adult and youth Sunday School class curriculums for the fall and about our plans for the upcoming year! Our wonderful teachers and volunteers will also be recognized for their generous service and dedication.

There will not be Sunday School classes this day so we can all come together to celebrate the new year of learning. A light luncheon will be served after the program in honor of our special 90 years old or above members. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please join us ...

to celebrate our members

90 years old and above

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

3909 Forest Drive

Columbia, SC

Sunday, September 10, 2023

9:30 am -- Worship Service

in the sanctuary

Light Luncheon in the FAB

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR



"But that's not fair!"

If I had a nickel for every time I heard that phrase as a parent of two young children, I'd be swimming in nickels. At our house everything—from what time we go to bed to what we eat to how we play—is always at risk of being deemed “not fair” by children who don't yet understand that life is rarely fair.

As I look ahead to our upcoming gospel readings for the month of September, I can't help but read them and think to myself, “But Jesus, that's not fair!” You see, we are at a point in Matthew's gospel in which Jesus is especially blunt with his message that living as a member of the kingdom of heaven will mean a radical reordering of the way we live.

For instance, during this month we will see Jesus teach the disciples that if someone in the community sins against them, they must work hard to reconcile and forgive the wrongdoer. *But that's not fair! We'd rather just write off those who hurt us and eliminate them from the community.* Jesus doesn't let us off the hook that easily.

When Simon Peter presses Jesus on how many times he must forgive someone who has wronged him, we hear Jesus say that we must forgive not just seven times, but seventy-seven times! *But that's not fair! Instead, shouldn't we live by the adage “fool me once, shame on you, fool me twice shame on me?”* Yet this idea of repeated and lavish forgiveness is precisely the radical way in which God's forgiveness works toward us. Who are we to deny it to others?

And perhaps most offensive to our modern sensibilities, Jesus tells the disciples a parable in which day laborers wait to be chosen to work. Those who are chosen first labor all day. Those who are chosen last labor only an hour. At the end of the day, the master pays them all the same wage. *But that's not fair! We ought to get what we deserve!* Yes, but if God gave us all what we deserve, would we really like the outcome? I'd wager not.

Jesus frames this whole section of “unfair teachings” with our gospel lesson for the first Sunday in September. In that lesson he teaches the disciples that he must be handed over, suffer, be killed, and be raised on the third day. Simon Peter chimes in with a version of (you guessed it): *That's not fair!* Furthermore, Jesus teaches them that if they want to follow him and be his disciples, they must take up their own crosses and follow him. No, that's not fair either. It is, however, the call of the gospel. We are called to live differently than the world lives. While the world seeks a crown, we are called to seek a cross. While the world says “get yours for you and forget everyone else,” Jesus' way says we are to remember the mercy we've been shown and show it to others. While the world says “get revenge,” Jesus says “forgive, even seventy-seven times.” While the law of the land says, “you are paid according to how much you work,” the gospel of grace says, “you are given freely that which you can never earn.”

These teachings aren't easy. And no, they aren't fair either. But they are life-giving and life-changing if we have the courage to listen to Jesus and to follow his way together. I'll see you in worship this month as we meet to do just that.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Andrew

BEREAVEMENT FOOD MINISTRY

For many years Good Shepherd has offered a meal or finger food to the family of a member upon their death.

Being a part of a WELCA food group may consist of preparing a dish, providing finger food, serving or donating money to help defray the cost of the food and beverages. Food Groups are contacted using a rotational method.

If you are NOT listed as a member of one of our 6 Food Groups and would be willing to be a part of this meaningful ministry, please indicate this on your **TIME AND TALENT SHEET** or by contacting Gaye Tucker at 803-917-8428. You will be receiving your Time and Talent Sheet during our Fall Stewardship Campaign.

Group #1: Lavina Chandler, Chair

Joey Allison
Alice Buckner
Jean Cockrell
Violet Fetner
Neal Inman
Pat Quattlebaum
Pat Roche
Carole Sox
Leigh Tondini

Group#2: Gaye Tucker/Libby Slice

Carolyn Adams
Gwen Barnes
Sylvia Anne Derrick
Margaret Hill
Rosemary Nance
Lisa Sanchez
Penny Sox
Kappy Steck
Brenda Wicker

Group #3: Susan Uehling, Chair

Alycia Fortner
Helen Hanayik
Jim Johnson
Justine Parker
Frances Plyler
Rebecca Richardson
Bettie Stroud
Ursula Weeks
Marcia Woodward

Group #4: Janet Lockhart, Chair

Sara Hydrick
Joyce Mobley
Anne Mueller
Barbara Nagy
Judy Rogers
Verna Sawyer
Mary Stallings
Cindy Taylor
Elaine Zornow

Group #5: Cheryl Beaman, Chair

Trisha Benson
Victoria Brown
Nancy Hyatt
Amy Kemp
Karen Lucas
Cathy Milejczak
Debi Powell
Earline Suydam
Terry Tokaz
Leigh Ann Tollison

Group #6: Becky Shealy, Chair

Connie Donovan
Anita Easter
Sandy Gundlach
Bonnie Hammond
Laura Leigh Smith
Susan Sturkie
Donna Vaughn
Darlene Whipple
Deb Whitlow

SOCIAL MINISTRY MONTHLY EMPHASIS



The monthly emphasis for September is The Free Medical Clinic. Their mission is to provide quality health care, at no cost, to residents of the community who cannot pay for such services and who have no health insurance. The clinic was started by a local pastor in 1984 and has been serving individuals in need of medical care ever since. During fiscal year 2021, the Free Medical Clinic served over 1,300 patients during more than 6,100 visits and dispensed over 26,000 prescriptions. Donations from GSLC will go toward continuing this important health ministry in our community. To learn more about The Free Medical Clinic, visit their website: <https://www.freemedclinic.org/>. To support this local charity, please make checks payable to GSLC and designate for September Emphasis in the memo line.



SAVE THE DATE
FALL FEST
OCTOBER 29
4:00 –6:00 P.M.

Look for updates in bulletin for planning committee meetings and day of volunteer opportunities. We can't wait to see you come out to welcome the children and families of the congregation and community into our space.

GOD'S YOUNG FOLLOWERS (THIRD THROUGH FIFTH GRADE)



Join us in the FAB after Sunday School and Music on September 17 for Fall Craft Sunday Funday. We will gather to share a meal and make some fall crafts. We will also play some games and enjoy our time together. We should wrap up no later than 1:30 p.m. Please let Amy Kemp know if your child will be attending by September 13. One or two volunteers are also needed, please contact Amy as well. Amy Kemp cell 803-727-5899; email aekautz@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday School

The intergenerational summer Sunday School class will conclude September 3 and our new year of classes will begin Sunday, September 17! Please join us for one of the classes below.

Sunday School Schedule

10:45-11:25 Children's Sunday School for grades Preschool-5th grade
 11:25-11:45 Children's Music for grades kindergarten-5th grade
 10:45-11:45 Youth School Sunday School in Youth Room
 10:45-11:45 Adult Sunday School

Around The Corner Adult Class: Classroom 2

The Around the Corner class will be a discussion-based class that utilizes various resources, such as podcasts, books, music, or television shows, to inspire talking points and areas of interest. ***This class starts a little closer to 10:55, as several members need time to sign children into their Sunday School classes.*** All are welcome to join this lively class!

Come and See Adult Class: Classroom 1

The purpose of the Come & See Sunday School class is to provide adults with a forum for learning and for discussing Holy Scripture from theological, historical, contemporary, and practical perspectives, with an emphasis on how Scripture and Christian faith apply to individual and to corporate daily living and to spiritual growth.

The curriculum this season will focus again on our lectionary readings for the following Sunday. The class facilitators are Mark Lovern, Bruce Shealy, and Ed Woodward.

Fellowship Adult Class: Classroom 5

The Fellowship Class, led by Don Caughman and Ben Haigh, will continue with the Augsburg Adult Bible Studies series. The topic for the fall session is "God's Law Is Love." Scripture for these lessons will come from the Gospels of Luke and John and from Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians, Galatians and Colossians. Everyone is invited to join us at any time for these informal, discussion-based classes.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Weekly Bible Study

There are two weekly opportunities for Bible Study with Pastor Andrew. Please join us Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room or virtually on Wednesdays at 8:00 a.m. for a Zoom meeting. A Zoom ID and password is sent in a weekly email.

Faith 5

Each week Pastor Andrew will send a Faith 5 Study email that includes a recommended scripture reading to guide and nurture your spiritual development through the following 5 steps.

Share your highs and lows of the day/week

Read a bible verse or story

Talk about how your Bible verse or Bible story might apply to your highs and lows

Pray for one another's highs and lows

Bless one another

GOOD SHEPHERD FOUNDATION NEWS

The Good Shepherd Foundation awarded nine grants in August totaling \$26,000.

The South Carolina-Tanzania Companion Synod Network received two grants. The Network received \$3,000 for building supplies and medical equipment to upgrade the Magoye Health Care Center in the South Western Diocese. The improvements will help the Center become accredited by the government as a hospital that can be staffed by a full-time doctor.

The second grant to the Network provides \$3,000 to send six Southwest Diocese orphans to Advance Level Secondary School. These are the first students from the Diocese orphanage to graduate from Entrance Level Secondary School and move on to the Advance Level.



Transporting medical equipment.

Good Shepherd members of the Tanzania Mission 2023 Team, Cathy Milejczak and Rod Kent, each received \$3,000 to help with the costs of their Mission trip in July.

Susan Uehling is supporting the South Carolina-Tanzania Companion Synod Network's Layette/Health Care Kit Mission. The Mission provides baby clothes and blankets to mothers who come to the Magoye Health Care Center to deliver their babies. Health care kits donated by SC Women of the ELCA will go to homebound patients. The Foundation awarded \$3,000 to Susan Uehling to use toward shipping the kits to Global Health Ministries in Minnesota and then to Tanzania.



Camp Kinard's new pool and bathhouse.

The SC Lutheran Retreat Centers built a new fully accessible swimming pool and bath house at Camp Kinard, Leesville, SC. The Foundation awarded \$3,000 for the purchase of furniture and equipment for the pool area.

Lutheran Services Carolinas started a Transitional Youth Day Services Program this summer. Located next to Reformation Lutheran Church, Columbia, the program serves youth in DSS custody awaiting foster care placement. The program provides a safe, structured environment where up to 24 youth can receive academic help, counseling, and recreation. DSS funds the building and staff costs; the Foundation's \$3,000 grant will be used for recreational/educational supplies and activities not covered by DSS.



Lutheran Services Carolinas Staff



Emily Whitlow with her internship supervisor Rev. Dr. Rachel Connelly at St John's Lutheran Church in Walhalla, SC.

Oxford House, Inc. is a network of self-run and self-supporting homes for people recovering from substance use disorder. There are 105 Oxford Houses in South Carolina housing up to 769 people in recovery. In some of these Houses, children are able to stay with their mother or father. Oxford House received \$3,000 to send three parents to the annual Oxford House convention as an opportunity to strengthen personal recovery and to build up the parent/child housing initiative.

Emily Whitlow, a member of Good Shepherd, completed her seminary internship year in August and will return to LTSS for her last year of seminary. She received \$2,000 from the Foundation for living and educational expenses.

NOTE: The Good Shepherd Foundation awards grants twice yearly. The next application deadline is November 1. Application forms may be downloaded from the Good Shepherd web site: www.gslc.com/giving/good-shepherd-foundation/. Paper copies are also on the table outside the church office.



THANK YOU

A special thank you to the children of Good Shepherd for collecting the noisy offering on July 30. The donation went to purchase a new wheelchair for Sarah.

Sarah had not been able to walk since birth. She traveled by crawling. Her new wheelchair will enable her to easily move around the village. Sarah was beyond excited with her new "bike." The community gathered at the church to bless Sarah and her new wheelchair. It was a blessed event. Sarah and her village are very grateful for this wonderful gift.

Cathy Milejczak



Asante Sana,

As a representative of the South Carolina Synod's Tanzania Companion Synod Network, I would like to personally thank the Congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for their continued support of our mission in the South Western Diocese of Tanzania. Your generosity has provided meaningful gifts that have improved the quality of life and well-being of the villagers.



The recent Foundation Grants helped us to open the newly renovated ward building and the surgery operating room. This is astronomical. The services this soon to be hospital will be able to offer are lifesaving. This effort will give the community a new hope to be able to care for their villages. The funding for the transportation of the layettes, home health kits, and medical supplies greatly supports our efforts at the clinic.

The Good Shepherd Congregation has always been willing to support the children of the diocese's orphanage. Many efforts have been made to support these children including foundation grants, monthly emphasis donations, noisy offerings, Gift of Hope gifts and general contributions. All of this has provided so much love for these children and they are growing up into fine young adults. All of them have performed

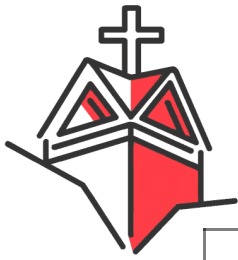
well in school and are very happy. Six of the older orphans have graduated their Entry Level Secondary School coursework, top of the nation at that, and have expressed interest in going on to Advance Level Education.

The young people of Good Shepherd have gone above and beyond with helping with the ministry in the South Western Diocese. They have collected funds for avocado trees, purchased farm animals for poor villagers, and a wheelchair for Sarah. The villagers love the children of Good Shepherd. Thank you to their Sunday School teachers, Youth Group Advisors and Adult mentors!!



I just wanted to take a moment to thank the Good Shepherd Congregation for all the wonderful support of the ministry of the South Western Diocese. I especially want to thank you for your encouragements, concerns, prayers and love that you have shown me. They have sustained me in the ministry and I am both grateful and appreciative. Asante Sana.

Cathy Milejczak



SUNDAY SCHEDULE *(Starting September 17)*

9:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary) & Live-Stream
 10:45 - 11:45 am Adult Sunday School Class (CL 1, 2, & 5)
 10:45 - 11:45 am Youth Sunday School (Youth Room)
 10:45 - 11:25 am Children's Sunday School (E-106 & E-114)
 11:25 - 11:45 am Children's Music (E-115)

September 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue
3 9:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:45 – 11:45 am Fellowship Sunday School Class (CL 5) 10:45 – 11:45 am Intergenerational Summer Sunday School Class (CL 1)	4 Church Office Closed	5 11:30 am Bible Study (Conf Rm)
10 9:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:45 am Rally Day & Members 90 or Above Recognition (FAB)	11 6:00-8:00 pm [private event] Beta Sigma Phi (Conf Rm)	12 11:30 am Bible Study (Conf Rm) 3:00 pm Executive Committee meeting (CL 2) 6:00 pm Congregational Retreat planning meeting (Conf Rm)
17 SUNDAY SCHEDULE TIMES ABOVE Food Pantry Sunday 11:45 am – 2:00 pm GYF Fall Craft Sunday Funday (FAB) 6:30 pm Council meeting (CL 2)	18	19 11:30 am Bible Study (Conf Rm)
24 SUNDAY SCHEDULE TIMES ABOVE	25	26 11:30 am Bible Study (Conf Rm)

*Please see an updated church calendar
and the calendar for other months at
<http://www.gslc.com/>.*

*Click "See the Current Calendar" at the
bottom of the page.*

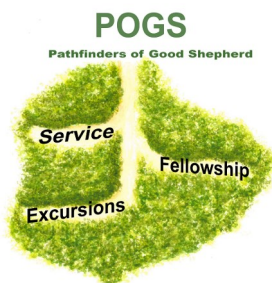
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2
6 8:00 am Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Practice	7 10:00 am Mary Group meeting (FAB) 6:00 pm Social Ministry Committee meeting (Conf Rm)	8	9
13 8:00 am Zoom Bible Study 5:30 pm Worship Life Committee meeting (CL 2) 7:00 pm Choir Practice	14 6:00 pm Communication Committee meeting (Conf Rm)	15 Newsletter Deadline	16
20 8:00 am Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Practice	21 5:30 pm Dorcas meeting (FAB) 6:30 pm Tamar meeting (off site)	22	23
27 8:00 am Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Choir Practice	28 6:00 pm Learning Committee meeting (Conf Rm)	29 WELCA Retreat at Lutheridge	30 WELCA Retreat at Lutheridge



**Don Caughman and Callen Gilbert
ready for Worship.**

PATHFINDERS OF GOOD SHEPHERD (POGS)

All adult members of Good Shepherd are invited to lunch on Wednesday, September 13. We will socialize and plan for the upcoming months. This will be a "Pot Luck" meal. Please bring a dish or 2 to share! Plan to join us in the FAB on September 13 at noon. All are welcome!



ATTENTION:

Plans are being made for our annual Christmas trip on December 4-5 to North Myrtle Beach. Put this on your calendar and find out more information at the POGS pot luck lunch.

SEMINARY LUNCHEON

On August 21, Good Shepherd provided lunch for seminary students on the Lutheran Theological Seminary campus with assistance from Pastor Andrew, Debi Powell, Susan Uehling, Sandy Gundlach, and Mitch Uehling. Cici's Pizza, salad and dessert was served to the seminarians.



WELCA NEWS

WELCA Retreat

If you are attending the 2023 WELCA Retreat, your money is due to Laura Leigh Smith by September 10.

WELCA Breakfast Recap

All those who attended the WELCA Prayer Breakfast were treated to a wonderful meal and spiritual uplifting. **Pastor Christi Pursey** provided a program on spirituality which opened us up to a closer walk with God. Prayers were lifted for friends, family, our community and world. We were able to give a generous love offering to Pastor Christi. Praise be to God.



Farewell to Vicar Laura!



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS FOR SEPTEMBER

COUNCIL PERSON OF THE MONTH: Carole Sox

DATE	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24	10/1
USHERS	Wade Wingard, Mike Weaver, Rebecca Richardson, Jerry Vaughn, Mary Aitchison	Rod Kent, Wade Wingard, Rebecca Richardson, Mike Weaver, Jerry Vaughn	Wade Wingard, Jerry Vaughn, Mary Aitchison, Mike Weaver, Rod Kent	Wade Wingard, Mike Weaver, Mary Aitchison, Rebecca Richardson, Rod Kent	David Lucas, Karen Lucas, Mike Brown Jason Fowler
WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	Lector: Kerry Stubbs Communion Assistant: Don Caughman	Lector & Communion Assistant: Juli Calhoun	Lector: Alice Buckner Communion Assistant: Gaye Tucker	Lector & Communion Assistant: Suzanne Sanders	Lector & Communion Assistant: Becky Shealy
ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER	A: Mike Sanchez C: Matthew Herrmann	A: Savannah Gross C: Blake Gross	A: Adam Ortiz C: Evelyn Ortiz	A: Callen Gilbert C: Mike Sanchez	A: Anna-Marie Plyler C: Don Caughman
ALTAR GUILD	Marcia Woodward, Anna-Marie Plyler	Marcia Woodward, Anna-Marie Plyler	Marcia Woodward, Anna-Marie Plyler	Marcia Woodward, Anna-Marie Plyler	Nancy & Don Hyatt, Bobbie & Rick Storey
TABULATORS	Mike Sanchez, Karen Lucas	Leigh Tondini, Becky Shealy	David Lucas, Donna Foster	Steve Steck, Rebecca Richardson	David Lucas, Donna Foster



FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

GSLC's Food Pantry packed 30
bags of food serving 101
participants in July.

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
Sept 15**

SEPTEMBER 2023 MEETINGS

***Please call the church office to reserve a room for any
upcoming meetings.***

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Sept 7 | Mary Group (10:00 a.m.)
Social Ministry Committee (6:00 p.m.) |
| Sept 12 | Executive Committee (3:00 p.m.)
Congregational Retreat planning (6:00 p.m.) |
| Sept 13 | Worship Life Committee (5:30 p.m.) |
| Sept 14 | Communication Committee (6:00 p.m.) |
| Sept 17 | Council (6:30 p.m.) |
| Sept 21 | Dorcas Group (5:30 p.m.)
Tamar Group (6:30 p.m.) |
| Sept 28 | Learning Committee (6:00 p.m.) |

Come Join Our
BIBLE TUESDAY IN-PERSON
BIBLE STUDY

Meet in the Conference Room on Tuesday mornings at 11:30 a.m. for a Bible Study.

WEDNESDAY
ZOOM BIBLE STUDY



Zoom Bible Study will be led by Pastor Andrew each Wednesday at **8:00 a.m.** A reminder with a meeting link will be sent by email each week.



Galatians 6:10

Congregational Retreat
 February 2-4, 2024 at Lutheridge

Guiding Bible Verse: Galatians 6:10
 "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."

Guest Speaker – Dr. Amy Montanez
 Programs, Activities, Fun & Fellowship

Registration October 2 – December 13
(Forms will be available in the Narthex.)

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS
(ACCORDING TO CHURCH RECORDS)

- 1 Barbara Sutton
- 2 Elaine Zornow
- 3 Richard Inman
- 4 Lyn Denny
- 7 Tim Ross
- 9 Jeffrey Beaman
- 11 Mitch Uehling
- 14 Grace Boozer
Candy Clow
- 16 Rick Storey
Linda Moody Thomas
- 18 John Ferry
Karlin Hogue
Mallorie Hogue
Bill Quattlebaum
- 20 Noah Adams
Billy Robertson
Dick Sturkie
- 21 Bailey Bostic
Joanna Carpenter
Marcus Hogue
Ethan Richardson
Susan Stewart
- 23 Laura Henrickson
- 25 Trey Limehouse
Virginia Morris
- 26 Susan Sturkie
- 28 Elaine Dionne
Barbara Nagy
James Shukla
- 29 Jean Cockrell
Pam Fusco
Rebecca Richardson
- 30 Lennae Sox

LECTIONARY FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

September 3 – 14th Sunday After Pentecost

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

First Reading – Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah's delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."

Psalm – Psalm 26:1-8

Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)

Second Reading – Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

Gospel – Matthew 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

September 10 – 15th Sunday After Pentecost

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

First Reading – Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

Psalm – Psalm 119:33-40

I desire the path of your commandments. (Ps. 119:35)

Second Reading – Romans 10:5-15

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

Gospel – Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

September 17 – 16th Sunday After Pentecost

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

First Reading – Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

Psalm – Psalm 103:1-13

LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

Second Reading – Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

Gospel – Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

September 24 – 17th Sunday After Pentecost

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

First Reading – Jonah 3:10—4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

Psalm – Psalm 145:1-8

The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (Ps. 145:8)

Second Reading – Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

Gospel – Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

WITH PRAYER

<i>Rev. Russ Anderson</i>	<i>Dot Correll</i>	<i>Pat Hazle</i>	<i>Johanna Moore</i>
<i>Gwen Barnes</i>	<i>Helen Derrick</i>	<i>Trisha Holman</i>	<i>Michele Morrison</i>
<i>Trisha Benson</i>	<i>Sylvia Anne Derrick</i>	<i>Kitty Howard</i>	<i>Tim Mueller</i>
<i>Grace Boozer</i>	<i>Marianne De Werdt</i>	<i>Judy Hoy</i>	<i>Frances Plyler</i>
<i>Victoria Brown</i>	<i>Lena Duncan</i>	<i>Sara Hydrick</i>	<i>Cathy Quinton</i>
<i>Rosemarie Brown</i>	<i>Larry Evans</i>	<i>Jeannine Jameson</i>	<i>Barbara Sutton</i>
<i>Charles Buckner</i>	<i>Violet Fetner</i>	<i>Billie Jones</i>	<i>Bubba Willis</i>
<i>Joanna Carpenter</i>	<i>Jon Frew</i>	<i>Lisa Lehman</i>	<i>Peter Zornow</i>
<i>Lavina Chandler</i>	<i>Bonnie Hammond</i>	<i>Sara Loyd</i>	
<i>Cheryl Christian</i>	<i>Helen Hanayik</i>	<i>Mary Clare McAbee</i>	

PLEASE UPDATE THE PRAYER LIST

Those who have requested friends and loved ones to be included on the prayer list, please contact Deborah Mitchell in the church office at parishadmin@gslc.com or (803) 787-4413 to **renew your request or add prayer concerns by the newsletter deadline of each month.**

You may call or email anytime to remove a name.

Please do not assume that we know the name should be renewed or removed.



RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

<i>Richard Andrews—a close friend of Wade Wingard</i>	<i>Jack Reynolds—brother of Margaret Hill</i>
<i>Robin Boggs—daughter of Anne Rush</i>	<i>Henry Richardson—father of Amanda Snodgrass</i>
<i>Steven Bowden – brother of Cathy Milejczak</i>	<i>Sharon Schulze—friend of Sandy Gundlach</i>
<i>Allie Clark—friend of Betty Cox</i>	<i>Joanne Schweitzer—sister of Mary Clare McAbee</i>
<i>Betty Cox—former member</i>	<i>Marise Shumpert—friend of Rosemary Nance</i>
<i>Mary David—friend of Susan Uehling</i>	<i>Bob Stearn—friend and neighbor of Frances Plyler</i>
<i>Lynn Derrick—son of Sylvia Anne Derrick</i>	<i>Harry Swindler—father of Penny Sox and grandpa of Stacy Gross</i>
<i>Landon Derrick—friend of Amanda Snodgrass</i>	<i>Beth Price Tisdale—former member & daughter of Leonard Price</i>
<i>Idona Erwin—friend of member</i>	<i>Phyllis Tollison—mother of Phil Tollison</i>
<i>Sarah Harmon—friend of Anna Lawson</i>	<i>Robin Traufler—friend of the congregation</i>
<i>John Flitter—friend of Leigh Tondini</i>	<i>Joey Turner—college friend of Trisha Benson</i>
<i>Lamar Harper—brother of Gwen Barnes</i>	<i>Linda Vogel—mother Kevin Gross</i>
<i>Forrest Hinebaugh—father of Elaine Zornow</i>	<i>Gayle Watts—friend of Leigh Tondini</i>
<i>David Hinshaw – Deb Embrey's nephew</i>	<i>Terry Weaver—mother of Mike Weaver</i>
<i>Frank Hinshaw – Deb Embrey's nephew</i>	<i>Danny and Joey Wheeler – cousins of Jason Fowler</i>
<i>Greg Lehman—brother of Lisa Lehman</i>	<i>Shirley Zornow—mother of Peter Zornow</i>
<i>Sylvia Livingston—mother of Cheryl Beaman</i>	
<i>Jesse McAllister – friend of Meals on Wheels volunteers</i>	
<i>Stella Parrish—friend of Rosemary Nance</i>	
<i>Marie Starnes Rabon – Daughter of Pat Hazle</i>	
<i>Barbara Reese—friend of Justine Parker & Joyce Mobley</i>	

WITH SYMPATHY

The family of Gene Upright.

Office Information

<http://www.gslc.com>

Hours: Mon–Thurs. 9 AM-4:30

PM;

Fri. 9 AM-2:00 PM

Phone: (803) 787-4413

Day School: (803) 787-4148

Pastor

Reverend Andrew Isenhower

Parish Administrator

Deborah Mitchell

Organist/Music Associate

Susan Sturkie

Sexton

Joey Allison

Financial Secretary

Deb Embrey

Council President

Ed Woodward

Council Vice-President

Debi Powell

Secretary

Anna-Marie Plyler

Treasurer

Jan Haigler

Committee/Council Member

Communication/**Carole Sox**

Evangelism/**Jason Fowler**

Finance/**David Lucas**

Gifts/**Ed Woodward**

Learning/**Heather Gilbert**

Parish Life/**Debi Powell**

Property/**Mike Weaver**

Social Ministry/**Suzanne**

Sanders

Worship Life/**Becky Shealy**

Youth & Children/**Amy Kemp**

****Non-Council Member****

Property/**Rod Kent**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

3909 Forest Drive

Columbia, SC 29204

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit #957

Columbia, SC

DELIVERY REQUESTED BY

August 31, 2023

DATED INFORMATION ENCLOSED

CALENDAR



- Sept 3 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Intergenerational Summer Sunday School (CL 1)
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Fellowship Sunday School Class (CL 5)
- Sept 10 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:45 a.m. Rally Day & Members 90 or Above Recognition (FAB)
- Sept 15 **October Newsletter Deadline**
- Sept 17 **Food Pantry Sunday**
9:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2, & 5)
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School (Youth Room)
10:45 – 11:25 a.m. Children's Sunday School (E-106 & E-114)
11:25 – 11:45 a.m. Children's Music (E-115)
11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. GYF Fall Craft Sunday Funday (FAB)
6:30 p.m. Council meeting (CL 2)
- Sept 24 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School (CL 1, 2, & 5)
10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School (Youth Room)
10:45 – 11:25 a.m. Children's Sunday School (E-106 & E-114)
11:25 – 11:45 a.m. Children's Music (E-115)