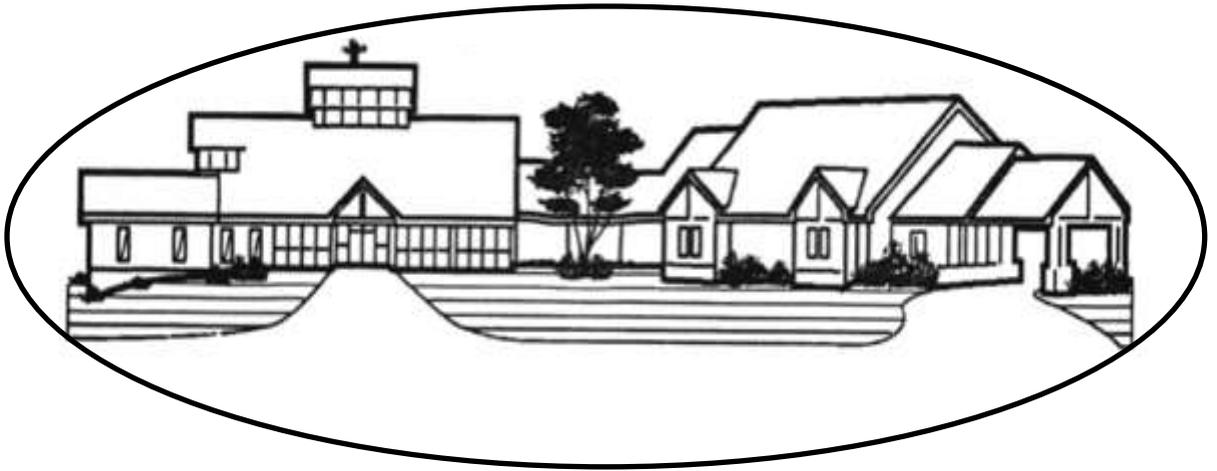


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# Agapegram

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May 2019



ETERNAL SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

220 Carson Road

Seneca, South Carolina 29678

[www.eternalshepherd.org](http://www.eternalshepherd.org)

[office@eternalshepherd.org](mailto:office@eternalshepherd.org)

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

Little Lambs Preschool: 864-882-3202



## Set[h] for Service

*“...and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, ‘God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him.’”*

Genesis 4:25 ESV

As most now know, the Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dog, Seth, assigned to ESLC has now arrived and has been seen walking the halls of **our congregation. I found our dog’s name to be quite fitting.** In the Bible, Seth is the son born to Adam & Eve (and through whose line Jesus is eventually born) after their son Abel is killed by his brother. Eve names her new son Seth because it sounds like the very simple Hebrew word for set or put. In some contexts the word can imply set for a particular **purpose, or “appoint”, which is how Eve uses it. Because she lost a son when he was murdered, she sees that God has set or “appointed” another son to live and serve in his place.**



We see a bit of a parallel with our LCC Seth (although without the intrigue of family fratricide). For some years now, South Carolina has had a Comfort Dog serving our state and beyond. Sasha, from Island Lutheran on Hilton Head has even visited here at ESLC. Unfortunately, due to some health issues, Sasha has gone into an early retirement. God, in his providential wisdom, has not left our state without a **Comfort Dog’s presence, for at nearly the exact time Sasha had to retire, the Lord appointed Seth, the dog whose name means set/appointed, to take up the mantle (or, rather, the vest) of a Comfort Dog and carry on the work that Sasha had begun by serving others with comfort and care.**



**And as we reflect on God’s care & provision, the work of serving others, and how those concepts intersect in God’s appointing of a Savior, we return to the Easter joy that Jesus lives! When God needed to rescue us from our own sin and doom, he set his Son to do that saving work and “*he was faithful to the one who appointed him*” (Heb. 3:2 EHV) in giving his life as a ransom for many and rising again on the third day. Now, sins are forgiven and eternal is restored!**

This same living Lord who conquered death calls us from death to life by faith in his atoning work. And, as Jesus Christ appointed the 12 and the 72 for their particular tasks, he now reminds us, who are redeemed by his blood, *“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure...”* (Jn. 15:16 EHV)

So, with Seth, we find that we all have been set for service to the Lord. Appoint-  
ed to live out our faith in the callings of life where God has set us, serving others and proclaiming the appointed Savior of all people.

*“You see, God did not appoint us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* 1 Thessalonians 5:9 EHV

*Pastor David*

### A Note about Facebook & Friend Requests

I'm not ignoring you! As a general FYI: I don't really use Facebook nor do I like to. I'm not sure if I've accepted a "friend" request in a year or two. The last couple I accepted were from hacked accounts and at one time I had 3 requests from 3 separate accounts under the same name!

Honestly, if you are not "friends" with me, you are not missing much. Upon occasion, I remember to add something to the church page, but that is most of what I use it for. Between other existing distractions of life and Facebook's many unpleasant practices (data privacy failures, highly partisan politics, suppressing free speech with which it disagrees, etc.), I would immediately cancel my account and never go back if it weren't for the church page and having another means to stay in communication with the youth of ESLC.

To be in touch, email or call—it's quicker and more effective. Thank you for understanding!

*Pastor David*



## *Deaconess Musings*

### *Easter...Eternally*

*But the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not right.' Are My ways not right, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not right? 'Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, each according to his conduct,' declares the Lord God.*

*~Ezekiel 18:29, 30a NASB*

Strong words. Words of judgement and condemnation to a people who were not adhering to the words of the Lord. The nation of Israel had yet again turned away from following the commands of God and had fallen into sin and error, resulting in the Lord allowing their current exile in Babylon. Through the prophet Ezekiel, the Lord calls out the people and their insistence on following their own hearts and minds, believing that their ways are better and more just than the Lord's Will. However, as He had done in the past, God promises Israel salvation and rescue and does not leave them without hope.

The Lord continues through Ezekiel, *"Cast away from you all your transgressions which you have committed and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! For why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord God. "Therefore repent and live."* (Ezekiel 18:31-32 NASB)

A call to repent and live. Here we see just one of many of such calls to the ancient Israelites, and yet these words find their echo today in the Church and her members. How often have we, ourselves, declared the Lord's ways to not be right, or just? How often have you, yourself, considered your own flawed, sinful thinking to be above reproach? We, like the Israelites of old, are constantly turning away and foregoing the Lord's good and perfect Will for thoughts and deeds that only lead to corruption. To sin. To death. To eternal separation from our Creator.

Thanks be to God! Through Christ's Passion and death on Good Friday to His resurrection on Easter morning, God proved that *"while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."* (Romans 5:8) For without Good Friday and Easter, where would our hope be found? In our own ways? The world has disproved that countless and countless times. Let our hope always be found in that bright, shining eternal Easter morning. For Christ had died, but now lives forever! We have been forever united with Christ in His death and resurrection! So, repent, live, and rejoice!

Rejoice for your God has paid your price. Rejoice for your Christ is not dead, but eternally alive. Rejoice for the Holy Spirit leaves you not alone, but filled with new life.

Easter is not one Sunday, but your entire life, the now and the yet to come. Christ arose and brings blessings eternal to you and the world.

*Blessed Eastertide!  
Deaconess Holly*

# THE RUMMAGE SALE IS ALMOST HERE!



**This year's sale will be held on Saturday May 18, from 8:30am to 11:30am. You may bring your items for sale to church beginning Monday, May 6, and please place them in room 210, starting from the back of the room and working toward the door. Please, we are not accepting large pieces of furniture or appliances. Setup and pricing will start after Men's Bible study on Monday May 13 in the Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are needed and welcome. It is always lots of fun working together organizing and pricing items. We will also need folks on the day of the sale before, during and after for clean up. Any block of time you can give to help would be greatly appreciated.**

This year's proceeds will help support our new Comfort Dog Ministry with 10% being donated to Lutheran Church Charities (LCC) Deployment costs. Deployment expenses are subsidized by LCC if funds are available otherwise these costs are the responsibility of the individual Comfort Dog teams. There are over 130 Comfort Dogs throughout 23 states and unfortunately deployments to disaster areas, natural or man made, are increasing every year. When the Comfort Dogs are deployed to these areas, they bring comfort to all those affected including first responders and volunteers who serve.

Besides the sale items donated by the congregation, the youth will be selling baked goods outside as the shoppers come and go to raise funds for the 2019 Youth Gathering. And of course, our Comfort Dog Seth will be on hand to greet all our guests. This will be a great opportunity for the community to meet him and for us to share with them how we might serve them through this compassionate ministry.

It is my prayer that the items donated will help those in our community who have need of good, gently used merchandise at a very reasonable price. Thank you all in advance for your rummage sale items, help and above all prayers for a successful sale.

*~Rudy Carbone on behalf of the Comfort Dog Team*

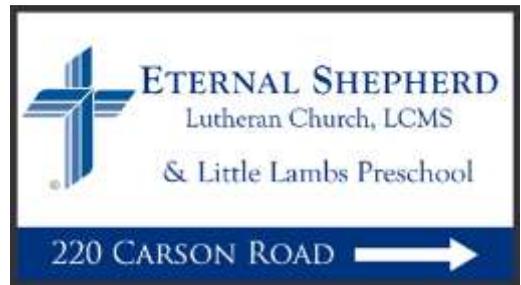
# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Title: April Council Updates

You may have heard the old saying, “the most difficult thing to do in church is to pick the carpet color”. There may be some truth in that. I’m happy to report, thanks to Janet Walker and her committee, the new carpet color and a more functional, more practical layout for the Fellowship Hall was chosen, then unanimously approved, by Church Council. This new layout will make cleanup easier after the inevitable food and drink spills. Janet led this flooring effort with grace and ease that made this difficult decision in church life “a walk in the park”! Additional thanks to Scrips Program Team Beckie Rau, Sue Hauser, Elisabeth Baker and Libby Dunlap for starting the process of refreshing the Fellowship room flooring by offering some of their funds.

## Which Way to Eternal Shepherd?

Did you ever notice that Eternal Shepherd has minimal signage on Hwy 123? Bob Massa did! Bob did what any good Lutheran would do, he volunteered to lead an effort to fix this issue. He soon realized he didn’t quite understand what he had signed up for! For over a year, Bob has been dealing with the city, county and the DOT on rules and regulations that govern signs on Hwy 123. He also had to coordinate with the property owner and the sign company on design and size. I’m pleased to announce that the Council unanimously approved Bob’s big beautiful back-lit sign recommendation that will soon be erected on the northbound side of 123. Special thanks to Bob for his perseverance and commitment of helping our neighbors find Eternal Shepherd.



*In His service,  
John Cochell*

## FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

The trees are budding, the flowers are blooming, and the earth is renewing itself. We often feel a renewal ourselves during this time of anticipation for warmer temperatures and brighter days. We often remember to give thanks to God for his magnificent creation especially at this time of the year. But going further, do we remember that all things are God’s? We are just caretakers of the gifts that he has given us. Do we use these gifts wisely? How do we compare to the servants who received one, two or five talents from their master in the parable found in Matthew, Chapter 25. Will He say “Well done, good and faithful servant” to us? ~Sue Hauser, Stewardship Board Chair

# Lord, Make Me Like Joe

by Kerry Blount

When was the last time you paused to give thanks to God for the remarkable, faithful example of Joseph, a member of Israel's priestly tribe from the island of Cyprus whose work and example had a profound impact on Christ's church in the first forty years after the ascension of Jesus? "Wait! Who?!?" you say. Peter and Paul, James and John, Steven and Phillip, and even "doubting Thomas" get featured treatment in the panoply of apostles, evangelists, and leaders of the early church. Timothy and Titus are remembered too, mostly because of the letters the Apostle Paul wrote to them, but who is this Joe?

Surely you remember Joe. He displayed his generous heart among the believers in Jerusalem in the days just after the ascension, helping to make sure there were enough resources to ensure that the needs of local followers of the Christ were being met. He was the clear-thinking and adamant advocate to the apostles for a new convert of outstanding abilities whom the leaders apparently had refused even to meet. Not long thereafter, he was the man of steady character and spiritual discernment that the leaders of the church in Jerusalem sent to Antioch to find out about the reported conversions of Gentiles there.

Surely you remember Joe. He was the visionary who, after seeing the amazing grace that God had poured out on the Gentiles in Antioch, seized the initiative to launch a teaching ministry that brought many to Christ. So many, in fact, that he felt compelled to go looking for another powerful teacher to help him. He's the tenacious man who found that teacher in a thriving town about 150 miles northwest of Antioch, and convinced him to come to Antioch to share in the harvest of souls occurring there. He's the diligent and trustworthy man who a year later was chosen to lead a small delegation to convey a gift of funds from the Christians in Antioch to the elders in Jerusalem for the relief of the Judean brothers and sisters.

Surely you remember Joe. He's the one who, after delivering the gift to Jerusalem brought his young cousin back to Antioch to help in the work there. He's one of two dedicated men that the Holy Spirit directed should be sent out from Antioch to bring the Good News to all who had ears to hear in Cyprus and Asia Minor. Yes, he's the remarkable man that so impressed the citizens of the city of Lystra that they mistook him for Zeus, the chief of the Greek gods, while on that very trip. And he's the one who immediately set them straight about his identity and urgently called them to believe in Christ, the Son of the true God.

Surely you remember Joe. He's the Spirit-filled follower of Jesus that the apostles loved for his encouraging spirit, nicknaming him **Barnabas**. While that nickname may mean "son of prophecy" or "son of exhortation," the meaning has come down to us most often in New Testament translations as "*son of encouragement*." And the writer of the book of *Acts*, our brother Luke, seemed to think that name was fitting. In fact, Luke always called Joe by his nickname as he told the story of the early church and of the activities of the teacher Joe had brought to Antioch, a man named Paul, whose name I'm sure you also remember.

*Thank You, Father, for the example of our brother Joe. May he be remembered in love. Amen*  
(Acts 4:36-37, 9:26-28, 11:22-26, 11:29-30, 12:25, 13:1-3, 14:17, 14:21-27, Colossians 4)

## FINANCE BOARD

This is the quiet time of the year for the Finance Board, budgets are approved, insurance coverages in place, W-2's and 1099's prepared and distributed. However, there are some projects in process as well as the normal items of tabulating worship gifts, payroll, and bill payments. One such project has the Treasurer reviewing the Chart of Accounts and with the help of several board members writing account definitions. This has never been done and will make our accounting more consistent, efficient and allow for better data comparisons. With councils input, another project has us examining methods to increase our stewardship of your gifts and God's assets. A consideration is purchasing several CD's of varying denominations that pay a higher interest rate than pass book accounts.

We also are looking at ways to increase our on-line giving. You do not have to be a weekly giver to utilize this method of contribution, our web site presents various options to choose from after clicking on the blue tab in the upper right-hand corner, you can select: one-time, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, and semi-monthly. Printed envelopes are costly. Sunday donations are confirmed to you by email the following Tuesday.

*Bob Massa,  
Board of Finance*



**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.



## ALTAR CARE

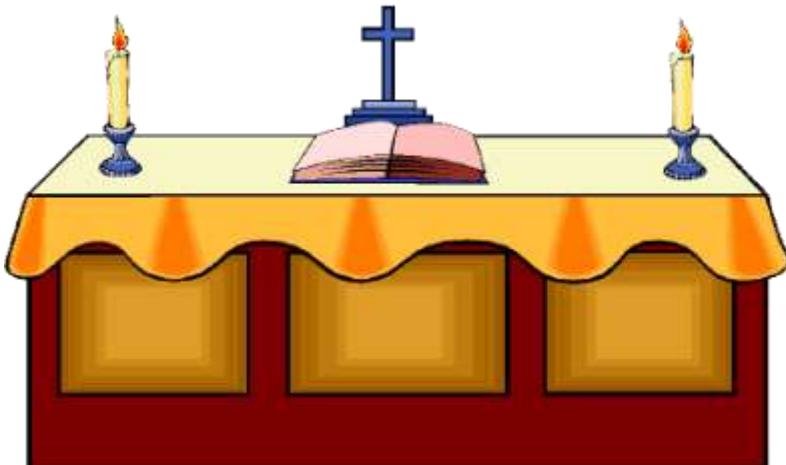
Tracy and I would like to personally thank all of our dedicated Altar Care Ladies for all they do throughout the year. To all the ladies that prepared and served the Lenten Supper, we say thank you! To the ladies on our Easter Decorating Committee, we say thank you! Our Easter service was truly Glorious.

In past years we have always been blessed to have at least three ladies serving each month. In the past year several of our ladies have retired leaving us short-handed in May, July, and September. These are easy months and do not include any church festivals or special preparations.

Tracy and I would like to extend an invitation to our new members to prayerfully consider joining us in preparing our Lord's Altar for Communion. If you are interested or have questions, please give us a call.

In God's Service,

Lois Helland (706) 356-2690  
Cell (770) 262-4681  
Tracy Keefer (864) 247-9606



## MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

### **Welcome Dave and Jonette Stupke**

Working for the Government meant a move in 1989 from Colorado to Maryland for this couple. Dave originally came from Upstate NY, Jonette is from rural NE. They met in Fort Collins, CO, where they married in 1985. If you want to know what a cartographer does, or how a GeoSpatial-Intelligence Agency works, ask Dave, for that was his profession for 29 years. Jonette worked as a “Home Hospital” teacher for their county schools, another interesting line of work! Son Jason presently lives with them, daughter Kendra lives in Morgantown, WV. Two cats also reside with them in West Union. Jonette enjoys scrapbooking, reading and “easy hikes.” Dave likes fishing, hiking and gardening. During the Bicentennial (‘76) Dave rode his 10-speed bike 5,700 miles from NY to CA! Jonette’s claim to fame (‘80’s) is climbing both 12,000 & 14,000 peaks in CO! A year ago when visiting the area the mountains, lakes, waterfalls, lower cost of living and friendly folks of ES called their name, so they relocated from Frederick, MD after retirement in April, 2018. We are glad you are here!



### Special Thank You’s:

Thursa Lautenschlager Thanks You for Your Caring Concern As she continues her recovery in outpatient speech and physical therapy she and Paul thank you for your many expressions of concern over these past months through prayers, cards and phone calls. May God's wondrous blessings attend you as they continue to strengthen and support her.

My cup runneth over with love and gratefulness. When I broke my arm, ouch, so many wonderful people jumped into motion with love and concern. Michelle and Holly came to me and Michelle came to the hospital. John Cochell drove Gloria, my Goddess of Love, and me to the hospital. John, with his sweet smile, and Gloria stayed with me. When I returned to the church many people came to the car with love and concern. Tracy and John Cochell drove my car back to Easley while my granddaughter took me home. The choir flock showed me so much love. Wonderful Rick Schmidt called daily and was and is so concerned. Roberta Port brought food and called many times. Sherry Wyatt sent me a beautiful peace plant and I received so many wonderful and beautiful cards and phone calls, and the Women of Eternal Shepherd (WES) brought me the most lovely prayer shawl. It is such a blessing to belong to such a loving and caring church. ~*Big Hugs from Helga Johnston.*

# FOOTHILLS CARE CENTER BABY BOTTLE DRIVE IS BACK!



It is time once again for our annual Baby Bottle Drive to benefit the Foothills Care Center! Eternal Shepherd has been supporting FCC for over 9 years with the baby bottle drive and other donations. Once again we will collect baby bottles lovingly filled with your loose change. **The Baby Bottle Drive will begin on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th and run through the Sunday of Labor Day Weekend, September 1st.**

Your generosity throughout the years has been greatly appreciated by FCC and the clients that frequent the center for hope, assistance, guidance and love. Most importantly, precious baby's lives are saved! May you prayerfully consider supporting the Baby Bottle Drive this year by selecting a baby bottle or two from the basket in the Narthex. Please write your name on the sign-up sheet with your bottle # and fill it with your loose change over the summer months. If you would prefer to make a donation by check, please make it out to Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church, write "Baby Bottle Drive" on the memo line and place the check in your numbered baby bottle. We will donate the money we collect to the Care Center after Labor Day. For questions or more information call Tracy Cochell at 404-433-7338.



## LCC K-9 Comfort Dog Seth has arrived!



Our newest member Comfort Dog Seth has arrived on four paws ready to serve you and our community. Seth is a young, energetic, handsome pup who is eager to love people. His Bible verse is Philippians 4:6-7 – *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus”*. What a meaningful verse to memorize, contemplate on and use in our prayers!

The Comfort Dog Handlers thank you for your prayers and support as we traveled to Northbrook, IL to train with Seth and several other Comfort Dogs. It was a very exhausting three days but we all passed and have been certified as handlers for Seth! Seth’s handlers are Ginger Barthel, Sue Blount, Jean Dombi, Carrie Haenggi, Bob Massa, Diane Williams, Rudy Carbone and me.

The “Passing of the Vest” ceremony, whereby Seth will be officially vested to serve as both a K-9 and Kare-9 (veterans) Comfort Dog, will be held on **Sunday May 5 at the 11:00am service**. Please join us for this important occasion. We will be blessed to have other Comfort Dog teams from our region as well as Sally Hiller from the Southeastern District attending.

As Seth settles into his new home and environment, we will be slowly moving out into the community to visit assisted living homes, schools, shut-ins, veteran facilities, etc. If you know of a facility or person that would like a visit from Seth accompanied by a handler and ministry partner, please let me know. The team will also be ready to deploy should a crisis situation develop locally or afar.

The Comfort Dog team would like to give our heartfelt thanks for your support, encouragement and prayers in the past and requests continued prayers as this ministry unfolds.

*To God be the Glory,*  
Kyra Carbone, Top Dog  
[topdogeslc@outlook.com](mailto:topdogeslc@outlook.com)  
864-932-8308

## MISSION NEWS

### Update on the Lutheran Churches in Haiti

First, a request for Prayers of Thanksgiving as both Pastor Mura and Brother Samuel are out of the hospital and both are doing great. Thank You all for your prayers. We at ESLC have completed the financial pledge to Trinity Hope Food program for the 2018-2019 School year at Pas Bonbon. If you would like to participate in providing meals to the children of Pas Bonbon for the next school year – September 2019 through May 2020, please contact Lars. The enrollment for next year is projected to be 300 students. The cost per child per day for lunch is twenty-six cents! Our Haiti Mission Committee budget for 2019 of \$2,000 will be going to purchase Bibles and Luther's Small Catechism. Rocky Road Lutheran Church is in the infant stage of development, with Bible Study held weekly, and Worship Services on rotation. There are 3,000 people in this remote area – no school, and no church. Samuel and Pastor Mura are directly involved in developing the church, in addition to their commitment in both Pas Bonbon and Laotchikit. Luther's Small Catechism is so very important in answering a long list of questions, and Luther wrote repeatedly, "What does this mean?", followed by references in scripture for the explanation. The growth of the Lutheran church in the Central Plateau of Haiti is exponential. I can think of no other place on earth where members in fellowship with the LCMS are adding to the ranks so rapidly. With the growth are countless opportunities to serve. Pastor Walta sends his love and to all at Eternal Shepherd, thanking us for our dedication and continued support of this ministry.

**THE DISASTER RESPONSE** trip April 7th—12th was to Lumberton, NC working for a family that had been out of their home since last falls floods. They had water almost a foot deep in their house. Cecil Murray, Mike Hauser and Deek Decker installed ceramic tile in the master bath, the laundry room and the kitchen. We also purchased a new counter top that will be delivered later. We also contacted a group that will help get a new stove. Our objective was to enable the family to get back in their home soon.



Our next trip for the middle of May will be to work with the S.E. District to restore a couple of homes in the Jacksonville, NC area that had been damaged by the hurricane last fall. Please consider joining us as we can use the help and it is greatly appreciated by the team and especially the homeowners affected by the storms. **The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. For questions or more info please contact Deek Decker.** *Thank you*



**Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Vacation Bible School  
June 17th—21st  
9am to 12pm  
Ages: 4 to 12**

**It's coming! Miraculous Mission VBS**

You may register your children online at [vbsmate.com/ESLCvbs](http://vbsmate.com/ESLCvbs) or pick up a registration form at the front desk.

All hands on deck. A sign-up sheet for volunteers is listed on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please consider helping us with this important ministry and sign up today.

**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+n 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!

## **RESTAURANT MINISTRY OUTREACH**

Please consider sharing ESLC's reputation for showing love to a member of our community by patronizing a local eatery, sometime during May, and chat with your server/order-taker, taking time to observe their name tag. When leaving the restaurant or when picking up your order write a short thank-you note on the back of an ESLC business card which are on the front desk at the church office. Leave that thank-you card with your tip or hand the card to your order-taker.

One way of participating is if you happen to have young children/grandchildren and you sometimes take them to a fast-food restaurant. After you write the note, children/grandchildren enjoy signing their name to the note, or if they are old enough, they like to actually write the note themselves. May we suggest that you pray about taking that opportunity to participate in this ministry of love!

Finally, use your smart phone, computer, etc. to E-Mail your server/order-taker's first name only (for privacy purposes) to Celeste, our church secretary or Deaconess Holly [office@eternalshepherd.org](mailto:office@eternalshepherd.org) or leave a note on Celeste's desk... or Deaconess Holly at [deaconess@eternalshepherd.org](mailto:deaconess@eternalshepherd.org). Tell Deaconess Holly or Celeste about your witnessing adventure...with the first name of your server/order-taker, and they will include that person in the Sunday Bulletin special prayer section, as well as on the E-Mail prayer chain. We understand that not everyone is comfortable with "public prayer"...so please note that this "show of love" does not in any way necessitate any member to engage in public prayer at the restaurant. *"Love thy neighbor"*

### **Hospitality Happenings for May**

#### **April late service schedule:**

**5/5 - Comfort Dog Reception**

**5/12 - Juanita Dettman**

**5/19 - Alice Ramsburg**

**5/26 - Elaine Grotheer**



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. **May's preferred product is "Rice or Spaghetti Noodles".** 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 *March* the following gifts were given:**



In loving memory of *Jewel Foster*  
the Elders Fund received gifts of \$55.00

In loving memory of *Bill Richards*  
the Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received a gift of \$25.00  
and the Organ Fund received gifts of \$2,300.00

Other Gifts:

The Alaska Mission Fund received gifts of \$970.05

The Capital Campaign Building Fund received gifts of \$275.00

The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$150.00

The Debt Reduction Fund received a gift of \$50.00

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

The Easter Palms Fund received a gift of \$127.00

The Elders Fund received a gift of \$100.00

The Food Bank Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Haiti Missions Fund received gifts of \$362.50

The Honduras Mission Fund received gifts of \$332.00

The Little Lambs Preschool Fund received gifts of \$260.24

The Lutheran Witness Magazine Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Mission Quilt Sewers Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Operation Christmas Child Fund received gifts of \$375.00

The Youth Convention Adopt-A-Mile Fund received gifts of \$2,703.00

# Little Lambs Tales

*Now learn the parable from the fig tree. When its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. Matthew 24:32*

Summer is near! We are in our last month of school at Little Lambs Preschool and we all are preparing for Summer time!

From awaiting the transformation of our caterpillars into butterflies and spending our time admiring God's beautiful creation in the varying colors of all the landscape surrounding the church; the children and staff at Little Lambs are enjoying this time of year!

**Our last day of school is on May the 22<sup>nd</sup>!** On this final day we will be celebrating the end of our successful school year with a picnic for our families. **Our picnic will be held outside at Little Lambs Preschool! Please be aware that between 10:00-12:00 the lower parking area will be closed off to car traffic.**

**On May 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am we will be sending off our 4's as we hold our annual Graduation program.** As these beautiful children of God fly their wings into kindergarten please join us in congratulating them! We pray that God continues to watch over them in their faith journey through life!

Little Lambs Preschool will not be holding our Summer Fun Program so we wish all of you a blessed and peaceful summer!

Classes will resume August 21<sup>st</sup>!

Thank you for your continued prayers for our Preschool ministry! All of the staff at Little Lambs Preschool feel blessed to be here surrounded by such a loving and faithful community of faith.



*Have a great summer!*

*In Christ,  
Gina*

# A HEART FOR Mom

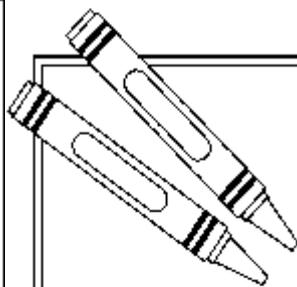
Show Mom how much you appreciate all she does for you with this "heartfelt" craft. Give it to her on Mother's Day.

## What you need:

- Floral stem wire
- Dried cranberries (about 100, depending on the wire's length)
- Pliers
- Decorative ribbon (about 12 inches for each craft)
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Hole punch
- Crayons or markers

## What you do:

1. With an adult's help, thread cranberries, one at a time with no space between them, onto the straight wire.
2. Bend the wire into a heart shape.
3. With pliers, twist the wire together at the top of the heart.
4. Tie ribbon to make a loop atop the heart (so your mom can hang it up).
5. Fold the paper into a card, and write a message of love and gratitude to your mom. You might want to add a verse from Proverbs 31 that best describes her.
6. Punch a hole in the card. Attach it to the ribbon that's tied to the heart.



Just for

# KIDS

## A Mother of Noble Character

In Proverbs 31 (NIV), God provides the best example of a godly woman. Write the number of the sentence in the space next to the character quality it best describes.

- 1 "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies" (v. 10).
- 2 "She brings [her husband] good, not harm, all the days of her life" (v. 12).
- 3 "She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands" (v. 13).
- 4 "She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks" (v. 17).
- 5 "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy" (v. 20).
- 6 "When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet" (v. 21).
- 7 "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised" (v. 30).

- |                 |            |               |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| ___ Caring      | ___ Godly  | ___ Prepared  |
| ___ Hardworking | ___ Hearty | ___ Priceless |
|                 | ___ Kind   |               |

Answers: 1. priceless, 2. kind, 3. hardworking, 4. hearty, 5. caring, 6. prepared, 7. godly

## **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

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