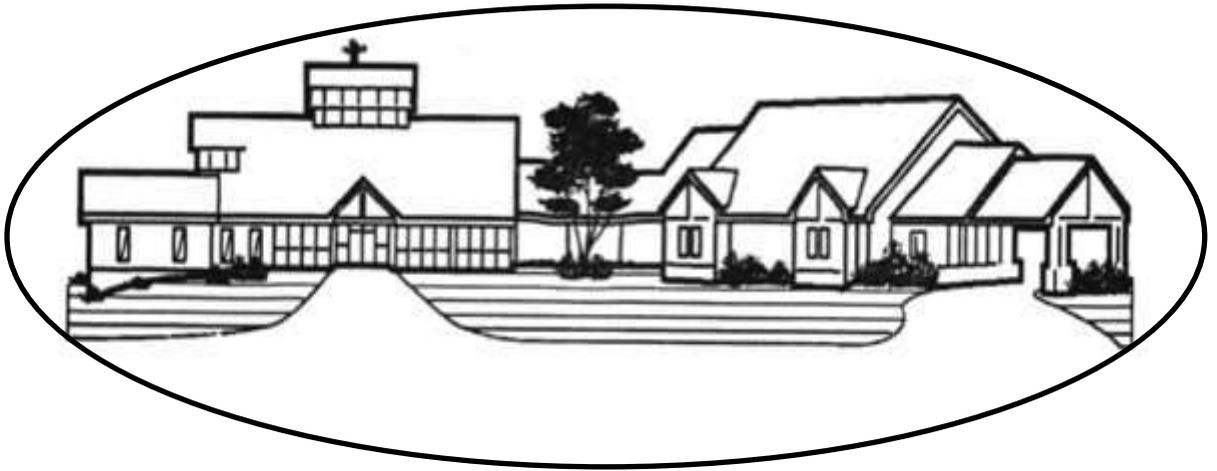


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# Agapegram

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May 2020



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)

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## Understanding and Patience; Faith and Love



*“Amen I tell you: Just as you did it for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.” Matthew 25:40 EHV*

Tired of the partisan bias and agenda driven content of “news” outlets like FOX, CNN, etc., I try to get my news from a variety of other sources. One of the sources I’ve used for the latest medical news on CoViD-19 is Dr. John Campbell, a teaching nurse in the UK who gives daily updates and summarizes medical journal news about this pandemic in his YouTube channel. A few times in the past months he has said, “A civilization is judged by how it treats its weakest members.” He is echoing a common sentiment shared by many over the past century or more as seen by this (not fully sourced) internet list:

- "You can judge a society by how well it treats its prisoners" – Dostoyevsky
- “You can judge a society by the way it treats its animals.” – Gandhi
- “Our society must make it right and possible for old people not to fear the young or be deserted by them, for the test of a civilization is the way that it cares for its helpless members.” - Pearl S. Buck, *My Several Worlds* [1954].
- “The test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children.” - Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- “A decent provision for the poor is the true test of civilization.” - Samuel Johnson, *Boswell: Life of Johnson*
- "...the moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; those who are in the shadows of life; the sick, the needy, and the handicapped. " - Hubert H. Humphrey, *Hubert Humphrey Building dedication*, Nov. 1, 1977
- "Any society, any nation, is judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members -- the last, the least, the littlest." - Cardinal Roger Mahony, *In a 1998 letter, Creating a Culture of Life*

Obviously, these all echo the teaching of Jesus from the parable of the Sheep & the Goats, listed above. The idea of caring for the weak and vulnerable is found throughout Scripture:

- *“...we need to help the weak and to remember the words that the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” Acts 20:35*
- *“We also encourage you, brothers, to... help those who are weak, and be patient with everyone.” 1 Thess. 5:14*
- *“We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the weaknesses of those who are not strong, and not just to please ourselves.” Romans 15:1*
- *“How blessed is the person who understands the plight of the weak!” Ps. 41:1*
- *“Rescue the weak and the needy.” Ps. 82:4*

In fact, we could say the entire salvation plan of God in Christ is the ultimate example of rescuing the weak and needy. God, sending Christ the Savior to deliver us from the weakness of our flesh and to provide for our need to be forgiven. That reality inspires our Easter season refrain of joy and thanksgiving: Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

*continued on next page...*

So, for those of us filled with Easter joy during these times of fasting, isolation, pandemic, & financial hardship, how do we help the weak among us? Some, like Dr. Campbell, see the medical dangers of a novel pandemic and argue for distancing & lockdowns to protect the lives of the most medically vulnerable among us. At the same time, a rising tide of voices feels more harm is being done to livelihoods & mental health by grinding the world's economies to a halt. The poor are also among the weakest in a society and they are being greatly burdened by our pandemic responses. How do we find the balance? How should Christians respond?

The way forward involves Understanding and Patience; Faith and Love. First, we must **understand** one another and our various plights. Not everyone experiences this the same way. Some are at high risk of illness, others want to use their health to keep the economy going. Some are financially secure, others are losing what little they had. Some welcome the quiet time at home, others struggle with loneliness, addictions, or household tensions. We must step outside our own circumstances to understand our neighbor's circumstances and need for help.

We must also be **patient**. No matter what path forward we take, neither the virus nor its economic impact will quickly go away. These are our circumstances for now. More than that, regardless of what we think and regardless of what the Lord knows is truly best, we must adjust to the decisions of State & Federal governments that influence us all.

Most importantly, we must live each moment in **faith**. Not fearing the times, but trusting the One who has conquered all, secured our eternal future, and holds us each moment in the palm of His loving hand. The Lord is our Shepherd. The Lord provides. The Lord will bring us through.

And, of course, as we journey forward, we **love** our neighbor. Serving them in their respective needs, as diverse as they may be. Helping the weakest ones near us and pointing them to the One who sustains us all.

*“Do not fear, for I am with you. Do not be overwhelmed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”*  
Isa. 41:10

*--Pastor David*





## Deaconess' Musings

### Steadfastness throughout Change & Transition

“April showers bring May flowers.” That’s one way to look at it.

“April *changes* bring May *adjustments*.” That may be a better fit for us today.

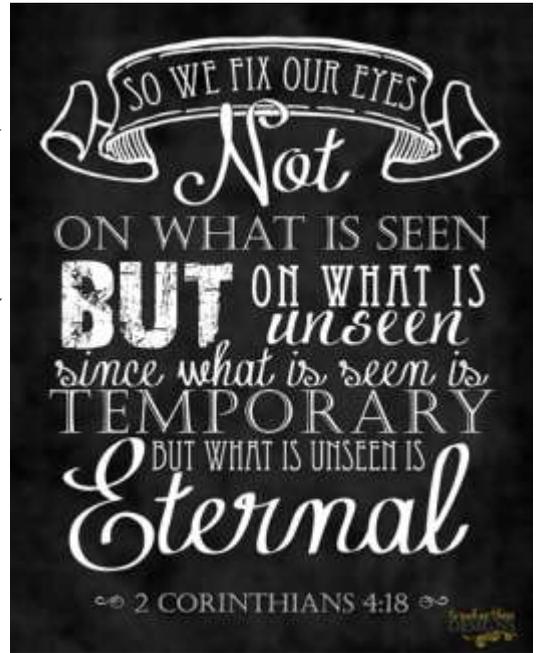
Excitement and joy over various planned events, such as graduations, the long-anticipated end of another school year, weddings, or upcoming family vacations have awaited many we know and love.

Unfortunately, Spring this year hasn’t exactly gone the way we’ve planned. (At least, not mine...) Change is in the air. Whether by natural disaster or viral infections, this world feels like it is consistently changing.

Experiencing times of change and transition is to be expected in this life we live. We cannot avoid it. Eventually, as with the seasons of the earth, the seasons of our life continue on as they have for all who have lived upon this world. And while it may feel like we are in a constant state of fluctuation, we cling to a God that never changes, experiences transitions, or loses interest in us due to what we did/did not accomplish.

Thanks be to Him who gave His Son, Christ Jesus, to die and rise again, to become our constant source of comfort, assurance, and forgiveness in a world so full of never-ending upheaval. He is our unseen comfort in times when it feels like the world will never sit still and remain the way it “should be.” But we can face the various impending changes of this life with the full assurance that Christ is ours, as we are His. Even when things we’ve anticipated and longed for require alteration and rearranging.

In this blessed Eastertide, may we always look to Him who changes not, and the peace and comfort He gives as we continually lean upon God’s mercy on account of Christ.



*Deaconess Holly*

**"DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS,**

It truly saddens us that our scheduled move to North Carolina on the 29th of April does not allow us to see you all and say a proper good by. For the past 20 years you have been a true joy for us as you have given yourselves to worship, to the study of God's Word, and to our Lord's Kingdom work with an eagerness that brings to mind St. Paul's words in Phil. 1:3 & 5 - '*I thank my God every time I remember you... because of your partnership in the Gospel ...*'

Our greatest regret in this move is that we have to leave our dear ESLC family behind. We will continue to pray that the Lord of the Church will lead you in greater efforts to spread the Gospel and remain faithful to Him.

*Always in Christ,  
Pastor Art and Charlotte*

Our new temporary address for May-Aug. will be:

4013 Fern Meadow Dr.,  
Cary, NC 27513

Our email address and phone numbers will remain the same.



## From the Board of Elders

### **An Easter to Remember**

Easter 2020 has passed. Our church went on lock-down because of the corona virus shortly after Lent began, and we have been doing church differently since mid-March. The morning after Easter, tornadoes swept through the area, destroying houses and trees. Thanks to God, none in our congregation were injured, although some had damage to their houses, and more than a few were without electricity for some time. Meanwhile, we continue on lock-down, isolating ourselves from each other to help reduce the spread of infection. Surely, this is an Easter season that will be remembered for many years to come.

Although this Easter is different from what we are used to, let us not forget the main point of Easter, which remains the same as it was on the first Easter: He is risen! He is risen indeed. Hallelujah! There are many things to hold dear from the gospel accounts of Holy Week and the crucifixion of our Savior. Between Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on what we have come to call Palm Sunday and the betrayal the following Thursday, Jesus prepared his disciples and others for what would come, not only Jesus' arrest and crucifixion, but the things that would follow. Luke 21:6 records that Jesus said of the temple in Jerusalem, "As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down." A bit later, Luke 21:10--11 records Jesus warning that hard times---war and famine---will come. And in Luke 21:12, Jesus says "But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name."

Perhaps the disciples, in the evening on Friday after Jesus' crucifixion, remembered these Words of Jesus. It is easy to imagine they were confused, and probably afraid. Their teacher, their rabbi, had just been executed; would they soon follow Him to the cross? Perhaps they were struggling to understand all that Jesus had said to him, wondering why Jesus had to die. After all, many struggle to understand this even today, and sometimes we must acknowledge that there is some mystery, and we cannot understand everything. But we believe, we have faith and we trust God.

Among the apostles, only John died a natural death. The others were killed, just as Jesus warned. The apostle Paul was executed in Rome, likely in AD 66 during the reign of Emperor Nero. Peter was also executed by Nero's men. By the time Nero died in AD 68, the Roman General Vespasian had been prosecuting the First Jewish-Roman War for two years. Vespasian returned to Rome after Nero's death to become Emperor, and left his son Titus in charge of the Roman Army. Titus laid siege to Jerusalem in AD 70, eventually conquering the city. Almost everything was destroyed, including the Second Temple, just as Jesus forewarned. Many in Jerusalem were killed, and there was terrible suffering as recorded by Flavius Josephus in *The Wars of the Jews*. But God's church of believers would eventually surpass the mighty Roman Empire. Today Christ is still with us, just as He said He would be, while the Roman Empire has disappeared, leaving only scattered ruins across Europe and the Near-East.

Jesus did not promise his followers an easy time. Many have died because of their faith in Jesus, and this continues today where Christians are persecuted. Here in the upstate of South Carolina, we have an easy time most of the time (so far, at least), but occasionally God lets us suffer, perhaps to remind us to draw close to Him. Yes, the Easter of 2020 is one that will be remembered, but the main point is the same as it has always been. He is risen!

*Our Father in heaven, give us strength of faith and courage, help us keep our eyes on Your Holy Son,  
Jesus Christ, whom You sent to die for our miserable sins.*

*Paul Wilson  
Head Elder, ESLC*

## May Council Update

These unprecedented times remain, but Eternal Shepherd has continued adapting on how best to serve our congregation and neighbors. All efforts are meant to serve both our immediate and post-quarantine needs.

### **Property has been Busy!**

In anticipation of meeting together again (hopefully soon) in our sanctuary, the failing HVAC system was replaced April 16th by the unit purchased last year. Special thanks to Monty Moore (lead) and Bob Cochell (President, Gulf Coast Air Systems) for installing the new unit.



While the Bus Fund is close to reaching its goal, enough has been contributed for us to build the storage garage that will house the bus, disaster trailer and property maintenance vehicle. Monty has been lead for Property in the land clearing, cement & slab foundation as well as the building construction. Expected garage walls completion should be the week of April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Our recent roof leaks should soon be a distant memory. A total roof replacement for our church sanctuary, fellowship and meeting rooms, was to cost \$80,000. As Property Lead again, Monty Moore negotiated our past hail damage with our insurance company. We have been blessed as Monty's negotiations led to a totally new roof for our entire building for only \$3,000! The roof should be completed also during the April 21<sup>st</sup> week. Thank you Monty!



Special thanks to Wayne Gugel (Property Chair) for his numerous church ground projects this past month. Projects include shrub trimming, cement block flower beds created, drainage issues resolved, pressure washing... If Wayne has any extra time, he is always invited to work in my yard.



### **Holy Week 2020**

While every Easter is special, most of us will not soon forget our virtual Easter '20. Great thanks to Pastor and Deaconess for their amazing gifts in producing and creating all our virtual Lenten season and Holy week services. We are truly blessed to have such dedicated and talented servants at Eternal Shepherd.

### **Outreach Near and Far**

This evil pestilence, COVID-19, has brought immediate needs both near and far. Cecil Murray (Local Outreach Chair) has responded by delivering all budgeted 2020 funds now rather than when originally scheduled. Likewise, Lars Helland has sent all existing funds (\$2,200) to our Haiti Missionary School.

### **What happens after April 30<sup>th</sup>?**

In the recent April's Council meeting, we discussed how best to move forward after April 30<sup>th</sup> regarding Eternal Shepherd services and activities. After much discussion, we concluded that we would continue our current suspension of services and activities but will regularly monitor opportunities to change this position. When we can open our doors again, we are investigating how best for all to meet safely.

In these uncharted times, Eternal Shepherd will adapt and respond to our needs today, but also for our future better times. Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers. *In His service, John Cochell*



***Happy Mother's Day!***  
***May 10th***

### **Finance Board**

As we monitor the churches financial health and shepherd God's gifts during these challenging times we accomplished a couple of things during April. First, at the suggestion and urging of Fred Munzenmaier, Little Lambs Pre-school Treasurer, we began and completed the process of applying for a Paycheck Protection Program Loan/Grant to continue to pay our pre-school teachers. The application and proper documentation was sent to and accepted by First Citizens Bank. In your prayers ask that it be approved.

Second, to improve and ease the ability for online giving with Pastor's approval Grover Stewart, Cecil Murray, and John Cochell worked diligently for three weeks and with Cindy Gibson's expertise we now can accept credit card gifts. Go to the Eternal Shepherd web site and click on the blue box in the upper right hand corner and simply follow the instructions. If you have driven to church in the last week you have noticed that a new roof is being installed (no tornado damage) which is completely covered by our insurance minus our policy deductible.

God continues to bless Eternal Shepherd and her members.  
Bob Massa

# The Prayers of the Apostles

by Kerry Blount

*“For this reason, I kneel before the Father... [and] I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your innermost being.” Ephesians 3:14-16 EHV*

The beautiful and beloved prayer taught by Jesus to the disciples (*Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:3-5*) has been a model for the church and for Christians for almost two millennia. It incorporates praise, submission, acknowledgement of the sovereignty of God, our need for physical sustenance, forgiveness and a forgiving heart, and our desire for protection by our God from temptation and the evil one. What scope! What joy! What comfort! What power!

Although the early followers of Jesus undoubtedly used this model prayer from the Savior’s lips, it is also clear that those who followed Him most closely raised their voices in prayers with a different focus after His ascension. The evidence from the *Acts of the Apostles* indicates they asked for boldness to speak the Truth in the face of opposition. They asked for forgiveness for those who mistreated them. They asked for the release of those imprisoned for the faith. They asked for the success of missionary efforts. They asked for the faithfulness of the leaders of the church. They asked for the healing of believers and unbelievers.

With rare exceptions, the prayers of the Apostle Paul recorded in his letters to the young churches and to his fellow servants focus on a desire for spiritual growth among the members of the body of Christ. He pours out ardent pleas to the Father that:

Their faith and love might continue to grow,  
They would be granted the Spirit of wisdom and revelation,  
The eyes of their hearts might be enlightened to hope, power, and the riches of Christ,  
They would be strengthened with power,  
Christ would dwell in them richly,  
They would understand the height and depth and length and breadth of Christ’s love,  
They would be granted spiritual discernment—what is best, pure, and blameless,  
They would be filled with knowledge of His will,  
They would be filled with the fruit of righteousness,  
They would be able to proclaim the Gospel clearly,  
They might have strength to live blameless and holy lives, and  
They might be active in sharing their faith.

Though we pray for one another often (God be thanked), many of our prayers seem to be directed more to the things of earth (health, sustenance, safety, comfort) than to the things of heaven (love, discernment, strength, holiness). Perhaps more use of examples from the apostles’ prayers could enrich our own, as well as the spiritual lives of those we love in the body of Christ.

*Loving Father, we thank You for the precious avenue of communication You have given us in prayer. Thank You for Your promises to hear and answer our prayers. May Your Spirit instruct our hearts and minds in expressing our faith, our hopes, our love, and even our desires and fears to You, O God. Remind us by Your Word of those things for which You would have us pray, and help us to seek spiritual sustenance along with our daily bread. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen*

## *Comfort Dog News*

As I write this we are still in the middle of the COVID -19 pandemic and recovering from a tornado that tore through Seneca early Easter Monday morning! Our hearts go out to all who suffered injuries, death, and damage to their homes. This is especially difficult as we have a Comfort Dog that can't go and comfort anyone right now! Nevertheless, we have found various ways we can still offer some comfort to those that are hurting or in need of a diversion. Lutheran Church Charities announced that all Comfort Dogs would be available for virtual visits via Zoom. Seth has had four requests so far, three of which have been completed. The virtual visits were with a doctor from Wisconsin, a follower of Seth in North Carolina, and one of our own members. In a week we have an upcoming virtual visit with children from the Peabody Institute Library in Danvers, Massachusetts who will read to Seth as part of their literacy program. I find it amazing that this ministry can reach out to people across this country through the internet!



Before our governor issued the “stay at home” order, we also did some window visits to some of our assisted living facilities. WYFF4 news heard about it and wanted to film Seth and his handler visit with the residents through the window! Allen Devlyn and his videographer Kevin were fun to work with and put us at ease. The residents at Foothills Assisted Living were overjoyed to be part of the newscast. As of this writing, the video segment has not aired due to all the other news of late. Stay tuned...we hope it will air soon!

Another fun event we participated in was an Easter Parade of cars at the Residences at Park Place. There were almost a hundred cars in line waiting to pass by the residents who were positioned outside (6ft apart). Many were family members of the residents. We had Seth sit at the car window and as we drove by each resident we waved and wished them a Happy Easter and God blessings. Joyce Thompson and her husband Richard even joined in the fun as they drove by the residents waving and bringing joy to residents who are unable to have family or friends visit.

As we near the end of April, we reflect back on the last year we have had Seth. We had hoped to celebrate this one year anniversary at church but will be unable to at this time. From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank the members of our church family for agreeing to go forward with this ministry. I think I can speak for many who are involved that this ministry has deepened our faith, made us bolder in our witness and has touched our hearts in so many ways. It certainly was a leap of faith to bring this beautiful creature into our church family but I can tell you he has been a blessing and a joy to many. And to that I say to God be the glory! ~ *Kyra Carbone, Top Dog*



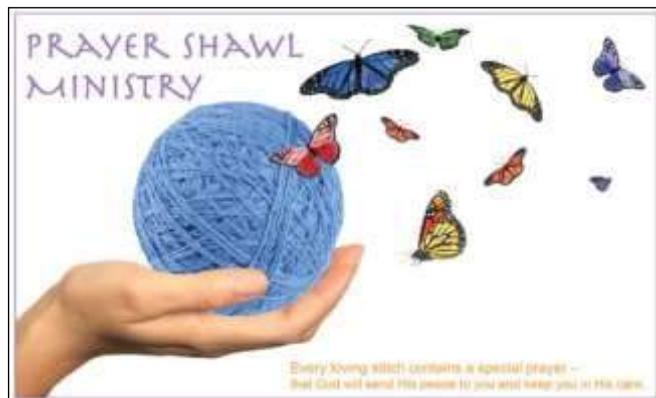
## RESTAURANT MINISTRY OUTREACH

Please consider sharing ESLC's reputation for showing love to a member of our community by patronizing a local eatery, sometime in May (**when current restrictions are lifted**), 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 in 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 at [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"*



**The Prayer Shawl Ministry** is a resource that is still available to you during these times of social distancing and isolation. If you, a family member or friend need extra prayers and support, prayer shawls are available for you or for you to give. We will find a way to drop them off at your doorstep. Just let Susan Hauser know by email ([hausersm129@gmail.com](mailto:hausersm129@gmail.com)) or by phone (864-944-5858). Prayer shawls are made by individuals in their homes. So it is easy for this ministry to continue. The knitting lessons that were to be offered this spring will be rescheduled sometime in the fall.

# DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM CALLED TO ACTION

Normally we have sign up sheets in the Narthex for volunteers to help in our Southeastern District – typically 4 to 7 hours away. The tornado of April 13<sup>th</sup> hit home – for some of our members that is literally a hit on their home. Our special thanks to Deek Decker and Pastor Bill Barthel for organizing chainsaw teams, haulers, and trailers. Thank you all who volunteered! More importantly was their effort in getting Eternal Shepherd registered with the Oconee County Disaster Coordinator; Sally Hiller, SED Executive Director for Congregational Outreach and District Operations; and Rev. Robert Wurst Jr., LERT Volunteer Manager LCMS Office of National Mission-Disaster Response. At this writing we have several volunteers coming to Seneca from our sister congregations in the district. A sincere Thank You to all who opened up their homes to give these volunteers a place to stay. We have many pictures to post, and will do that in the coming weeks on the Mission TV in the Narthex. Our focus is first to our members, and then Seneca, Oconee, and beyond. ~Lars Helland



## FOOD BANK NEWS:

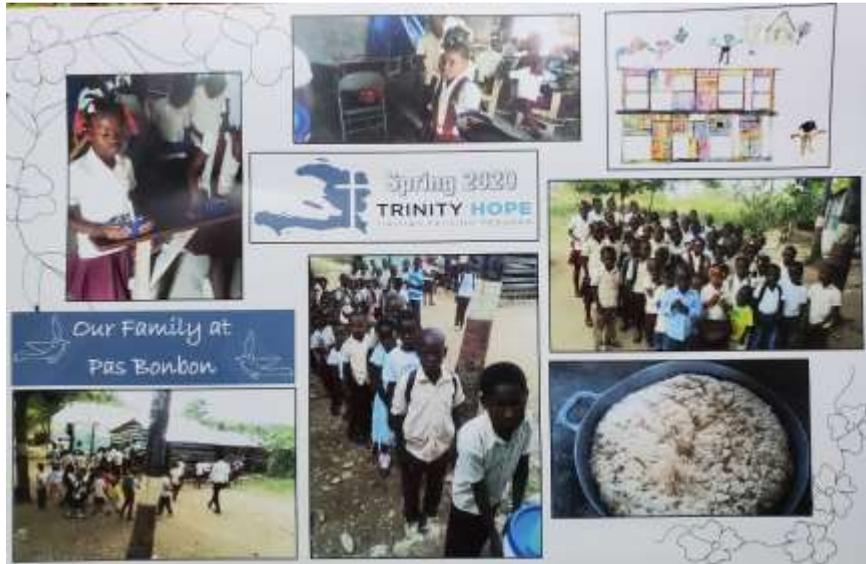
Please help us in collecting preferred needed canned, or boxed grocery items each month. These items will help restock the Golden Corner Food Pantry's shelves. **May's** preferred product is "**Rice or Spaghetti Noodles**". **Please place items in one of the trash cans marked Food Bank located down by the main Fellowship Hall.** ~Thank you for your generosity and support.



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Habitat For Humanity is in need of volunteers throughout the organization. Due in a large part to longtime volunteers moving away. There are jobs for men and women in all areas. Please consider helping in this worthwhile organization. If you have any questions contact Henry or Sue Watson.

## HAITI MISSIONS

**Note from Pastor Walta:** *“Thank You Eternal Shepherd for Feeding Us at the schools you started in the Central Plateau of Haiti! You Are Blessed to Be a Blessing! Over 300 children between the two schools.”*



In addition to the daily lunch, our Mission Committee just sent a check for \$2,200.00 to cover additional school supplies and personal hygiene products. Thus far, our children, staff, and families are free from the COVID-19 Virus. Prayers of Thanksgiving! For more information on the Missions we support through Eternal Shepherd, contact Lars.



# Missions News

**Honduras News:** The news on Honduras this month is not so much about a mission trip but about the people of Honduras and especially those who are part of the World Gospel Outreach staff in-country that help to make our mission trips so successful. These folks are paid with funds received from teams that come to Honduras to serve. With the world-wide pandemic there are no teams traveling anywhere, probably for quite a while, and this means no funds to support the ministry as well as no ministry happening. No ministry means that once we are able to send mission teams there again there will be an even greater need for all that WGO teams provide. I was concerned and inquired of WGO as to how we could help and was informed of a campaign that has just begun called, “Help Us, Help Them”. I received a link to the WGO site for the campaign and have attached it below.

[www.wgoreach.org/helpthem](http://www.wgoreach.org/helpthem)

That said, since I received the link we had the outbreak of tornadoes hit Seneca and I realize that this may change priorities for assisting. However the need still stands in Honduras and if there is the possibility to assist both needs that would be great. I believe it is a matter of where your heart leads you as we balance pandemic and tornado and the needs of each. If you are led to help the people of Honduras please use the link above or if you prefer donate through ESLC by marking the memo line of the check, “Honduras Mission Fund/Help Us, Help Them”. Eternal Shepherd has sent Serve Teams annually to Honduras for the past 7 years and we pray that WGO will be there to host us for years to come.

*Thank you for your help. May God Bless You, Pastor Ray*



## Hospitality Happenings for May

*(The original schedule, if we should find ourselves able to gather in May)*

**5/3 - Alice Ramsburg**

**5/10 - Sue Williams**

**5/17 - Kate Wells**

**5/24 - Debbie Bell**

**5/31 - Tracy Cochell**



*Join us for coffee fellowship after the late service.*

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

### May Birthdays

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 – Diane Williams   | 17 – Pastor Justin Pahl |
| 4 – Jean Feldt       | 20 – Bob Lindgren       |
| Mildred Harth        | 22 – Caroline Scott     |
| 5 – Debbie Krueger   | 23 – Teri Massa         |
| 6 – Marlene Ranck    | 24 – Vicki Tramble      |
| Thomas Wood          | 25 – Joyce Dittmer      |
| 7 - Don Del Priore   | Cindy Gibson            |
| 8 – Harold Koeplin   | 26 - Pat Jacques        |
| 10 – Lauren McCrary  | 27 – Mike Dittmer       |
| Sarah Sorrell        | Lynne Smith             |
| 11 - Austin Chenault | 28 – Micky Louderback   |
| Cara Murray          | 29 – Betty Terry        |
| 13 – Skip Wakeman    | 30 – Rowan Bunning      |
| 14 – Jill Roeder     | Barb Swift              |
| 16 – Chris Gibson    | 31 – Katherine Sitler   |
| Kyle McKibben        |                         |
| Laura Thoma          |                         |



### May Anniversaries

- 4 - Grover & Delores Stewart
- 8 - Jim & Jane Fireovid
- 9 - Bob & Teri Massa
- 11 - Bryan & Sara Thibeault
- 13 – Michael & Sami Johnson
- 14 - Richard & Elaine Grotheer
- 16 - Craig & Terri Baumann
- 19 - Craig & Kate Wells
- 22 – Tom & Karen Eckersley
- 23 – Brian & Tracy Keefer
- 24 – Harold & Lucille Koeplin
- 27 – Barry & Peggy Voeltz
- 28 - 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](mailto:babyread@charter.net).** To learn more about BabyRead, go to [www.babyread.org](http://www.babyread.org).



**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 March the following gifts were given:



In loving memory of *Leonard Woike*  
the General Fund received gifts of \$1,810.00

In honor of *Scottie Fredrickson*  
the Operation Christmas Child Fund received a gift of \$25.00

#### Other Gifts:

The Church Bus Fund received gifts of \$10,975.00

The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$170.00,  
a gift of \$1,000.00 from an LWML Grant,  
gifts of \$413.00 from the Lenten Supper,  
and a gift of \$184.00 from Thrivent Choice Dollars

The Debt Reduction Fund received a gift of \$50.00

The Disaster Response Team Fund received gifts of \$425.00

The Elders Fund received a gift of \$250.00

The Food Bank Fund received a gift of \$20.00

The Haiti Missions Fund received a gift of \$350.00

The Honduras Mission Fund received gifts of \$382.00

The Lutheran Witness Subscriptions Fund received gifts of \$15.96

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

The Operation Christmas Child Fund received gifts of \$470.00

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund received a gift of \$100.00

The Senior Member Care Fund (*based on Galatians 6:10*)  
received a gift of \$25.00, and a gift of \$878.00 from Thrivent Choice Dollars

# Little Lambs Tales

*"Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, 'From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise'?"*  
*Matthew 21:16*

With all of us sheltering in place and Little Lambs Preschool closed, this month I would like to share some joy and laughter!

*A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can man marry?" "Sixteen", the little boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he knew the answer so quickly. "How do you know that?" "Easy", the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up, like the Bishop said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer.*

*"I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from E-mail."*

*Terri asked her Sunday School class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by Kyle's picture, which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent. "The flight to Egypt," said Kyle. "I see....And that must be Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus," Miss Terri said. "But who's the fourth person?" "Oh, that's Pontius-the Pilot"*

*A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5 and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait'" Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"*

*A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?" One child answered, "Mary." The teacher then asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?" A little kid said, "Verge." Confused the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?" The kid said, "Well, you know they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."*

Hope you enjoyed these funnies and they brought a smile to your face today! Thank you for your continued prayers for Little Lambs Preschool.



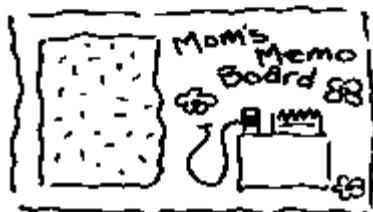
*Love and blessings,  
Gina*

# Make a Memo Board for Mother's Day

Make a memo board and give it to your mom on Mother's Day.

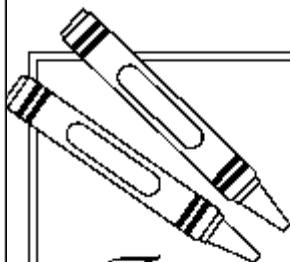
## What you need:

- a canvas board approximately 14" x 10" (available at art and craft stores in various sizes)
- a piece of corkboard about half the size of the canvas board (available in self-adhesive rolls or sheets at art and craft stores)
- permanent marker
- colored tissue paper
- 1 sheet of construction paper
- 2 pieces of string or yarn, each about as long as your arm
- glue ■ small notepad
- scissors ■ pencil ■ stapler



## How to make it:

1. Cut a piece of corkboard about half the size of the canvas board. Attach it to the left side of the board with glue (or the adhesive backing).
2. Write "Mom's Memo Board" on the top right side of the canvas board.
3. Cut the tissue paper into flower shapes and glue them onto the canvas board.
4. Fold the construction paper into a pocket big enough to hold the small notepad and pencil. Glue the pocket's side and bottom edges to the canvas board. Let it dry.
5. Tie one piece of string or yarn to the pencil and staple the other end to the board near the notepad pocket. Put the pencil in the pocket.
6. Staple the last piece of string or yarn to the back of the board as a hanger.
7. Write a special message to your mother on the first page of the notepad.



# Just for KIDS

## Famous Mothers in the Bible

Mothers are very special people. The Bible tells many stories about famous mothers.

Unscramble the letters to find the names of some mothers from the Bible. Look up the Bible verses, if you need help. Write the names on the blanks. Use the letters on the numbered blanks to fill in the message at the bottom.

VEE (*Genesis 3:20*)

6 11

NAHHAN (*1 Samuel 1:20*)

14

BRAHEOD (*Judges 5:7*)

18

3

KREEHBA (*Genesis 27:5*)

16

5

HELA (*Genesis 30:14*)

1

CHELRA (*Genesis 30:22*)

7

12

MOIAN (*Ruth 1:22*)

10

17

13

RAAHS (*Genesis 17:19*)

8

RAMY (*Matthew 2:11*)

2

ZEBLEHATI

(*Luke 1:13*)

9

15

4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12  
 13 8 14 G F F G !  
 15 4 16 10 17 3 18

A MOTHERS LOVE IS A GIFT FROM GOD.

NAOMI, SARAH, MARY, ELIZABETH

ANSWERS: EVE, HANNAH, DEBORAH, REBEKAH, LEAH, RACHEL

## **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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