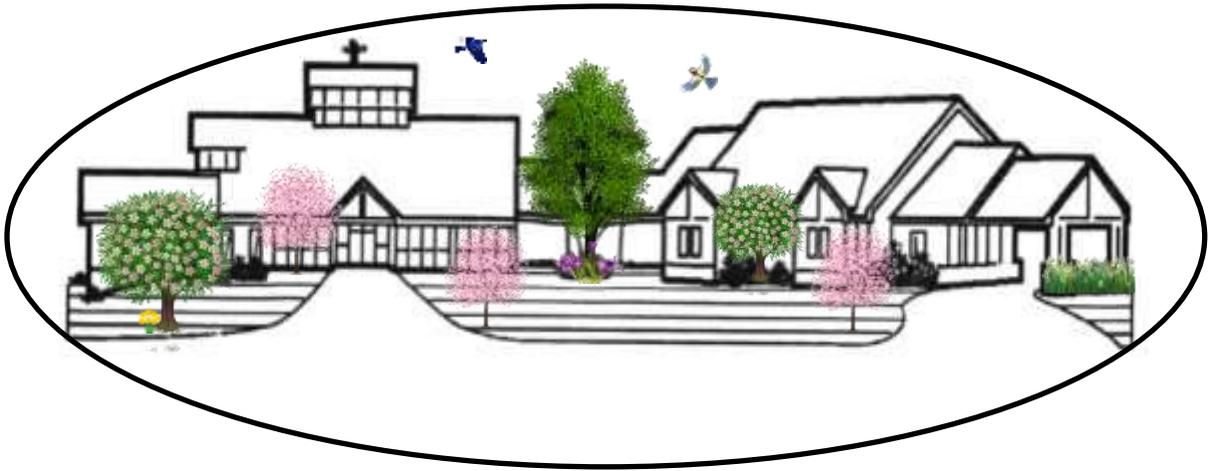

Agapegram

April 2019



ETERNAL SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

220 Carson Road

Seneca, South Carolina 29678

www.eternalshepherd.org

office@eternalshepherd.org

Office: 864-882-3209 or 864-882-5512

Little Lambs Preschool: 864-882-3202



The Whole Story

“...you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.” 2 Timothy 3:15 EHV

The cycle of the church year usually brings us through a single focus for a period of time. Besides the long season of Pentecost **on the teachings of Jesus and the growth of His Church, it wasn't** all that long ago we had a month of Advent & Christmas, a

month of Epiphany themes, about a month of Lent so far, and, soon, we'll find the month of May filled with weeks of Easter celebrations. April, however, brings us something very different. This month will be a whirlwind of themes that bring to us **the key elements of Jesus and His mission and will capture the very core of God's** saving work to rescue humanity from the bondage of our own sin.

This month we will journey through the final stages of our Lenten journey to remember our sin and our need for rescue that only God can provide. This will be highlighted as we enter Holy week in mid-month to see our coming King rightly honored and praised in His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, only to be reminded of our failure and rebellion as His own people turn against him and plot the final moves to put Him to death. We are also reminded that even in our sinful weakness, the Lord seeks to bless us with His good gifts of grace as He institutes the Holy Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to feed, nourish, & forgive His Church for all time until his return in glory.

Of course, God's salvation plan comes to a head as He works all things, including the murderous desires of Israel's religious elite, for the good of fallen humanity. We will be brought to the cross where suffering & death become the tool in our master craftsman's hands to defeat death and ensure an eternity without suffering. **And, of** course, 3 days later, we will see our Savior rise and live to fill His followers with hope and joy so that they may endure the wait for His return and share the Good News of grace with a broken and sinful world.

Don't miss this month. Hear again of your Savior's love. Remember the events that make you whole. For you, Christ has died and He is risen. Indeed. Amen!

“These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John 20:31 EHV

Pastor David

Join Us For Worship!

Wednesday Night Lenten Worship Services

April 3rd - 7:00 pm

April 10th - 7:00 pm

Midweek Lenten Meals at 5:45 pm—6:45 pm

April 3rd hosted by "the Altar Care Committee"

Palm Sunday April 14th

8:30 am & 11:00 am Communion both services

Maundy Thursday April 18th - 7:00pm

Good Friday April 19th - 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday April 21st

8:30 am & 11:00 am Communion both services

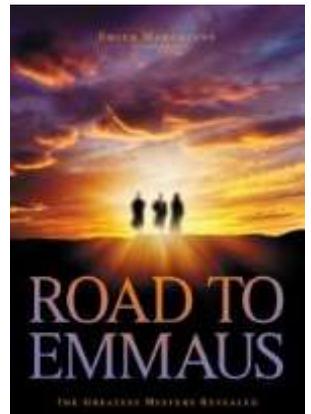
Please join us and bring a friend to Movie Night at Eternal Shepherd... The Movie...Road to Emmaus

When: Tuesday, April 30th from 6:00 – 7:30 pm

The Church will be serving soups and sandwiches starting at 6:00 pm.

Please use the Sign-up sheet in the hallway to let us know that you plan to attend.

Please let Nicole Beattie know if you would like childcare.





Deaconess Musings

Our Living and Resurrected Confidence

**Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me; Jesus lives!
Death's reign is done! From the grave will Christ recall me. Brighter scenes will
then commence; this shall be my confidence. (LSB 490:1)**

Death. The final enemy (1 Cor. 15:26). One that once held us captive with no release in sight. Caused by Mankind's sinful desire to exalt their own will above their Creator's, and death was the consequence. No longer to live in perfect harmony with our Creator God, with creation, with each other. But to be saturated with sin and cut off from our Creator. However, we know how the story continues. We are not left believing that there is nothing our God did to right this situation we placed ourselves in. Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of the world, was promised immediately following that fall into death. Death, God promised, would not reign for eternity. It would seem like he would, but in truth, Christ, the Seed of the Woman, crushed and destroyed Death's power to forever separate us from God.

**Jesus lives! To Him the throne high above all things is given. I shall go where He
is gone, live and reign with Him in heaven. God is faithful; doubtings, hence!
This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! For me He died, hence will I, to Jesus living, pure in heart and act
abide, praise to Him and glory giving. All I need God will dispense; this shall be
my confidence. (LSB 490:2-3)**

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ~Romans 6:3-5

**Jesus lives! I know full well nothing me from Him shall sever. Neither death nor
pow'rs of hell part me now from Christ forever. God will be my sure defense;
this shall be my confidence. (LSB 490:4)**

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angles nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. ~Romans 8:38-39

**Jesus lives! And now is death but the gate to live immortal; this shall calm my
trembling breath when I pass its gloomy portal. Faith shall cry, as fails each
sense: Jesus is my confidence! (LSB 490:5)**

Death. No longer that dark specter hanging over our heads. Christ has triumphed over Death and his grave. Because of the living Christ, we are a people of hope. We await, in hope, the Resurrection of the Dead and the joyous reunion with our Savior and the saints gone before us.

May our eyes be ever turned to our Living and Resurrected Savior. For He is our confidence.

Blessed Easter, *Deaconess Holly*

ESLC EASTER PRAYER VIGIL

Whether you pray aloud or silently, using the provided materials and prayers or your own personal petitions, or simply sit and contemplate the great sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prayer Vigil provides you opportunity for reflection and an additional enrichment of your Lenten devotional life.

The Vigil begins immediately following the Good Friday evening service (around 8pm) and continues without interruption until 8:00 am on Easter Morning.



A sign-up sheet, with one hour time slots, has been placed in the Narthex and you may sign-up as individuals, couples, groups/families. If you would like petitions to be offered confidentially on your behalf, prayer request forms will also be near the sign-up sheet. Please submit your requests prior to the Maundy Thursday evening service. Time slots fill up quickly, so reserve your preferred time slot as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Deaconess Holly.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you haven't noticed or realized it, Spring has officially arrived! The hundreds of bulbs that our Property Lead Wayne Gugel so lovingly planted are sprouting all around our church. These beautiful flowers are examples of God's perfect creation, for us to enjoy! In the next couple of weeks, we'll be adding a new church member to Eternal Shepherd's roster. This new member will be different than any we've known before and will specialize in evangelism and sharing God's love with everyone. Our incoming member has 4 legs and should be a comfort to all. Special thanks again to Kyra and Rudy Carbone who've led a 2.5 year effort to make the Comfort Dog Ministry a reality.

Many churches are primarily focused internally. How about Eternal Shepherd? At ESLC, I believe we maintain a good balance between internal and external focus. Internally, as an extension to Pastor, primary member care is done by our Elder team (led by Fred Bell), but what about our neighbors outside of ESLC?

- Within Oconee County, Cecil Murray (Outreach) leads our external ministries. The Prison Ministry and Feed the Hungry programs are held quarterly with goals of sharing God's love with our immediate neighbors.
- Outside Oconee County, our Missions Leads are doing amazing work! Recent examples are:

During the week of February 25th, Rev. Ray and Alice Ramsburg led our Honduras Mission Team. 2,543 Hondurans were blessed by the medical, dental, optical and children's ministries. More importantly, 74 people accepted Christ during the week. During the week of March 10th, Monty Moore led a Disaster Relief Team to Panama City, Fl. Tree debris from last October's Hurricane Michael is still rampant. Special thanks to Monty and team for their chainsaw work.

From the above items, you can tell that Eternal Shepherd is a special place where God's love is shared near and far. If you'd like to join any of these teams, I encourage you to contact the board leads! "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." (Luke 10:2) In His service,

John Cochell



Easter Lilies

The Easter Lily sign-up sheet is on display in the Narthex. Please take a moment to fill it in remembering to fill out an individual line for each plant. The price remains at \$15.00 per plant this year. *Thank you!*

YOU'RE INVITED TO EASTER BREAKFAST



ESLC Youth invite you to our annual Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 21st at 9:45am!
Come join our 2019 Youth Gathering Group as we celebrate our Risen Lord
with food and fellowship!

Breakfast Casseroles (gluten-free!), fruit, pastries, pancakes, orange juice, coffee...
...we have it all!

Gluten-free and Dairy-free food options will also be made available
for those with dietary restrictions. We hope to see you there!

~ESLC Youth Gathering Group



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE THAT
COULD USE A PRAYER SHAWL?
Remember that the members of ESLC –
namely YOU – are helping us to distribute
these prayer shawls.

Anyone can receive a prayer shawl, they do not need to be a member of Eternal Shepherd. These prayer shawls come in many different colors and styles. While these garments are being created, the knitter/crocheter prays for the person who will receive the prayer shawls, praying that they will bring comfort and a feeling that God cares about them personally, that He will be there to sustain them, and that they can bring all their concerns to God and he will hear them. We all know that God will hear our prayers whenever and wherever we pray, but sometimes when one is ill or in a difficult situation, it is nice to have a tangible object for assurance.

There are now two types of prayer shawls – the regular prayer shawl and a small pocket size prayer shawl that you can carry in your pocket or purse. You can give either kind; whatever you feel is more appropriate. If you would like a pocket prayer shawl for yourself, please choose one.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is provided through a self- service kiosk which is available in the fellowship hall in plastic bins along the far closet wall. We request that if you select a full size prayer shawl that you enter your name, the date, and the person that you give it to on the sign out sheet. If you select a pocket prayer shawl, no sign out is needed.

We request that if you give the prayer shawl in person, that you pray with them as you give it.

If you are interested in creating these prayer shawls (which can be created at home) or donating yarn, please contact Sue Hauser. Knitting and crocheting assistance is usually available on Thursdays at 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall immediately before Women's Bible Study.

From the Board of Elders

How we Pray

Matthew 6:9 records Jesus giving instruction on how to pray: “Pray then like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.’” This comes from Jesus’ sermon on the mount, where Jesus “opened his mouth and taught them, saying...” (Matthew 5:2). The instructions on how to pray come in the middle of the sermon, between a discussion on giving to the needy and instructions on fasting. Who does not know the Lord's Prayer, which begins with the words in Matthew 6:9? Some of us may have difficulty reciting the creeds, but even little children (if their parents teach them properly) know the Lord's Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer is a gift, given to us by our Savior. It is at the same time both a petition for help to live as God would have us live in this world, and a confession of our sins and of who God is. It invites us into a personal relationship with God. We are not to “heap up empty phrases” such as those with which the Roman emperors were addressed (or as senior government officials are addressed in the United Kingdom, e.g., “The right honorable lord of this-or-that so-and-so”). Jesus tells us to address God as “Father.” To the extent that scholars agree about anything, the consensus among scholars today is that Jesus used the Aramaic word *Abba*, and hence it is likely that Jesus taught his disciples and others to pray in the common, everyday Aramaic language in use at the time rather than in the classical Hebrew used in written texts. This would have been remarkable to those around Jesus at the time, as Jewish prayers in the first century were recited in formal Hebrew, not the Aramaic that was spoken in the streets. By contrast, proper Muslims today still recite their traditional prayers in classical, seventh-century Arabic. Christianity has no sacred language. We are to speak to Our Father in simple, plain, direct language.

But Jesus's use of *Abba* is significant for another reason. *Abba* means “Father,” which is used in perhaps all English translations. Although it is an Aramaic word, it is used in modern Arabic, and is one of the first words that children learn in the Arabic-speaking countries of the middle east. The word invites closeness and reminds us of God's love of us. Of course, we should treat God with respect and fear, for He is powerful, but we are to approach Him in prayer in a very personal, direct way, confessing that He is in heaven, watching over us. And we should also honor His name (Jesus echoes Exodus 20:7 and Deuteronomy 5:11). We should speak to God. If we are praying with others, we should still speak to God, not to those around us. Prayer is a type of communion with God. It is not meditation. It is not a hope. It is rather a confession that God is great, that God is our Father. We should thank Him for His blessings. We should ask Him to help us live our lives as He would want us to.

Both French and German have familiar as well as formal forms of “you.” Luther translates what appears as “your name” in our English bibles into the German “Dein Name” instead of the formal “Ihr Name.” French-language bibles similarly use “ton nom” rather than the formal “votre nom.” A German teacher once told me that I should not bother learning to conjugate verbs for use with the familiar *du* since I would never know a German well enough to be invited to use the familiar address---and yes, one should wait to be invited---and yes, my teacher was correct, I know well a number of people in Germany (some for many years), and none have asked me to use *du* (French and French-speaking people are different). Luther, reflecting Jesus's use of *Abba*, uses *dein*, the familiar form of “your.” We are invited to draw close to God, our Father. We are invited into a close, personal relationship with Him. We are told to speak to Him in prayer. Amen.

--Paul Wilson, ESLC Elder

Welcome to Our Newest Members

Welcome Woo & Lisa Wagner

Coming to us from Pickens this couple chose ES for their church home because they found it "Faith filled". Woo was born in Greenville, his given name is William but he has been called "Woo" most all his life. That name was from his beloved Grandfather who would exclaim "Woo" when things pleased him. A fitting memoriam. Woo met Lisa (a lifelong Lutheran) at Newberry College where he majored in History & ROTC. He owns OYO, a real estate business in residential, business & land. Lisa studied Biology &



Occupational Therapy and has worked for the Shriner's Hospital (G'ville) for 28 years. She has a Doctorate of Health Sciences in Occupational Therapy; and she often travels to teach others innovative ways to evaluate children for effective treatment. One of her "gigs" was to Israel where she & Woo were gifted with two guides and a week seeing historical Israel. They actually got to walk the soil that Christ walked by descending three levels below the wailing wall where they also observed the ancient water system. They enjoy traveling, camping and time with their son & daughter. We are glad they found us!

You're Invited to the Wedding!!



Craig & Terri Baumann cordially invite our church family to share in their happiness as their daughter Sara marries Bryan Thibeault on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at 1:00pm.

We would also LOVE for you to join us in the fellowship hall for the reception that will follow the ceremony.

There will be seating available for 100 guests from the church, so **if you'd like** to attend the reception, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex by Sunday, April 28th.

That will help us with planning for food and refreshments.

We are so excited to celebrate this special time with all of you who have been such a wonderful part of our lives.

We hope to see you there!

Do, Be, Do, Be, Do...

by Kerry Blount

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect. Romans 12:1-2 EHV

Have you ever voiced the complaint to yourself, “I’m not DOING enough?!” So many opportunities—teaching, disaster relief, Christmas in July, hospitality, rummage sale, choir, special music, worship preparation, ushering, greeting, reading, eldering, food distribution, hospital visits, council participation, board member, work days, litter control, youth activities, prayer chain, encouragement, VBS activities, child sponsorship, mission sponsorship, mission participation, quilting, comfort dog preparations, grounds maintenance, building maintenance, fundraising, tabulation, administration, financial review, congregational communications—yes, but I just don’t feel like I’m DOING enough.

I sometimes wonder why most of us don’t seem equally concerned that “I’m not BEING enough.” It even sounds strange to say it. But the words of Scripture seem to call us to BE even more than they call us to DO. The God of all creation calls us to learn to BE...

Loving
Peaceful (full of peace)
Patient
Kind
Gentle
Faithful (full of faith)
Self-controlled
Humble
Forgiving
Hopeful (full of hope)
Long-suffering
Steadfast
Unmovable
Discerning
Joyful (full of joy).

It’s a thrill for me to join you in the DOING, and I rejoice in watching you DO so many things I don’t have the time or the skill or the inclination to participate in. But even more, I am filled with wonder and praise as I watch you BEING the ones He called out of darkness into light, BEING the ones who day by day reflect the image of our Lord in these vessels of clay. I praise God for all that He has already formed you to BE, all that He is even now guiding you to BEcome, and all that you DO in and for His Name through the Holy Spirit that lives within you.

SPECIAL THANK YOU'S:

Charlotte and I want to thank all the members and friends of Eternal Shepherd for your prayers and your many encouraging cards and messages during these past six months of chemo therapy. We have kept everyone of them and treasure them. Your prayers have been a powerful witness to your faith in our Lord Who urges us to present our requests to Him, trusting that He will work out His good and perfect will for us. I have personally missed your fellowship in worship of our Gracious God and look forward to the time I can join with you in lifting up our Easter praises. ~*Pastor Art & Charlotte Beyer.*

A Special Thank you to all for the get well cards, texts, phone calls, food gifts, and most of all your prayers as I continue treatment, the exact number hasn't been set yet. We have been touched by your expressions of love and feel very blessed by our special church family. May God bless each of you. ~*Theresa Kunkel*

RUMMAGE SALE UPDATE



It is once again time for our annual Rummage sale. The sale this year will be led by the Comfort Dog Ministry Team with lots of help from the Rummage Sale committee and other helpers. 10% of the proceeds will be given to Lutheran Church Charities for team deployments to areas affected by tragedies or natural disasters, with the remainder staying with the Comfort Dog ministry here at Eternal Shepherd to offset recurring annual expenses.

Important dates to remember:

April 7 after late service - kickoff meeting for all interested in helping with the sale

May 6 rummage sale items can begin to be dropped off at church

May 15 final day for item drop off

May 18 actual sale date.

Our goal is to sell everything to benefit the community we are serving and to raise money to sustain the Comfort Dog ministry.

Thank you for your support and help....
Rudy Carbone

From the Board of Stewardship

AGAPE – Servant Love

All of us are different – different gifts, different talents, different likes and dislikes, different ways of showing care to our fellow man. How we reach out to others may take many forms – a touch on the arm or shoulder, a smile, a hug, a kind or concerned word, a call, a card, a visit, a ride, a meal, etc. Small gestures matter. A small gesture on your part may mean so much more to the recipient. Larger gestures matter too, but quite often small gestures lead to larger gestures of caring and support with God’s help.

For example, in a previous church a nurse started performing blood pressure checks on Sunday. Then it became a three or four hour clinic with a volunteer doctor on Thursday afternoons in the fellowship hall for the uninsured. Then it grew into a storefront clinic before long it became a full fledge clinic in a medical building with volunteer doctors, nurses, pharmacists and staff still serving the uninsured. It is now associated with many churches, not just the lone nurse that saw this blood pressure clinic as a way to serve. How God grew this in less than twenty years is more than the human mind could have ever imagined or expected.

How do you serve and show your love for your neighbor? Do you want to add something to what you are currently doing? Let God direct you!

Jesus was the ultimate example of servant love. As we remember during the Lenten season, His supreme sacrifice for us in giving His life so that our sins would be forgiven and we would have eternal life.



Matthew 22: 36 to 40.

[36] Master, which is the great commandment in the law? [37] Jesus said unto him, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. [38] This is the first and great commandment. [39] And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. [40] On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

~Sue Hauser, Board Chair

ON-LINE GIVING Bob Massa, Finance Board Chair
Remember you can give on-line. After establishing an account, if you have the QR App on a device, you can use this method to contribute each Sunday using the QR code printed in the Sunday bulletin or the monthly Agapegram. ~Thank you for your faithful support.



MISSION NEWS

HONDURAS MISSION 2019 – WELL DONE MISSIONARIES!

Twenty-eight missionaries met in Tegucigalpa, Honduras for a week of serving the people of Honduras and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. ESLC made up almost one-half of the team. During the week we were able to reach over 2100 people with Medical, Dental, and Optical services. We saw over 400 children, bringing them the Gospel story through the Salvation Bracelets made by our church. They then had their hair shampooed and styled by team members. We provided water filters to 12 different families, which is a new program. Christ the Rock and Trinity both send along their thanks to our congregation for the providing of the water filters for our week.

After the adults have been to a medical station they then go to an Evangelism station where we share the Gospel. Many are church members and know Jesus as Lord and Savior, however many are not and through our sharing of the Gospel we saw 74 people accept Jesus as Lord and Savior for the first time and another 57 who had fallen away from the Gospel, recommitted their lives to Christ. There were those who rejected the message and we continue to pray for them. The names of all who made commitments are given to the pastor of the church who is then able to follow up with their care. This process is common in this culture and the people embrace it.

When not at the Brigade sites our time is spent doing group devotions, personal devotions, worship at a local church on Sunday, and a day to rest on Wednesday, where we either go shopping at the Valley of the Angels or we visit Rancho Ebenezer where WGO is raising 40 cast off children in family style settings. Our evenings are spent sharing the experiences of our day at the brigades and then some time to relax and visit with each other.



Many of our missionaries sponsor children at Rancho Ebenezer which helps pay for their upbringing as well as enabling more children to get an education. At present Rancho Ebenezer has the facilities to house up to 80 children. If you are interested in more information ask any team member about WGO Kids or go to their website at wgoreach.org and click on WGO Kids. You will also find team videos there. We were team 0819A.



Again, we thank everyone for all the support that helped to make this mission possible. Thanks, also, for the support and interest shown when our team hosted the first Lenten Wednesday supper. We have already begun preparations for next year and if you are interested, now is the time to begin praying about how God will use you to grow His kingdom.

Dios te bendiga! (God Bless You!) Your 2019 Honduras Mission Team



Comfort Dog News

"Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant." Psalm 119:76 (ESV)

Can you believe that our Comfort Dog will be arriving here at Eternal Shepherd in time for Palm Sunday? The long wait is finally over! As I reflect on the journey thus far serving as Top Dog, I see God's hand throughout. It all started almost three years ago when Rudy and I learned about the Comfort Dog ministry from a young lady visiting her parents while taking a dip in our community pool. A chance encounter, perhaps? I think not! The journey since then has had its joys and struggles and to be honest, many times we felt like giving it all up.... At those times, God always gave us the needed encouragement to keep going and many of you played a role in that part. I truly believe He directed this ministry to grow out of Eternal Shepherd to fully expand our mission in the community even more than it already is. Why He chose me to lead this, I will never know as this has not been easy for me and has certainly taken me out of my comfort zone, big time! And although I may have taken the lead in this ministry, it truly has been a team effort and many hands have worked hard to make this all happen. My heartfelt thanks to Pastor Hammer, Rudy, the Comfort Dog team, our supporters and the congregation for your financial support, your encouragement, and prayers thus far. (Please don't stop praying for this ministry as now the hard work really begins!)

Here are a few dates to mark on your calendars:

April 9 - Bob Massa, Sue Blount, Carrie Haenggi, Jean Dombi, Diane Williams, Ginger Barthel, Rudy and I will travel to Northbrook, IL for handler and caregiver training. Please pray for safe travels for all and that we have the ability to grasp the many commands and instructions we will need to be able to work with the dog in the future.

April 14 - Palm Sunday, hopefully if all goes according to plan, you will see a beautiful golden retriever greeting you in the Narthex. Please welcome him or her!

May 5 - at the 11:00 am service, we will have the Passing of the Vest ceremony to commission the Comfort Dog and the entire team into service. The dog will no longer wear its "Training Vest" but will receive its official working vest. Hopefully a few visiting Comfort Dog teams from other areas will be in attendance so be sure to give them a hearty Eternal Shepherd welcome! Following the service, we will have refreshments and cake in the fellowship hall to celebrate this momentous occasion!

In closing, my prayer is that we always remember it isn't about the dog, it isn't about us, it is all about Jesus and sharing Him with those we meet. The Comfort Dog is the **bridge** for compassionate ministry to take place, opening doors for conversation about faith and creating opportunities **to share the Mercy, Compassion, Presence and Proclamation of Jesus Christ!** (LCC Mission Statement).

To God be the glory, Kyra Carbone, Top Dog

PS – thank you all for donations for the Puppy Shower as all the supplies for the dog have been received! Thank you Teri Massa for your cute shower display!

NEIGHBORS IN NEED—HELP WANTED:

Our Disaster Response Teams next mission trip will be **Sunday, April 7th for a week in Lumberton, NC** where we will be working on a house to try and get the owner able to live there again. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. All are welcome as this is a project both men and women can help with. For more information please contact Deek Decker.



FEEDING THE HUNGRY OF SENECA, SAT. APRIL 13TH

On Saturday, April 13th we'll be serving our hungry friends in Seneca. Please come and join us. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex. **If you're planning on helping prepare the food, meet at church at 9:45 am. If you just want to serve, arrive at 11am at Our Daily Bread.** Any questions, call my cell at (864) 973-8130. *Thank you all for sharing your love with our neighbors. ~Rich & Colleen Hesemann*



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BABYREAD

BabyRead is an early literacy program dedicated to low-income families in Oconee County. Volunteers are needed to read to moms and their babies or toddlers at public or school libraries twice a month for one hour each time. **Become a BabyRead volunteer by emailing Caren at babyread@charter.net.** To learn more about BabyRead, go to www.babyread.org.



Hospitality Happenings for April

April late service schedule:

4/7 - Sue Hauser

4/14 - Rosie Caprio & Pat Pfeiffer

4/21 - Easter Sunday—No Hospitality

4/28 - Harriet Murphy

**COFFEE
FELLOWSHIP**

Join us!



Thinking about joining the hospitality board? Please see myself or Marlene Bell with any questions. *In his service, Sue Williams*

FOOD BANK NEWS: Please help us in collecting preferred needed canned, or boxed grocery items each month. These items will help restock the Golden Corner Food Pantry's shelves.

April's preferred product is "*Spaghetti Sauce*". Please place items in one of the trash cans marked Food Bank down by the main Fellowship Hall. ~*Thank you for your generosity and support.*



THE FLOWER CHART is hanging on the bulletin board in the Narthex. There is also an eye-catching, yellow information sheet above the calendar which will answer any questions you have about how it all works. Please check it out and feel free to sign up on any of the Sundays listed through the end of the year. *Thank you!*



Greeting Cards— Birthday! Get Well! Encouragement! Praying for You! Sympathy! Thinking of You! Cancer/Difficult Times! Anniversary! Baptism! Thanksgiving! Christmas! Please be sure to check out the cart in the Fellowship Hall. They are still \$.50 a card and \$5.00 for a whole box. *Thank you for your support.*

SCRIP CARDS

Please remember that **Scrip cards make great gifts and earn money for Eternal Shepherd at the same time.** Please see your scrip

ladies today or pick up an order form located by the Scrip box in the narthex.

~*Thank you for your support.*



SPECIAL GIFTS/MEMORIALS

In *February* the following gifts were given:



In loving memory of *Shirley Eckersley*
the Elders Fund received a gift of \$20.00

In loving memory of *Evelyn Fredrickson*
the Haiti Mission Fund received a gift of \$20.00

In loving memory of *Bill Richards*
the Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$145.00
and the Flower Fund received a gift of \$25.00,
and the Organ Fund received gifts of \$870.00



In loving memory of *June Schultz*
the Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received a gift of \$25.00
and the Memorial Fund received a gift of \$25.00

Other Gifts:

The Capital Campaign Building Fund received gifts of \$60.00

The Card Cart Ministry received gifts of \$10.60

The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$1,630.00

The Debt Reduction Fund received gifts of \$1,050.00

The Disaster Relief Team Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Elders Fund received gifts of \$200.00

The Food Bank Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Haiti Missions Fund received gifts of \$580.00

The Honduras Mission Fund received gifts of \$1,361.00,
and received a gift of \$100.00 for Cataract Surgery

The Little Lambs Preschool Spaghetti Supper Fund received gifts of \$36.00

The Lutheran Witness Magazine Fund received a gift of \$20.00

The Mission Quilt Sewers Fund received a gift of \$100.00

The Youth Convention Adopt-A-Mile Fund received gifts of \$869.00



Little Lambs Tales

“As the earth brings forth its shoots, and a garden makes its seeds spring up, so will the Lord God make justice spring up, and praise before all nations” (Isaiah 61:11)

Spring is a wonderful season in which we celebrate birth and new life. It reminds us that winters are temporary, and that cold winds will always give way to warm air and summer breezes. Spring is a time for hope and the promise of new beginnings. We at Little Lambs Preschool feel very blessed that spring time is here. We had a very cold and rainy winter season and we are ready to shed the jackets and spend much of our time outdoors celebrating God’s beautiful creation.

First and foremost, all of us here at Little Lambs Preschool would like to thank you for your love and support of the annual Spaghetti Supper and Silent Auction. The funds raised during this event are used to replenish our scholarship fund and also maintain the operations of our school. We are one of the only preschools in this area to still offer financial assistance to those families who fall on hard times. The families that we support are so very appreciative and we feel blessed to be able to offer this assistance. And, as we come to our final few months of our school year, it is always enlightening to look at the progress our children have made at Little Lambs from the first days of school...

Our 2’s class didn’t want to share their toys or play with one another at the beginning of the school year. They were not vocal and had trouble communicating using words. They were not able to sit on the mat during circle time and learn a lesson. Today they not only share with one another and enjoy playing with each other but can sit on the mat for extended periods of times listening to a story read and singing songs. They marvel in hearing Bible stories and understand the messages being delivered. They also are very communicative and use words to tell their teachers lots of stories!

Our 3’s class has grown in so many ways. From expanding their vocabulary to learning their letter sounds through zoo phonics they are more than ready to enter into our prekindergarten program. They have also grown in their kindness and love for one another. They love God and express his goodness and love for Him through their daily prayers.

Our pre-K class love their chapel time where they have the privilege of being the accolades. They take this job seriously showing reverence and love of God. It is such a blessing watching them begin their school year just knowing their letter sounds and now some of them are actually reading. Wow! It is so amazing watching these little ones absorb every bit of learning that they can! And to learn in such an enriching environment where singing and playing is part of their every day!

None of this would be possible without the dedication and love from all of our staff. From the teachers who come to work filled with the love of God fulfilling their mission as educators to the many volunteers that come weekly, all are appreciated and play a vital role in the success of our school. And of course a special thank you to Pastor David and Deaconess Holly as they support our school so lovingly. We are very fortunate to be involved in a Christian ministry where we are able to share God’s gifts with so many. Thank you for your continued prayers for our school and faith community.

*Blessings in Christ,
Gina*

EASTER CARD

Many symbols remind us of Jesus' death and resurrection. This Easter, put some of those symbols on special cards. Then give the cards to other people to share the good news that Jesus is alive.

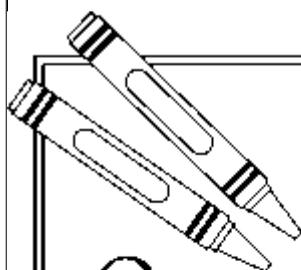
What you need:

- Craft foam
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun
- Empty food can without label
- Paint and paintbrush
- Paper plate
- Paper (8 1/2" x 11")
- Markers or crayons



What you do:

1. Choose some simple Easter shapes to draw on the craft foam (cross, empty tomb, heart, etc.).
2. Cut out each shape.
3. With an adult's help, glue the shapes onto the can.
4. Pour a thin layer of paint onto a paper plate.
5. Roll the can in the paint and then roll the can onto the paper.
6. Try this several times using different colors.
7. When your paper is dry, fold it into a card.
8. Write "Happy Easter!" or a Bible verse on the front of the card. Then give it to someone.



Just for

KIDS

OUR LIVING HOPE

Easter is a time to rejoice because of what God did for us in sending His Son, Jesus, as our living hope. Read 1 Peter 1:3-4 (NIV) below. Then find the **bold** words in the crossword search.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great **mercy** he has given us **new birth** into a **living hope** through the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an **inheritance** that can **never perish, spoil or fade** kept in **heaven** for you ..."



P	R	A	I	S	F
P	E	R	I	S	H
B	I	R	T	H	A
K	E	P	T	U	S
L	O	R	F	A	D
E	V	E	A	R	G

R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T	I	O	N	J	E	S	U
H	E	A	V	E	N	I	N	H	A	D	L	I	V	I	N
I	G	S	P	O	I	N	H	E	R	I	T	A	N	C	E
C	H	R	I	S	T	L	O	R	D	P	R	A	I	S	W



H	O	P	N	S	E
H	O	P	E	P	L
L	I	V	V	O	I
J	E	S	E	I	V
E	V	E	R	L	I
S	U	F	F	E	N
U	T	A	S	I	G
S	O	D	O	E	T
A	M	E	R	C	Y



SERVICE TIMES

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
(Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays)

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
& Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship Service
(Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays)



THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor: David Hammer
Deaconess: Holly Lustila
Secretary: Celeste Entrekin
Preschool Director: Gina Cote
Choir Director: Rick Schmidt
Choir Accompanist: Michelle Rowland
Organist: David Phillips

MISSIONARIES

Joanna Johnson, Taiwan
Nate Esala, Lutheran Bible Translators
David & Dr. Arianna Shirk, Kenya
S.E.D. Missionaries to Peru

Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church
220 Carson Rd.
Seneca, SC 29678



1 Peter 1:3-4

Happy Easter!