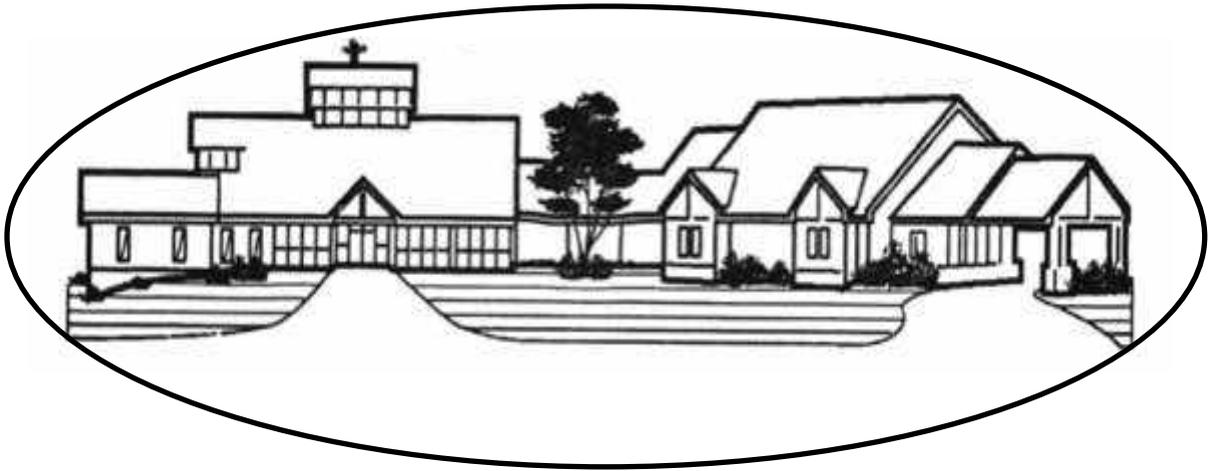


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# Agapegram

September 2020

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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

## What to Say in Times Like These?



*“You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone.”* 2 Cor. 3:2 EHV

Viruses, governmental overreach, economic instabilities, partisan political wrangling, and civil unrest seem to be all we hear about. (Even dangerous hurricanes can barely make the news with all the other things crowding out the headlines). Where do we, as God’s people, fit into a world that has gone even crazier than usual? What is our role in all this and what can we say to those who are distraught by one circumstance or another of these times? A recent article by Gary Bates in the Creation Update newsletter speaks to this very issue and encourages us to “Keep your eye on the ball!” Bates writes:

Nothing that current generations have experienced has prepared us for an economic and health crisis like COVID-19 has created in virtually every country. Please note that I am not writing to discuss the rights or wrongs, or merits of what actions have taken place to ‘fix it’. But I do believe that seeing overcrowded hospitals and empty streets in once bustling cities around the world has created a lot of uncertainty, fear, and anxiety. Such a gamut of emotions inevitably turns to anger. Those outside of Christ do not have the hope that we do, so it is understandable when skeptics and secularists turn to conspiracy theories when looking for someone to blame for the situation. But is it acceptable for Christians to follow this trend? The apostle Paul tells us, “For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” (Rom. 8:15).

Bates goes on to reference Romans 8:28 and the promise that God will work all things for good for those who love God and that none of these troubles catch God by surprise. He writes:

...Such crises should encourage us to look for opportunities to be ready with answers to point people to Christ and give them true hope. Look upwards, not inwards.

*Even if the conspiracy theories were true (and in reality, how many are? How many get proven? That’s why they remain theories!), there is no benefit in joining the hysteria. By partaking in the ‘blame game’, we’ve ultimately taken ourselves and others with us, out of the main game, which is the very opposite of what we are called to do as Christians. And, so, we may end up missing God’s purposes in it all. Lest we forget, many non-believers are being presented with real life-and-death situations. So, we should be empathetic and a force for joy and hope, while heeding Paul’s command in Titus 3:9 to avoid “foolish controversies”. In a commentary on this passage, British preacher and apologist F.B. Meyer (1847-1929) wrote:*

*It is wise advice that we should try to shun controversy and disputations. Small benefit accrues from such methods of advancing truth. After all, the Lord’s test is the true one for all teachings which are in question – what is their fruit? **continued on next page...***

*“By their fruits ye shall know them.” Let us, therefore, cultivate the grace and beauty, the righteousness and purity, of a holy life. Let us yield ourselves to Jesus to be wholly possessed and used by Him; and let our one aim be to get glory for Him and success for His Kingdom. Then our views of truth will become clear and sound, and the beauty of our lives will have the most convincing effect on gainsayers. It is better to live a holy life than be a successful disputant. The best proof of orthodoxy is a Christian Life.*

[Bates continues,] In terms of God’s purposes in things, how many people get led to Christ by talking about government or satanic conspiracies, or by forwarding dubious viral YouTube videos that see some sinister agenda in the pandemic? The fact that they breed nothing but suspicion, anger, and paranoia is proof that they are *contrary* to the godly mindset we are called to. Rather, we should be focused on how we can glorify God in a situation where many people are asking questions.

It is not for us as Children of God to get caught up in the spin, the conspiracies, or the worries of these times. We have, instead, an opportunity to speak to God’s grace in Christ that forgives all sins, the eternal hope we have in Him, and the joy of living confidently through all circumstances because our Good Shepherd is with us to lead and to guide.

*“It is clear that you are a letter from Christ, delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on stone tablets but on tablets that are hearts of flesh. Such is the confidence we have through Christ before God.” 2 Cor. 3:3-4 EHV*

*--Pastor David*



***“yet for us there is one God,  
the Father, of whom are all things,  
and we for Him;  
and one Lord Jesus Christ,  
through whom are all things,  
and through whom we live.”  
1 Corinthians 8:6***



## Deaconess' Musings

### Endless & Unceasing

*“Any day now would be great, Lord!”*

That frequent phrase has quickly become a daily refrain.

*“Come, Lord Jesus. Come quickly and bring about the New Age.”*

Well. He hasn't answered me just yet, so there must still be work left to do. People to reach. The Gospel of the forgiveness of sins to ring throughout the world. The softening of my own heart for others who do not know what they do.

Events of the past weeks, months, and years, and the seemingly never-ending perversion of anger and evil within Mankind presents cause for reflection.

This anger. This hate. This evil. It does not just live within those “other people.”

It lives inside all of us. Name it – SIN is that anger. SIN is that hate. SIN is that evil.

Do not try and talk yourself out of it. *“But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement.; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.”* (Matt. 5:22 ESV)

All people struggle with this, no matter what their various beliefs are or what line they tow. All. People. For all people sin. No one is wholly perfect – not even us believers.

*“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us...If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”* (1 John 1:8, 10 ESV)

However. This is not the end of our story. God, without any assistance or input from us, in His great mercy sent Christ to take that very sin that lives inside all of us. God became man and dwelt among His own fallen creation. To save them. To redeem them.

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* (1 John 1:9 ESV)

He saw all of that anger, all of that hate, and all of that evil – and yet died for the whole world. For those who would believe and even for those who would spurn and reject His Son.

We who now stand and live in that righteousness of Jesus Christ now stand in that forgiveness of sins. While we continue to struggle against our old sinful nature, we stand as redeemed Children of God. Through Christ and the working of the Holy Spirit within our hearts and minds, we are called to the other. As forgiven, baptized Children of God, the other amongst us now becomes our focus. Essentially, any one “other” than yourself.

We have been redeemed from our old condemned nature. We are continually sanctified by the Holy Spirit to continually look outside of ourselves and to the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection for those sins so very evident within the world and ourselves.

This world is full of sorrows – seen and unseen to us. Pray unceasingly and unceasingly proclaim Christ. Seek the lost and love the enemy. And rejoice that Christ has not forgotten you, for you are His redeemed Child.

*Deaconess Holly*

**Starting September 10th**

**“Round the Table” Women’s Bible Study  
Thursday’s from 3:00 to 4:00pm**

***Real Peace and Real Contentment Even  
in Impossible Circumstances!***

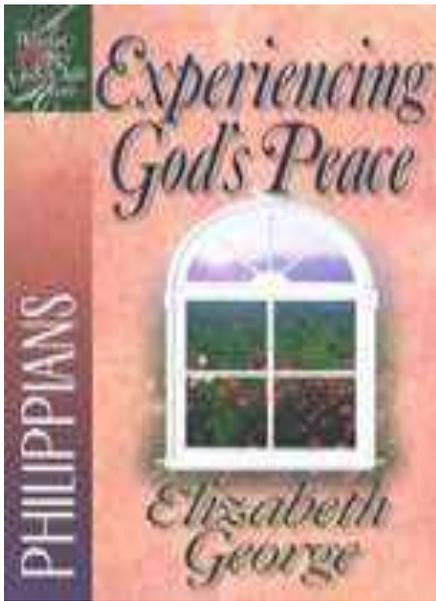
**“Experiencing God’s Peace” a study of  
*Philippians by Elizabeth George.***

This workbook study is available on Amazon  
for \$7.99 and also at Christianbook.com.

**In-House and Virtual Study  
More information to follow in  
weekly announcements.**

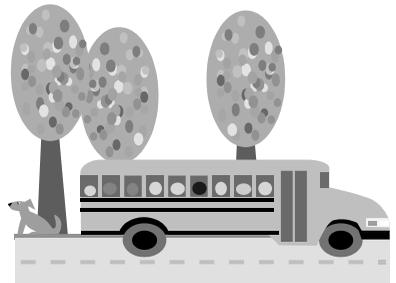
Please join us for this exciting study.

**Any questions please contact Janet Walker,  
Margi McLain, or Deaconess Holly**



**PLEASE NOTE**

Little Lambs Preschool classes have begun.  
**Please make sure to drive slowly when driving  
around the church between the hours of  
8:00 am and 12:00 pm Monday through  
Friday.** Thank you for helping keep our Littlest  
Lambs safe.



## *Drüben*

Perhaps some in every group think that an “other” is needed. The “other” provides a focus and people to look down upon, to feel superior to. In the U.S. we have southerners and everyone else, blacks and whites, rural and urban dwellers, left and right, our country and the rest of the world. During the Cold War, West Berliners referred to East Berlin and those misfortunates living there as *drüben*, meaning *over there, on the other side*. After the fall of the Berlin Wall, this took on a different meaning, as those from East Berlin were viewed by many on the western side as parasites benefiting from liberal social benefits funded by the government in Bonn. You may remember the song “Merry Minuet” recorded by The Kingston Trio in 1958: “The whole world is festering with unhappy souls / The French hate the Germans, the Germans hate the Poles / Italians hate Yugoslavs, South Africans hate the Dutch / And I don't like anybody very much!” In all such pairs, each side sometimes regards the other with derision, contempt, or worse. Not much has changed.

Contempt and hatred for *die da drüben*---those, over there---is not new. It has been around for millennia. Sadly, those in Christ's Church, including Lutherans, have not been immune from this. Christians from northwestern Europe massacred Jews in the Rhineland in 1096, on their way to Jerusalem in the First Crusade. The Edict of Expulsion issued by King Edward I in 1290 expelled Jews from England. Jews living in Spain were massacred by their Christian neighbors in 1391; those who survived were persecuted by the Spanish Inquisition, and their descendents were finally expelled from Spain in 1492. In Eastern Europe it was even worse. Pogroms against Jews in Russia and Ukraine spilled into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and what came next is almost unspeakable, though it should never be forgotten. Jew-hatred remains a plague today. Do you hear the snide remarks, the tropes, the stereotypes? Do you object when you do, letting the person uttering the remarks know that they are inappropriate and sinful? *Antisemitism* is a soft, misleading word for Jew-hatred, first appearing in print in Germany ( as *Antisemitismus*) in 1879 to replace *Judenhass* or “Jew-hatred,” which is what it is since it is directed at Jews and not other Semitic peoples.

Every Lutheran (at least those in the LCMS) knows that Martin Luther was a prolific writer. But have you read *The Jews and Their Lies*? I am not recommending that you do, but it exists, and it is ugly and hateful. Luther's church in Wittenberg---the Stadtkirche, where he preached---contains a depiction in bas-relief on the southeast corner of the building, outside, at the back, depicting Jews suckling from a swine. It is hard to think of anything that would be more offensive to Jewish people. And this is on a church! Why would a Jew enter? Luther was human, and like us, a sinner. In our Lutheran church, we can be thankful that he worked to point us toward Jesus, but we should be careful not to adopt his sins.

Taking the Gospel about Jesus Christ to Jewish people has always been a challenge. The Apostle Paul noticed this, and he was a Jew. Today, this is even more difficult due to centuries of treatment of Jews by the Church (and its members) as “the other,” *drüben*, and far worse.

When Jesus was asked by the chief priests to give the most important commandment of all, he replied (Mark 12:29—31), “The most important is, 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.” He did not follow with caveats nor with qualifications. *Love your neighbor*. Love *all* your neighbors, even *die da drüben*. Christ died for our sins. But how can we love Him without also loving our neighbors, since He commands us to do so?

*Oh Father, forgive us our sins, forgive us where we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
Amen. ~Paul Wilson, Head Elder, ESLC*

## September Council Update

My 95-year old mother has been in lock-down at her assisted living facility for months. While we can't visit face to face (F2F), we talk often by phone. Like us, she's never experienced anything like this Covid pandemic. She'll often ask me how long this will last, my response is God only knows! While we don't know when we'll return to "normal", I'm hopeful the end of this evil plague is in sight.

Just like 911 changed some things forever, I believe this plague will change some things forever as well. Some of the changes we've made at Eternal Shepherd to adapt are good and will continue. This month I'll share two of these items:

### **Eternal Shepherd Videographers**

Since we've returned to limited F2F services, our videographer team has recorded these services for our remote members. The team is: *Jeanne Arkfeld, Fred Bell, and Tom Eckersley*. Previously, Jeanne was a professional photographer. Fred managed video training services at his employer for a time. Tom was a professor and taught photography in college. We are blessed to have this team helping share our services with our remote members. *Thank you, Jeanne, Fred and Tom!*



If you have an aptitude or interest in joining this team, please contact me. Yesterday's ushers have turned into videographers!

### **Eternal Shepherd Members are Faithful!**

On March 15<sup>th</sup> when we suspended regular worship services due to Covid, our online giving ("virtual offering plate") was near 10% each week. Today, online giving is almost 50% on a linear basis (see Grover's chart). This is a HUGE accomplishment! Better yet, as of Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, contributions are almost \$14,000 over budget. Thank you, good and faithful servants!



As children, did we ever think we'd have videographers at church and that we could contribute our tithes online? Some Covid changes aren't bad!

*Serving Him,  
John Cochell*

## More than Seven Thousand

by Kerry Blount

*Then the LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is passing by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains and shattered rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. After the fire there was a soft, whispering voice. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak, and he went out and stood at the entrance to the cave. Then a voice came to him and said, "Why are you here, Elijah?" He said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life." Then the LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came and go to the Wilderness of Damascus. When you get there, you are to anoint Hazael as king over Aram. You will also anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah as prophet in your place.... But I have preserved in Israel seven thousand whose knees have not bent to Baal and whose lips have not kissed him." I Kings 19:11-16, 18 EHV*

In these troubling and chaotic times, it is easy to believe ourselves—those who believe in the truth of God’s Word and in His admonition to love our neighbors as ourselves—to be a rapidly dwindling remnant, especially when personal fellowship with other believers is not possible or at best intermittent. It is easy to harbor fears of being the last woman standing. The last person who truly believes. The last man who cares enough to continue to resist evil. It is also easy to believe we, all by ourselves, are “very zealous” for the Lord. Do you hear a nagging and perhaps growing temptation to cry, “It’s just me, God! Why have You let it come to this? There’s no one left who will even listen to the truth! And now they’re coming after me!”

That temptation is from the evil one, and it is a very ancient and useful weapon that he has wielded for thousands of years against the children of Adam. It works very well for Satan because it focuses our minds on “the flesh,” the fragility of our individual human desires for comfort, safety, and personal physical survival. Yet in the face of the immediacy of this temptation, our God seems to say, “If, indeed, you are very zealous for Me, I still have work for you. Go do what I have asked you to do. Testify to the truths I have revealed; extend my love to those with whom you speak. Be My hands of help and healing for those who need My touch.” In spite of the tumult around us, if we do that, we remain safely within His gracious will, and we need never doubt that He has preserved thousands that revere Him and serve Him still.

*Most Holy Father, in these troubling and sometimes lonely circumstances, we ask You to impart courage, strength, and resilience to all those You have preserved in faith, those You have preserved to patiently stand for the truth in the face of lies, to love every neighbor in the face of hatred, to acknowledge Your kingship and grace in the face of condescension, hatred, and even violence. Remind us, O Lord, of what You have called us to do and to be, and empower us as lights in the darkness, voices of love in the midst of opposition, and “doers of good” even to our enemies.*

*Now to the King Eternal be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.*

## FOOTHILLS CARE CENTER (VIRTUAL) BABY BOTTLE DRIVE!



Our annual Baby Bottle Drive to benefit the Foothills Care Center is coming to an end! Eternal Shepherd has been a generous supporter of the Foothills Center for more than 10 years with the baby bottle drive and other donations. This year due to COVID-19 and the safety of our members, we will not use baby bottles to collect donations. Instead, we'll use a "virtual baby bottle"!

**The *Virtual Baby Bottle Drive* Ends Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>**



**Contributions can be made to the *Virtual Baby Bottle Drive* by using Eternal Shepherd's Online giving site or by mailing a check to church and designating "Foothills Care Center" in the memo space. The "Online" option accepts all major credit cards.**

***Thank you all for your loving and faithful support of this important ministry.***

***"For You formed my inward parts;  
You covered me in my mother's womb. I will  
praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully  
made; Marvelous are Your works, and that my  
soul knows very well. How precious also are  
Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the  
sum of them! If I should count them, they  
would be more in number than the sand;  
When I awake, I am still with You."  
Psalm 139:13-14, 17-18***

## Operation Christmas Child News:

July would have been the month we hold our “Christmas In July” fundraiser for our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry, but COVID sure put the kabosh on that!

The GOOD NEWS is that I received a call from Samaritan’s Purse yesterday telling me that they are still shipping boxes, and our county drop off site has signed on to provide that service again this year.

We will still be packing and shipping boxes this year, but the details of how haven’t been worked out yet. COVID isn’t going to stop us from blessing children with these boxes! Our plan was to ship 300 boxes this year, so we’ll be relying on God to bless this ministry according to His will. In the meantime, please consider donating to this Outreach Ministry with your online gifts, or send a check to the church with Operation Christmas Child Fund on the memo line.

Help us add smiles to the faces of children all over the world!  
*Thank you! ~ Terri Baumann*



## *Comfort Dog News*



Due to COVID-19, most of Seth's visits have been canceled. Thankfully, we have had certain facilities that allow us to visit the residents via their windows. We are also grateful we have been able to visit some of our members who have not been able to come to church. If anyone would like a personal outside visit by Seth at their home or at church or if you know anyone in your neighborhood/family that would benefit by a visit from Seth, please let me know, we have lots of openings in our schedule! *Thank you for your loving support of this ministry.*

Contact *Kyra Carbone* 864-932-8308.

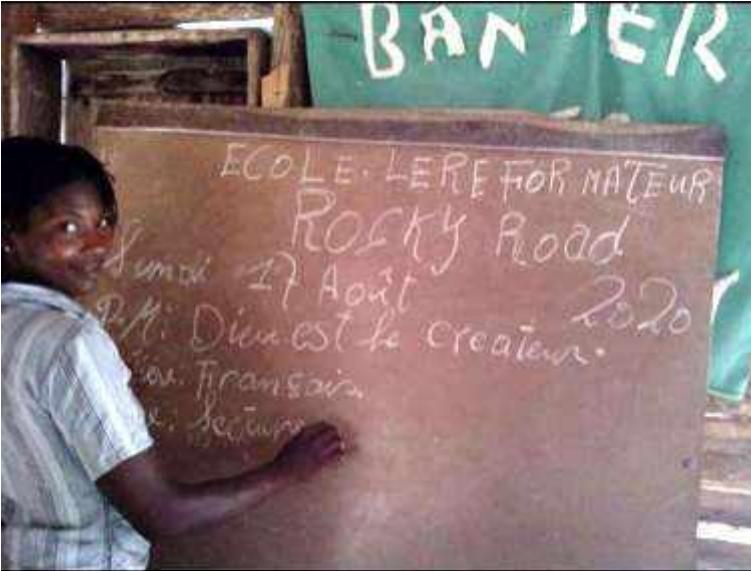
### **PRAYER SHAWLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO GIVE.**

As some of us are able to come together again to worship at ESLC, the Prayer Shawl Self Service Kiosk is available near the closets in the main Fellowship Hall. If you know someone who would benefit from the gift of a prayer shawl, please do not hesitate to select one for them. There are full size prayer shawls as well as pocket prayer shawls. The pocket prayer shawls with an embedded cross worked into them are ideal to include in cards or carry in a pocket or purse.

The full size prayer shawls come in many different colors and styles. They may be knitted or crocheted, but the important part is that the crafter prays for the person that will receive the prayer shawl. They may take from 40 to 80 hours to make and are a labor of love. We have received many thank you's expressing the love the recipient feels when they receive this gift and the comfort that it brings them. When anyone is going through a difficult time, no matter the cause, knowing that someone cares about them lifts their spirit. We want them to feel that God is on their side and will sustain them through this difficult time. As I said earlier, if you are concerned and praying for someone, please feel free to give them a prayer shawl. They may be a family member or a friend; they do not need to be a member to Eternal Shepherd. You do not need any approval to give one, but we do ask that if you give it to them personally, that you pray for and with them as you give it.

When you select a full size prayer shawl from one of the three bins, we request that you complete the sign out sheet which should be in the top bin. It simply requests your name, the person you are giving it to and the date. There is a list behind the sign out sheet of the people that have already received a prayer shawl. ESLC has given nearly 100 (full size) prayer shawls since this ministry has begun. If you take a pocket prayer shawl, no sign out is necessary. *Thank you, Sue Hauser*

## Haiti Missions



## School starts at Rocky Road Haiti

128 Students came to school at Rocky Road School in the Central Plateau of Haiti. This area is largely a French Creole based language, although the students also learn French and the older students learn English as well. Most of the classes are held outside under tarps. We at Eternal Shepherd are supporting this school as well as the school at Pas Bonbon with meals through Trinity HOPE, Bibles and Luther's Small Catechism, washing stations, general study guides and care of the staff. Rocky Road uses water from a nearby river, but drinking water is bottled. We are currently reviewing the possibility of duplicating what we did at Pas Bonbon, by funding the drilling of a well, (potable water) adding the pump and generator and adding boys and girls restrooms, with showers.



**For more information on what our Mission Committee is doing, please contact Lars Helland. We are always open to new Mission Opportunities!**

## **Mission News Continued**

Belizaire, Rocky Road Seminarian, and Samuel, Pastor and teacher at Pas Bonbon standing next to 300 of the 1,000 Banana plants we at Eternal Shepherd purchased in July. They will produce plantain in one year. The Planting Project is focused on growing enough food to feed the families of the two churches and hopefully have extra to sell. Rocky Road School has opened with 210 students. Pas Bonbon is adding another 71 students to total over 300 starting in September. Pastor Walta together with all the families of the two churches/schools we support, send their sincere Thanks for making the school possible, providing the meals through Trinity HOPE, and the school supplies that include Luther's Small Catechism and the Bibles translated in both French and Creole. If you add in the school at Laotchikit, the number of Lutheran students is over 1,000.



## **HONDURAS MISSION NEWS**

The situation in Honduras is improving with the government opening the airports but with the stipulation that any tourist/missionary desiring to travel there must have a negative coronavirus test before going. This, and the lack of testing facilities make travel there risky to say the least at this time. With this realization our host World Gospel Outreach is working on responding to how God is calling them to be about ministry during these trying times. They are at present engaged in a time of discernment as to what their areas of ministry might look like in the future and they covet our prayers. At present the ministry is simply about feeding the hungry with the Honduran staff and translators taking part in that ministry. To do even this much however, requires funds to keep things afloat and these funds previously came from Serve Teams such as ours.



I expect that we, as a team from ESLC will again travel to Honduras to serve once a vaccine is developed and once the country is deemed safe for travel. I do however believe that the ministry will experience some changes due to the present crisis caused by the pandemic. This situation has brought an awareness to additional needs above and beyond those which we addressed with our Serve Teams. At present what is needed are funds to support those in the country who are about the process of responding to the reconfiguration that is happening to bring relief to the people. If you desire to help financially this can be accomplished by a check through our church. Mark the check Honduras Mission Fund WGO/CV19. Or you may respond directly by credit/debit card at this link: [www.wgoreach.org/CV19](http://www.wgoreach.org/CV19).

*As always your Honduras Mission Team thanks you for your support.*



***Our Mission: Empower.***

***WE EMPOWER FAMILIES TO MOVE  
BEYOND GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE***

***Please be sure to read their News Letter. You may pick up a copy at the front desk or go to [RippleofOne.org](http://RippleofOne.org) for more details or to volunteer.***

**Ripple Offices: 115 W South 1st St. Seneca, SC 29678**

**Mailing Address: PO Box 1807 Seneca, SC 29679**

**(864) 882-8777**

**[office.ripple@gmail.com](mailto:office.ripple@gmail.com)**



### **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. **September's** preferred product is "***Canned Vegetables***". 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*



### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

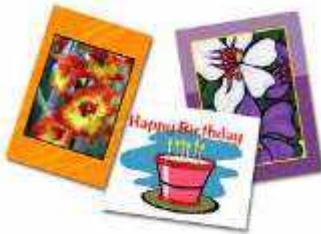
Habitat For Humanity is in need of volunteers throughout the organization. There are jobs for men and women in all areas. Please consider helping in this worthwhile organization. If you have any questions contact Henry or Sue Watson.

## 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](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

Scrip Cards are now available and make *great gifts* as well as earn money for Eternal Shepherd at the same time. For orders please contact Beckie Rau by phone 944-6096; or by email at [cbrau@charter.net](mailto:cbrau@charter.net). After the order is received one of the Scrip ladies will contact you to make arrangements for delivery. Please note we will not be handling this directly person to person in the interest of safety. *~Thank you for your support.*



## Hospitality Happenings for September

***No in house hospitality happenings at this time due to current restrictions.***

*As always we thank you for your support and look forward to the day we can once again join together at ESLC in fellowship.*

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



### September Birthdays

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 – Kerry Blount                      | 16 - Kay Raasch                                  |
| 2 – Katrina Madden<br>Ted Wanthal     | 17 – Evelyn Seigler                              |
| 3 - Ann Cochell<br>Carole McIntyre    | 18 – Carrie Haenggi<br>Sam Hamrick<br>Mike Scott |
| 4 – Dell Jensen                       | 19 – Judy Hammer                                 |
| 5 – Carl Sitler                       | 20 – Chris Christensen                           |
| 8 – Pat Milz                          | 21 – Jessica Roeder                              |
| 9 – Pete Thoma<br>Paul Wilson         | 24 – Gene Kunkel<br>Jacob Zirbel                 |
| 10 –Terri Baumann                     | 27 – Kayla Fireovid<br>Jean Lindgren             |
| 11 – Frank Kieninger                  | 29 - Don Del Priore III<br>Jean Hippchen         |
| 13 – Kara Morris                      | 30 – Kailynne Wood                               |
| 14 – Scott Toussaint                  |  |
| 15 – Karen Eckersley<br>Scott Krueger |  |



### September Anniversaries

- 7 – Alec & Teresa Todd
- 17 – Carl & Katherine Sitler
- 21 - Fred & Debbie Bell
- 23 – Pete & Laura Thoma
- 30 – Phillip & Beth Cornine



## **SPECIAL GIFTS/MEMORIALS**

### **In July the following gifts were given:**



In loving memory of *Bob Lindgren*  
the Memorial Fund received a gift of \$25.00

In loving memory of *Alex Richardson*  
the Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received a gift of \$200.00

#### **Other Gifts:**

The Alaska Mission Fund received a gift of \$10.00

The Church Bus Fund received gifts of \$30.00

The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$130.00

The Debt Reduction Fund received gifts of \$60.00,  
and a gift of \$600.00 from CCCF Grant

The Elders Fund received gifts of \$110.00

The Food Bank Fund received a gift of \$10.00

The Foothills Care Center Baby Bottle Drive received a gift of \$10.00

The Haiti Missions Fund received a gift of \$86.00

The Honduras Mission Fund received a gift of \$100.00

The Operation Christmas Child Fund received gifts of \$380.00

# Little Lambs Tales

*“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.”  
Proverbs 22:6*

It is August 21<sup>st</sup> as I write this article and I am happy to say that we have made it through 3 whole days of school! Hoping that as you read this we are still in school and things are going well! It certainly has given us much joy seeing the children playing, interacting with one another, learning together and enjoying school.

Prior to the opening of school, we did hold a drive by Graduation for our 2020 Little Lambs Graduates. It was quite the event and a wonderful way to congratulate them; albeit in a unique way!

Their first stop was under the portico where they were greeted by Pastor David, Deaconess Holly and me. The graduates donned their graduation robes and caps and the family took the much desired pictures!

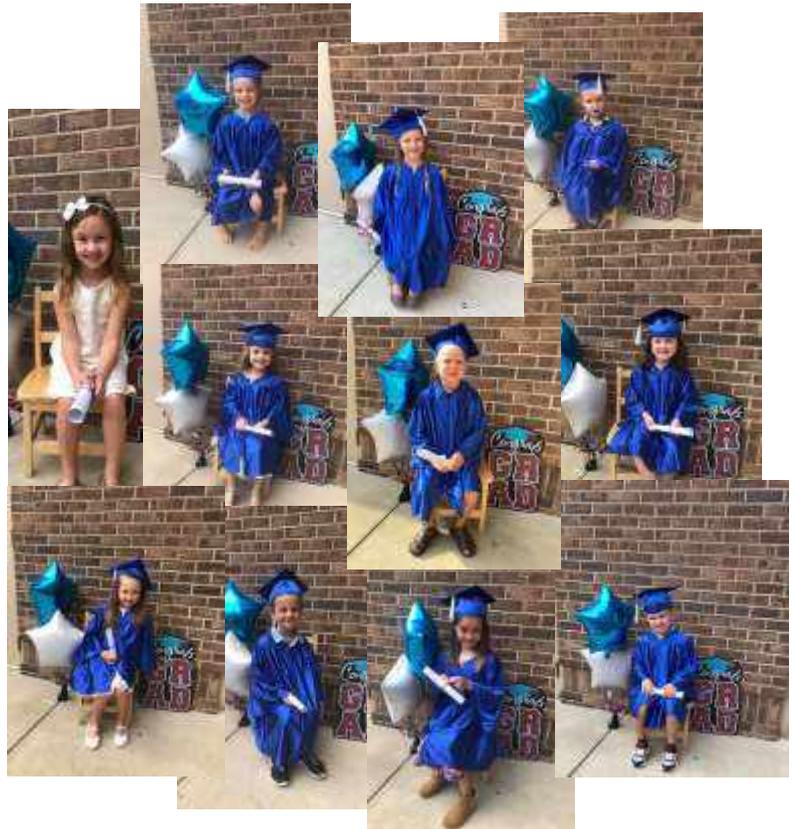
Then they went back in the car and drove to the preschool sidewalk where they had been dropped off throughout the school year. The graduate, with their cap and gown still on, got out of the car and had their “graduation ceremonial walk” down the sidewalk where they were greeted by Ms. Donna who presented them with their diploma.

Another commemorative photo for the graduates!

The final stop of graduation occurred at the door by the graduate hallway. Ms. Roberta and Ms. Harriett met them there and the graduates were able to leave their fingerprint on our graduate wall where the memory of their preschool experience will live on forever.

Almost all of the graduates attended and here are their pictures for you to enjoy!

*continued on next page...*



As always, the graduates shared what they would like to be when they grow up on their graduation day. It always puts a smile on my face when I hear their responses.

*I want to be a farmer.....I want to be a teacher.....I want to be a monster truck driver....  
I want to be an artist.....I want to be Elsa.....I want to be a police officer or a carnival  
worker....*

*I want to be a veterinarian....I want to be a YouTuber.....I want to be a doctor....*

*I want to be Ninja....I want to be a skateboarder and cookie chef....*

*I want to be a master at flipping....*

We hope and pray that our new graduates will continue to aspire toward their dreams as they continue in their life journey!

In the month of September we plan on continuing our tradition of hosting Farm Day! This day is filled with fun activities related to being on a Farm: eating fresh baked bread for snack, visiting with farm animals, doing a little square dancing and stuffing a scarecrow. **Please note that all these events will be held outdoors on September 16<sup>th</sup> so the driveway and parking lot outside of the preschool will be closed that morning between 9-11 am.**

We appreciate your continued support and prayers for all of us at Little Lambs Preschool. ***We don't know what the future holds, but we do know WHO holds the future!***

*~Blessings, Gina*



## **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