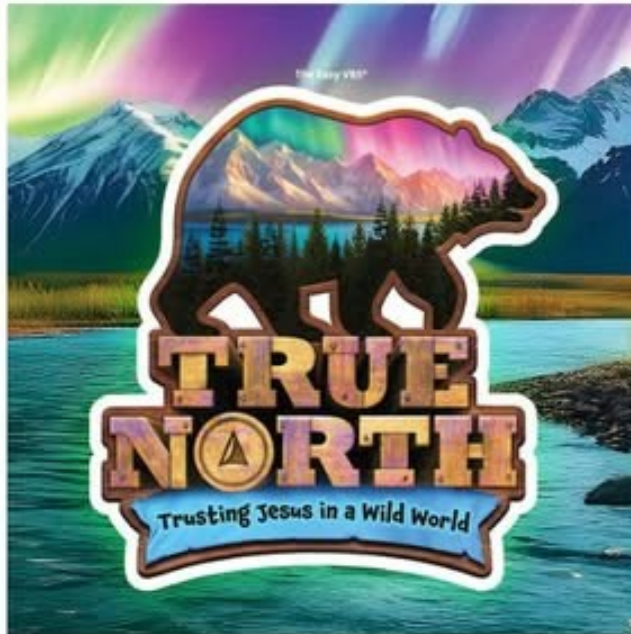




JULY 202

## FOOD FOR THE FLOCK

### Join us for Vacation Bible School



**August 4-7, 2025**

**9:00am-11:30am**

**children age 4 through grade 6 ... invite your neighbors & friends!**



**“Pray.  
Pray diligently.  
Pray purposely.  
Pray confidently.”**

One of the many blessings we Americans enjoy is peace. Currently, our country is not at war with another. Should the threat of war become imminent, our powerful and highly trained soldiers in the Armed Forces give us some peace. Still, I wonder if we and our fellow Americans feel “at peace.”

Can we be at peace when random acts of violence occur within our nation? What have we seen in the last few weeks? School shootings, sniper ambushes in Idaho, and story after story that tell of criminals wanted for various degrees of assault or murder. And what about those serving our country in a foreign country?

It seems as though the war in the Middle East has come to a ceasefire. Praise God. But could there be nasty ramifications of the United States’ involvement? Many serving in the Middle East have gotten their tours extended. Others in the Navy and Air Force have been deployed. Is lasting peace among those nations? If so, at what cost?

Jesus told us what to expect before the end of the world came. **“You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.<sup>7</sup> Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.”** (Mt. 24:6-7)

The problem is that war remains a part of life in this sin-stricken world. Friends and family members who have dangerous jobs can keep us up at night and cause anxiety. In many ways, we know that we’re powerless to bring safety or help to them. So what can we do?

Let me suggest three daily exercises that can give you peace:

First, remember who is in control. Our Lord Jesus continues to rule over the whole world, governing all that happens between every nation. His will is always perfect. Look back to the Old Testament. God allowed even wicked, enemy nations to overtake the people of Israel (Assyria and Babylon to name a few). Why? God’s purpose

was to lead his own children to repentance, to turn back to him in faith. No matter what happens, God is faithful to you and his mercy endures forever. He is the Lord, who wants all people to be saved.

Second, find peace in His peace. Jesus went to war for you to bring the kind of peace you need most - peace with God. Because of Jesus, God’s wrath is not against you and me. Because of Jesus, we have forgiveness for every attack we’ve launched against God. Because of Jesus, we are reconciled to God now and forever. Put your worry to rest, and put your faith in Jesus. **“Therefore, since we have been declared righteous by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”** (Ro. 5:1)

The last advice is simple, but effective: Pray. Pray diligently. Pray purposely. Pray confidently. Those you love who are serving far away need your prayers for protection and peace. Those who have families living halfway across the world need your prayers for strength, patience, and trust in God’s will.

#### We Pray:

Lord God, we praise you for the peace that your Son, Jesus Christ, has given to us when he redeemed us from sin’s curse. Through Him, you have promised peace to all those who trust in You. We ask that you bring peace within our country and everywhere.

Especially we pray that you protect our brothers in Christ, Sam Feddersen and Charles Johnson, as they serve you and our country in dangerous territories. Assure them that you are with them and that your almighty hand is there protecting them. Send your angels to guard and keep them. Lead them to place their confidence in Jesus, the Prince of Peace and King of the Universe. If it is your will, bring them home safely and soon.

And finally, we commit their families and friends to your care. Lead them to place their trust in your grace and mercy, trusting that your plans for them is to bring them safely to their eternal home. In His name we pray, Amen.

**BUDGET UPDATE****BY: SEAN CASE, TREASURER**

We have started to see some improvement in offerings over the prior month, which is great news! Overall we are still in a slump as total expenses exceeded offerings by \$7,242 this month, and by \$20,895 for the year.. The only items we paid for this month that were not on the Must Pay list were our Mission Offering to the Synod (\$765). The net result is a decrease to our operating account, now at \$10,228. This is well below the \$15,000 needed to pay our normal must fund bills. This also means we are now using up the \$12,000 we borrowed from our capital improvement fund.

Please continue to pray for our council to make the best decisions for the use of the funds that we do have available, and for the financial well-being of our congregation to allow us to continue to spread the Good News of Christ.



Cumulative Activity through June	Budgeted	Actual	Delta	Actual vs Budget
Offerings	\$106,281	\$85,386	-\$20,895	-20%
Expenses	\$106,281	\$104,338	-\$1,944	-2%
Net	\$0	-\$18,952		

Tuesday, July 15  
6:00pm

**NATIONAL  
GIVE  
SOMETHING  
AWAY DAY**

There will be a donation drop off at  
church the evening of July 15.  
All donations go to the Project Echo Thrift  
Store and/or Smile.

REMINDER!  
Semi-Annual Meeting  
Sunday, July 29  
11:45am

**LADIES, ARTS & FELLOWSHIP (LAF)**  
**SATURDAY, JULY 12**  
**1:00PM-3:00PM**

WE'RE MAKING MINIATURE BIRD BATHS ... COME FOR  
FUN AND FELLOWSHIP!



*The best summer memories are the ones that make you smile long after the sun has set.*



This is your editor signing off for the last time. Grateful you read along for 132 editions and chose to stay on top of what goes on at SoTB. Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened!



# July 2025

## Shepherd of the Bay Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
<div> <div>Jun 2025</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						1	2	3 <i>Happy Anniversary Richard &amp; Marilyn Staddon!</i>	4	5 <i>Happy Anniversary Shawn &amp; Beth Sabo!</i>							
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6  9:30AM Bible Study & Sunday School  10:30AM Worship	7  6:00 PM Bible Information Class  <i>Happy Anniversary Terry &amp; Cathy Johnson!</i>	8  <i>Happy Birthday Dale Feddersen!</i>	9	10	11	12  1:00 PM -3:00 PM Ladies, Arts & Fellowship (LAF)																																																	
13  9:30AM Bible Study & Sunday School 10:30AM Worship with Holy Communion <i>Happy Birthday Carol Ogden!</i> <i>Happy Birthday Terry Johnson!</i>	14  6:00 PM Bible Information Class  6:00 PM -7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	15  6:00 PM Give Something Away Day Drop Off	16  <i>Happy Birthday Jennifer Case!</i>	17	18	19  8:30AM Men's Breakfast																																																	
20  9:30AM Bible Study & Sunday School  10:30AM Worship	21  6:00 PM Bible Information Class	22	23	24  <i>Happy Anniversary Grant &amp; Anna Williams!</i> <i>Happy Birthday Sharon Bonner!</i>	25	26  <i>Happy Birthday Irene Johnson!</i>																																																	
27  9:30AM Bible Study & Sunday School  10:30AM Worship  11:45 AM Semi-Annual Voter's Meeting	28  6:00 PM Bible Information Class  <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	29	30  Women's Book Club	31  <i>Happy Birthday Travis Grah!</i>	<div> <div>Aug 2025</div> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
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**We're on the web!**  
**www.ShepherdOfTheBay.com**

**SHEPHERD OF THE BAY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Pastor Nathan Wong  
office: 410-231-2075  
cell: 507-995-5978  
lusbypastor@gmail.com

**Sunday School & Bible Study  
at 9:30am**

**Sunday Worship  
at 10:30am (livestream)**



**Travel Plans this Summer?**

Go to [www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net) & click  
on the 'wels locator' button to  
find a church nearest your  
destination!



Shepherd of the Bay  
Lutheran Church  
9463 HG Trueman Road  
Lusby, MD 20657

*Growing  
Together in  
Faith*