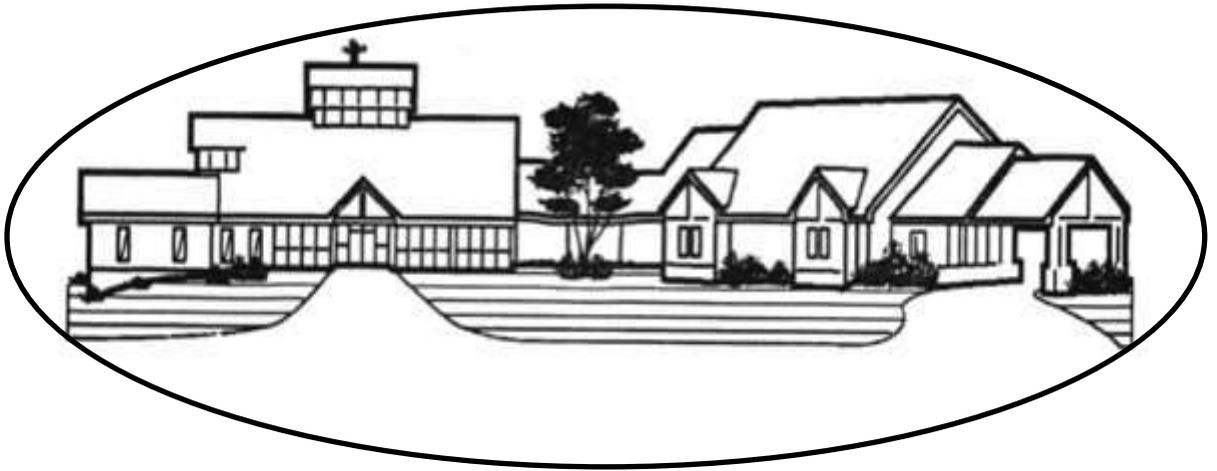

Agapegram

March 2020



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

This Lent: Eyes on Jesus



Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who is the author of our faith and the one who brings it to its goal. In view of the joy set before him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of God's throne. Hebrews 12:2 EHV

Lent is upon us. With Ash Wednesday falling in late February, we will spend all of March and the beginning of April in this penitential season. The theme and sermon series we will use throughout that time will be *Eyes on Jesus*. While, we want our eyes on our Savior at all times, our series will focus on how those around Jesus during his Passion see him.

When the characters in the Passion narrative look at Jesus, what do they see? In most cases, people misunderstood who He is and what He was doing. In some cases, by faith, people recognized Him aright. This series, based on the Gospel according to St. Mark, will examine how the various people around Jesus viewed Him—and how we should view Him. We will “fix our eyes” on what Jesus has done to save us from our sins by His holy, precious blood and innocent sufferings and death, and celebrate what God sees on account of His work: our justification for His sake.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, we will see how, in spite of Jesus' repeated predictions about His upcoming Passion, the disciples with “Misjudging Eyes” fail to recognize that soon He will not be with them. From there, each Sunday we will take another look at Jesus: we will look through Judas's “Betraying Eyes” to discern why he did this awful deed; “Sleepy Eyes” plague Jesus' inner circle of Peter, James, and John who cannot keep their eyes open to watch and pray with Jesus for even an hour; we will stare into the “Denying Eyes” of Peter and the other apostles. They could not see how they could ever fall away from Jesus; the “Murderous Eyes” of the chief priests and scribes saw Jesus as an obstacle to be rid of by murdering Him through the Roman judicial system; we will look through the “Worldly Eyes” of Pilate, the Jewish leaders, and the Roman soldiers; and, Holy Week will allow us to reflect on the mystery that there is “More Than Meets the Eye” to the Lord's Supper and on Good Friday, we look through “God's Eyes” to see what is happening during the Passion.

continued on next page...

With each new view or perspective throughout the season, we will see what God is doing in these events to bless, heal, rescue, and secure our salvation in the work of Lord Jesus. God-willing, these weekly reflections on how Jesus is seen will encourage each one of us to keep our gaze firmly focused on our Savior throughout Lent and throughout our lives; to continuously focus our eyes on Jesus Christ and Him crucified, buried, and risen for our justification. This is a vision that will never disappoint, for by trusting in Jesus, He promises that we will gaze upon His beautiful face now by faith and forever in heaven!

Dear friends, we are children of God now, but what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he is revealed we will be like him, and we will see him as he really is.



I John 3:2 EHV

Pastor David



spring *forward*

**Daylight Savings Time Begins
Sunday, March 8th**

**Please be sure to set your clocks ahead
one hour on Sat., March 7th before
going to bed as we spring forward into
Daylight Savings Time**

A black alarm clock with two bells is shown on a grassy field. The clock face is white with black numbers and hands. The background is a bright, sunny outdoor scene with green grass.



Deaconess' Musings

The Day Is Surely Drawing Near...

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 His people to repentance through the preaching of His Law and Word. He 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 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. For we, sinful and fallen as we are on our own, cannot not stand before God and not face His wrath and judgement. But He knew and knows that. And just as He continually called and collected Israel back to Himself, He called and collected us, you, and me. Through His Son, Jesus Christ, He redeemed for Himself a people, His holy Church (you, me, and all believers in Christ). 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)

Thanks be to God! 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! As we continue to journey through Lent, let us remember that we have been forever united with Christ in His death and resurrection! So, repent, live, and rejoice!

Blessed Lent,
Deaconess Holly

Lenten & Easter Services

Wednesday Night Lenten Worship Services

March 4th - 7:00 pm

March 11th - 7:00 pm

March 18th - 7:00 pm

March 25th - 7:00 pm

April 1st - 7:00 pm

Lenten Meals at 6:00 pm

March 4th hosted by the *Comfort Dog Ministry*

March 11th hosted by the *Honduras Mission Team*

March 18th hosted by the *Disaster Response Team*

March 25th hosted by the *ESLC Youth*

April 1st hosted by the *LWML*

Palm Sunday April 5th

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

Maundy Thursday Service April 9th - 7 pm

Good Friday Tenebrae Service April 10th - 7 pm

Easter Sunday April 12th

8:30 am & 11:00 am *Communion Both Services*

9:45 am *Easter Breakfast hosted by the ESLC Youth*

February Council Update

In a recent sermon, Pastor shared how God's light shines on His believers. Our February Congregational Meeting is an example of how God's light has shined on Eternal Shepherd Church. How we disperse and share our abundant surplus funds is our response! In this month's update, I'd like to recognize key people who've made and continue to make significant contributions for items we discussed during our February meeting:

- Special thanks to our anonymous donor who has generously donated funds to purchase an Eternal Shepherd bus. We anticipate this bus will be a blessing to all our ministries, especially to members who can't attend church due to a handicap. As we discussed and was unanimously passed, our next step is to raise the remaining amount (\$26,000) necessary to build a storage building for the bus as well as first year operating expenses.
- Thanks to Monty Moore who gathered many storage building quotes allowing us to consider and approve a sound plan. Monty will also be our Storage Building Project Lead for construction. As we develop the site for the storage building, Bill Barthel in collaboration with Monty, will lead a team to clear brush and trees. Additional clearing will also be done for a run area for Seth.
- Thanks to Bob Massa for negotiating our bus deal with Akins Ford in Winder, Georgia. Our bus will include Eternal Shepherd branding and a receiver hitch to pull our disaster relief trailer. Bob's discussions with Akins Ford resulted in our acquiring the bus at cost.
- Thanks to Amy Rebholz for leading our graphics designs for the bus branding and Bus Fund Capital Campaign.
- Continued thanks to Lars Helland for leading our Haiti mission work. The additional \$9,000 approved from surplus funds will buy 36,000 meals for the children attending our Lutheran school in Haiti!
- Thanks to Pastor for his research and analysis which allowed us to approve funds to buy new lighter, easier to handle, tables and chairs for the Fellowship Room.
- Thanks to Rick Cochell for researching and getting an ice machine quote for our kitchen. I know everyone will miss buying bags of ice for every fellowship meal!
- Thanks to Dan Arkfeld and Tom Eckersley for co-leading the ESLC Security Committee.

I am thankful for God's light that shines on Eternal Shepherd with many servants and leaders. May God bless all who serve!

In His Service,
John Cochell

Finance Board

Volunteers Needed:

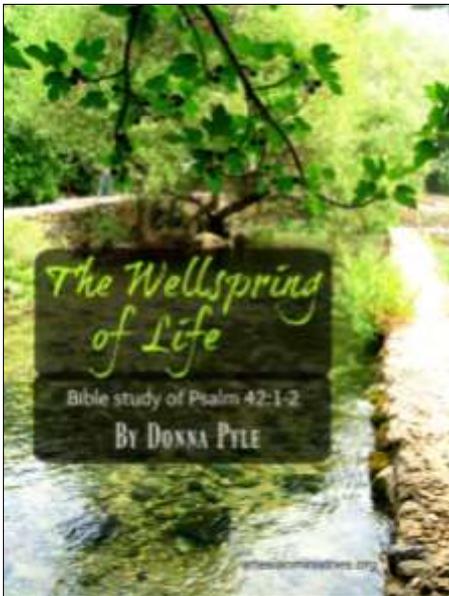
The Finance Board needs at least two individuals to perform the churches financial review for the year 2019 just ended. The past two year-end reviews have been performed by Kerry Blount and Joe Louderback and they have developed detailed workpapers and analyses which can be used or replicated for this review.

Please pray about this need and should you feel led to complete this review please contact me, Bob Massa, Finance Board Chair or John Cochell, Congregational President. And yes, it can be a husband-wife team.

Mortgage Update:

In response to a question asked during the voter's meeting our final mortgage payment is due April 3, 2025. However, based on our current payment schedule of paying down the loan early and by applying portions of excess cash we will pay the balance off in approximately 2 years and seven months. Stated another way sometime in late 2022 we will be mortgage free.

The Rummage Sale event is open to any group that would like to organize it and benefit from the proceeds. If you are interested and need to know what is involved, please contact Kyra Carbone at rckc91@bellsouth.net or 864-932-8308.



Carolinas District LWML JOY EVENT **Saturday, March 21, 2020**

Place: Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
1905 E. Greenville Street
Anderson, SC 29621
(864) 225-6438

Theme: The Wellspring of Life Psalm 42:1-2
Jesus, our Wellspring of Life, offers the only source of true peace and joy. The beautiful water imagery throughout Scripture gushes forth through this study to quench our thirst and longing to know Jesus like never before. Come thirsty and get refreshed.

Guest Speaker: Donna Snow Pyle

Registration fee: \$20.00 for registrations postmarked no later than February 28th. Registrations postmarked after February 28th or onsite will be \$25.00.

Registration forms are at the church office front desk.

Southeastern District – Disaster Response Conference

Myrtle Beach - January 23-25, 2020

Our S.E.District has a lot of experience responding to disasters in its southern coastal communities and like our own Disaster Response Team there are a number of such teams going into storm devastated areas and mucking out flooded homes or churches; rebuilding walls and floors; and in some cases sawing and removing trees blown over by heavy winds. With that level of experience it was most fitting to call these disaster response teams and other interested members of our District and Synod to a first Disaster Response Conference. Eternal Shepherd sent five members to this conference: *Lars and Lois Helland* went and were trained and certified as LERT (Lutheran Emergency Response Team) members. *Bill and Ginger Barthel* went so that Bill could get advance training in chainsaw work. Ginger who is a handler in the Comfort Dog Ministry of our church took Seth. They were invited to attend and introduce many of the attendees to this special ministry. **Alan “Deek” Decker, who heads up our Disaster Response Team attended and brought our disaster relief trailer. To his surprise the Conference awarded him the “Disaster Response Volunteer of the Year” award.** No surprise. Deek established our team as a capable rebuilding unit and with the help of *Monte Moore* a capable chainsaw team as well. ***Congratulations Deek!***

This Conference was well organized and well executed. It offered “Lert” training parts I & II leading to certification. There was Chainsaw Basic Training 101 with its emphasis on safety and an Advanced Training 201. On Saturday morning out in the woods 15 men with chainsaws in hands practiced what they learned in the classroom.

But it was the session called **“From Devastation to Hope”** that proved the most important and the most moving. It had two presenters. First, Aerica Baker told her story and surprisingly it was not of her home being ruined – it was untouched by hurricane Florence – but of her many neighbors whose homes were destroyed by flood waters. Over many days, weeks, and months, she became their advocate finding and recruiting resources and personnel to come to the aid of her neighbors. In this process she received their distress so that even in the retelling she was at times brought to tears and so all of us listening were moved to understand that our disaster relief work is no mere mechanical service rendered, but spiritual care to the hurting.

Then Aaron Ashbury spoke. He is a firefighter in Jacksonville, NC and was active in helping many in his community during Hurricane Florence and while he was rescuing others his own home was being flooded. At first this was a crisis for his faith. But receiving a “miraculous provision of resources and the loving labors of others” it led him to greater trust in God’s grace to provide the help needed even in the darkest hours. So these testimonies and the whole conference has led us to that same confident faith in our Lord’s unfailing love and care for us.



Since We Know the Price

by Kerry Blount

“A certain one of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him. Jesus entered the Pharisee’s house and reclined at the table. Just then a sinful woman from that town learned that he was reclining in the Pharisee’s house. She brought an alabaster jar of perfume, stood behind him near his feet weeping, and began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she began to wipe them with her hair while also kissing his feet and anointing them with the perfume.” Luke 7:36-38 EHV

Separate passages in *Luke 7* and *John 12* describe events—one in Galilee and a later one near Jerusalem—in which Jesus was invited to someone’s home for dinner. In both accounts, Jesus is approached by women as He reclines at the table with His host and other guests. And in both events the women scandalize the assembled guests with their behavior. It seems they came with thankful and contrite hearts, and with an unquenchable desire to demonstrate their love and to honor and serve Him regardless of the circumstances. Certainly Jesus had shown His great love and compassion for women in many ways throughout His ministry (see especially Luke’s Gospel), but these women were so deeply moved that they could not resist the impulse to “throw caution to the wind” and disregard any concern about the potential reaction of the host, the other guests, or even their friends and family. And their simple acts of devotion speak loudly to our hearts across the span of two thousand years, as Jesus knew they would.

In Luke’s account, we are told that the perfume-bearer was “a sinful woman,” and the remainder of the passage focuses on Jesus’ parable about those who are forgiven “little,” and those who are forgiven “much.” She qualified as one who was “forgiven much,” and chose to show her thankfulness, repentance and love by her unexpected and unusual demonstration at Jesus’ feet. In John’s account, Lazarus’ sister Mary brings the ointment, knowing full well that this Jesus is the Anointed One, the resurrection and the life. Seeing her brother at the table with Jesus left no doubt about that. But neither of the women knew *the price* He would willingly pay for their forgiveness, for their resurrection, and for their opportunity for eternal life with God.

Just days after Mary’s anointing of Jesus at Bethany, He would reveal the price He was prepared to pay for the sins of the sinful woman, for Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, and for you and me. He would take upon Himself the burden of the sin of all mankind, asking the Father to forgive even those who cruelly tortured His body. We know His willingness, ***we know the price***, and we know the joy of rescue from eternal death. Let us bow, then, with thankful and contrite hearts, and with an unquenchable desire to demonstrate our love by honoring and serving Him.

“Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, the hometown of Lazarus.... They gave a dinner for him there. Martha was serving and Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about twelve ounces of very expensive perfume (pure nard) and anointed Jesus’ feet and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.” John 12:1-3 EHV (see also Matthew 26:6-13 and Mark 14:3-9)

Why, God?

Bad things happen. A beloved friend or family member is dying of cancer. Why? A young mother, pregnant with her second child, dies unexpectedly. Physicians perform a C-section to rescue the baby---a boy---but he lives only a few hours. The husband's heartache is unimaginable. Why must this happen? On a beautiful afternoon, a sister and brother-in-law out for a motorcycle ride crash for unknown reasons, leaving both with traumatic, profound brain injuries, changing their lives forever. Why? A young soldier, a medic, is haunted by what he has seen, and may have to go back to the Middle East for another tour of duty, leaving his wife and baby at home. He came back after his last tour, but next time? Why must he go again, God? A mother or father is plagued by mental disease; the spouse and children have difficulty coping. Why does God let this happen? A job is lost, finances crumble, and a mother, father or spouse turns to alcohol or drugs. Injustices are done, believers are attacked and ridiculed. The innocent suffer. Why?

Be careful with questions addressed to God that involve “why this or that?” One could lose their faith demanding answers to such questions. God lets bad things happen to His people. I do not know why, but I am willing to speculate a bit. Pain, illness, discomfort, even tragedy often focus our minds on God. Times of struggle often strengthen our faith. The Holy Bible is full of stories where this happened, and Jesus did not promise an easy time for those who would follow him. On the contrary, he tells us quite the opposite. In Matthew 10:38 Jesus says, “And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.” In Matthew 16:24, Jesus says to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.” Again in Matthew 24:9, “Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.”

If you ask, “Why, God?” then who do you think you are? Do you think that you are so special that your life in this world will be easy, even though Jesus tells us it will not be? Or do you think that God is not just? Do you think that God is not fair? God sent his Son to this world, and His Son died a painful, horrible death on a cross for our sins. Jesus did this willingly to save us from our sin, from ourselves. When we cannot understand God's purpose, when we are in pain or difficulty, we must turn to God and trust Him.

Martin Luther faced numerous difficulties. He probably wondered after nailing his Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg whether he might be burned at the stake as others had been. Ten years later, in 1527, Luther's son almost died when the bubonic plague swept across Germany. Even then, it was far from obvious that the reformation Luther set into motion would continue, or that Luther would not be killed. Instead of questioning God, Luther turned to God's word, particularly the Psalms, in times of duress. Two of his favorite Psalms were numbers 46 and 118. Surely every Lutheran knows Psalms 46, but perhaps Psalms 118 is less familiar, but it should not be. “Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free” (Psalms 118:5). “I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord. The Lord has disciplined me severely, but he has not given me over to death” (Psalms 118:17-18).

Luther provides a good example for us. Instead of asking, “Why, God?” ask instead, “Let me draw close to You, oh Father.” Read God's word, especially the Psalms, when you face difficult times. “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Psalms 46:1).

Thank You, Father, for Your love and patience, for Your protection, for Your grace. Amen.

*Paul Wilson
Head Elder, ESLC*

Comfort Dog News

Seth and the Comfort Dog Team have been keeping busy as we go out in the community 5 days a week, sharing the joy, comfort, and the love of Christ as we go. God has truly blessed us with a great dog, faithful handlers and dedicated ministry partners. I think I can speak for all on the team that bringing a bright spot to someone's day or offering comfort by means of Seth has been such a rewarding experience for us. It is even more rewarding when we have the opportunity to pray with someone or share our faith with them.

Not only has Seth and team been working in the community, he has traveled to Myrtle Beach for the Southeastern District's Disaster Relief Conference and more recently he has visited the students at St. John's Lutheran School in Winston Salem, NC. Seth is always received with love and gratitude by all who meet him.

On March 4 at 6pm, the Comfort Dog Team will be hosting the Lenten Supper. We hope to share with you a little bit more about the ministry and also express our heartfelt thanks for your support of us. We continually need your prayers and encouragement as God is sending many of us out of our comfort zone and meeting people we may not have met otherwise. We are being stretched and molded along the way and for that we say thanks be to God!

To God be the Glory,
Kyra Carbone, Top Dog



Seth at Disaster Relief Conference in Myrtle Beach



Seth at St. John's Lutheran School, Winston Salem, NC



When asked “how does the Mission Committee select Missions?” we go back 8 years when the Mission Committee was founded, and the presentation made at a voters meeting outlining the Purpose, Structure, Member Involvement, and How To Start a Mission.

Success of the mission effort hinges on the willingness of congregation members to sponsor/develop projects.

To sponsor a project:

- *Identify a project you are passionate about.*
- *Form a team of at least 3 members willing to commit the time to plan, organize and execute a project.*
- *Work with an assigned Mission Committee member to develop an initial plan.*
- *Present the plan to the Mission Committee for approval and funding.*

We have opportunities available to review on the LCMS Website, www.lcms.org and Concordia Austin Texas (partner for Chevak Alaska) <https://www.concordia.edu/can-do/trip-options/> Our Southeastern District also has opportunities in Peru and beyond <https://se.lcms.org/global-mission-partners/>.

For more information, contact any Mission Committee Member – *Lars Helland, Richard Grotheer, Milo Bell, Pastor Bill Barthel, Deek Decker or Pastor Ray Ramsburg.*

ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS: Thrivent provides Choice Dollars that you can designate to your favorite charity. Please consider donating these funds to Eternal Shepherd. You have until March 31st to do so. You can do this on-line by signing into your account. A summary of your Thrivent products will appear and below that there will be information about Action Teams, Choice Dollars and Habitat for Humanity. In the Choice Dollar section, you can direct your choice dollars to the charity you choose.

KNITTING LESSONS OFFERED

If you are interested in learning how to knit, here is your opportunity. Knitting classes will be held in the Fellowship Hall on three Thursdays, **March 19th, March 26th and April 2nd at 2 pm before Women’s Bible Study.** All supplies will be provided. Just sign up on the Bulletin Board or let Sue Hauser know that you are interested.

Pastor Walta sends the following letter to Eternal Shepherd:

I thank you for all you do for our children in Haiti. Thank you for the report and the results of the congregational meeting that you had at Eternal Shepherd Seneca, SC. Yes, God is good all the time! We are so blessed by these meetings. Many more blessings are coming. We really appreciate! I had the privilege to visit Pass Bonbon last week. I thank God for the joy He gives to our children. I thank you for all your efforts: You feed our children.



As you know that, today, an estimated 60 percent of the population lives below the poverty line. No food, no clean water. More than one-fifth of the children are malnourished and 1 in 14 will die before reaching the age of 5. Many children in Haiti have one meal per day, some less. Many Haitian children never get the chance to receive even a basic education.

A Lutheran teacher in Haiti usually tells me to thank Trinity Hope for this feeding program. When this teacher was at school, he did not have the possibility to eat at school. No food. He wanted to understand what the teachers are teaching in class. But sometimes he cannot support. He was hungry. Finally, what he did: He goes somewhere and drunk his own pee. So sad. But, real!!! The things are not easy in Haiti. People are really in need. This teacher is now a seminarian. In fact, many Haitian adults are suffering from gastric/gas/ ulcer now because they did not have the possibility to eat at school. In Central-Plateau also, some children used to eat earth/clay when they are hungry.

Praise God, we have Him and we have you as Brothers and Sisters helping us there. We encourage all our Brothers and Sisters to cooperate with Trinity Hope.

Rocky Roads thanks you. Pas bonbon thanks you. Laotchikit and all the other churches thank you. They really appreciate your support. They have just you in this world. Please, continue to pray for them.

Our work is growing in Central-Plateau. More churches. More schools. God is good all the time!

Again, thank you for your past and continuing blessings.

*In Him,
Pastor Walta*

Eternal Shepherd Family Hike

Who: The Eternal Shepherd Family: all ages welcome!

What: A visit to Devils Fork State Park to view the Oconee Bells in bloom.

Where: Meet in the Fellowship Hall after late service for a “picnic” lunch (bring your own sack lunch), then carpool/caravan to Devils Fork State Park.

When: Sunday, March 8; rain date: Sunday, March 15

Why: The rare Oconee Bell blooms during mid-March in a unique area of the Upstate. We will have the opportunity to go together to view this lovely phenomenon and give thanks to the Creator for his wondrous works!

Cost: Entry to Devils Fork is \$8.00 per adult; \$5.00 per senior (age 65+); \$4.00 per student 6-15 yr; no charge for children under 6 yr. Annual parking passes are available at the park, if preferred.

Info: The hiking trail to the most picturesque blooming section and is an easy quarter mile on a well-maintained trail. We will pause there to enjoy the floral display and offer our prayers of thanksgiving for God’s abundant grace. Those who prefer will return to the parking lot on the same entry path. Hikers who wish to continue the walk will proceed on the 1 mile loop to view additional colonies of Oconee Bells and other woodland landscapes.

Participants who prefer may meet us at the park may meet in the main parking lot of the Visitor Center at approximately 2:15 pm.



PRAYER SHAWLS ARE AVAILABLE TO GIVE

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. You just must be concerned and praying for the person that you want to receive the prayer shawl -- whatever their distress, health concerns or loss.

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. These pocket prayer shawls can also be sent in cards. 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. There is a sheet behind the sign out sheet that lists the people that have already received prayer shawls. 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 have any questions, please contact Sue Hauser.



DETENTION CENTER OUTREACH MINISTRY: Saturday, March 14th

ESLC is planning a visit to the Men's and the Women's sides of the Detention Center in Walhalla. **We will need cookies for this ministry** (30 baggies with regular cookies – 4 cookies to a bag). These cookies are a small way of sharing God's love and are much appreciated by those who receive the goodies. **We will meet at ESLC Sat., March 14th at 10:00 AM** for logistics & prayer and then on to the Center to make our 11:00 AM appointment. *Thank you for your support of this ministry.* Questions, contact Cecil Murray and **cookie angels please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.** ~*Thank you*



Hospitality Happenings for March

March late service fellowship schedule:

3/1 - Janet Moriarty & Betty Terry

3/8 - Marlene Bell

3/15 - Ann Cochell

3/22 - Debbie Bell

3/29 - Sue Williams



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



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 Baby-Read volunteer by emailing Caren at babyread@charter.net.** To learn more about BabyRead, go to www.babyread.org.



2020 SUNDAY FLOWER CHART - this sign-up chart is on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Tiger Lily of Clemson has continued to do a beautiful job with their arrangements without raising the price which will remain at \$25.00 per vase. You can sign up for as many Sundays as you want during the whole year for the dates that have special meanings for you and your family. Directions are posted above the chart.



Greeting Cards— Birthday! Get Well! Encouragement! Praying for You! Sympathy! Thinking of You! Cancer/Difficult Times! Anniversary! Baptism! Thanksgiving! Christmas! All these cards have been restocked in the cart in the Fellowship Hall. They are \$.50 a card and \$5.00 for a whole box. Take a little extra time and check them out. *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 January the following gifts were given:

Christ Central Ministries of Oconee received a gift of \$3,000.00

The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$1,490.00

The Disaster Relief Trailer Fund received gifts of \$1,200.00

The Elders Fund received a gift of \$100.00

The ESLC Church Bus Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Food Bank Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Haiti Missions Fund received gifts of \$350.00

The Honduras Mission Fund received gifts of \$430.00, and a gift of \$600.00 from Central Carolina Community Foundation Grant

The Little Lambs Preschool received a gift of \$500.00

The Lutheran Witness Subscriptions Fund received gifts of \$298.00

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

The Pastors Discretionary Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Operation Christmas Child Fund received a gift of \$200.00

The Rancho Ebenezer of World Gospel Outreach
received a gift of \$3,000.00

The Toys For God's Kids Fund received a gift of \$100.00

Little Lambs Tales

*"See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land."
Song of Solomon 2:11-12*

As we finish out our rainy winter season and enter into the season of Spring, we are renewed and refreshed; reveling in the warmer temperatures and the beginnings of Springtime. It is a time of teaching God's awesome power and glory in all of His creation.

We begin the month of March celebrating Dr. Seuss! The weeklong celebration will end with a Dr. Seuss parade through the hallways of Little Lambs Preschool as the children are dressed as their favorite Dr. Seuss character!

Also the first week of March begins our Preschool Registration for the 2020-2021 School Year. Current families and church members can register March 2-18th and open registration will begin on March 19th. If you have any questions concerning registration please feel free to stop by the preschool and I would be happy to assist you.

We will be discussing Fire Safety on March 13th. Our local firemen will come to the Preschool to teach the children about fire safety and what to do in times of emergency. Not only will they teach the children but they will arrive in their big red fire truck! The children will be able to have a close up tour of it and even have the opportunity to climb in it and explore!

A few days later we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. We will wear green and teach our children about this Christian holiday. The significance of the shamrock representing the Holy Trinity will also be discovered as they learn about this day. We may even have some fun as the Leprechauns come into the classroom to create a little mischief!

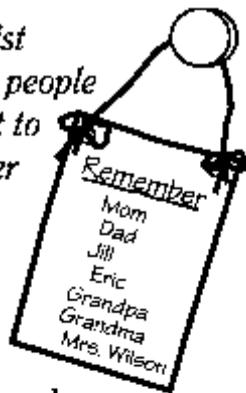
All of us at Little Lambs Preschool thank you for your continued support and prayers for this ministry of our church. We continue to thank God for giving us the opportunity to care and love these beautiful children and watch them grow in their relationship with the Lord.

Blessings to you and your families!
Gina



Make a Prayer List

Make a list of all the people you want to remember in your prayers.



You will need:

- piece of poster board (approx. 9" x 12")
- markers or crayons
- yarn or ribbon (approx. 10")
- paper-punch

How to make it:

- Punch a hole in the top corners of the cardboard.
- Tie the ribbon or yarn to the holes to make a hanger.
- Write the names of people you care about on the cardboard.
- Decorate with markers or crayons.

Hang your list near your bed, so you can see it when you say your prayers at night.

Just for

KIDS

Jesus Teaches Us to Pray

In Luke 11 Jesus taught his disciples to pray:

"Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation."

In the puzzle below, find and circle the words from the prayer above. (Note: If a word is in the prayer more than one time, it is used only once in the puzzle.) → ↓

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

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