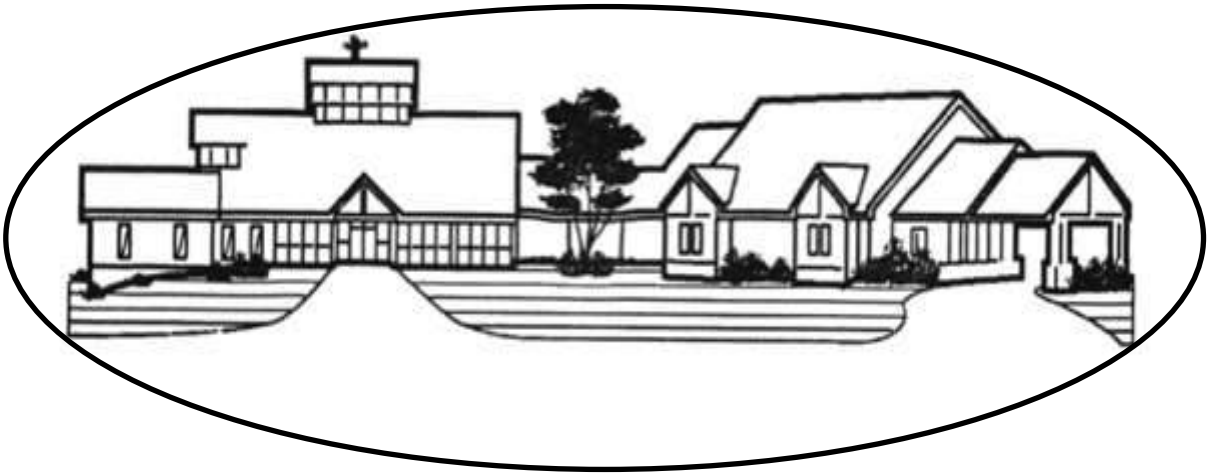


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# Agapegram

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October 2024



ETERNAL SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Seneca, South Carolina 29678

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Little Lambs Preschool: 864-882-3202

## 40 More Years of Reformation



*After all, brothers, you were called to freedom. Only do not use your freedom as a starting point for your sinful flesh. Rather, serve one another through love. Galatians 5:13 EHV*

As we move into October, we mark Eternal Shepherd's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary as well as our usual remembrance of The Reformation. Both of those speak to where our society has found itself in current times.

Let's reflect on the relationship between each of these things by first returning to a point made in my September 1<sup>st</sup> sermon.

In that recent sermon, I referenced the idea of "cultural Christians" and some recent high-profile personalities who fit that description. Famous anti-Christian philosopher Richard Dawkins labeled himself as a "cultural Christian" when he stated that he preferred to live in a society formed by Christian values and ethics as opposed to cultures influenced by other religions or philosophies. Similarly, Tesla & SpaceX CEO Elon Musk agreed that he would fall in that same category. (I previously shared [this video](#) discussing Jordan Peterson & Elon Musk's conversation about what happens when the culture abandons God as the highest good. It's worth a watch if you didn't see it last time). Interviewer Jordan Peterson who is a theist but not necessarily a Christ-follower, could also be considered a cultural Christian although a much more vocal advocate of such a culture than are Dawkins or Musk.

So why are we suddenly hearing from all these "cultural Christians"? Why are such diverse personalities sharing a common message about the value of the Christianized culture that we've all grown up in? It is because that Christian culture is crumbling. After centuries of supremacy in the Western world, Christian beliefs and assumptions no longer reign as the primary belief system. With the fall of Christian dominance in the West, alternative beliefs are seeking ascendancy. People are noticing the cultural benefits of a Christian worldview now that other views are rising to prominence. And there is one alternative religion that is the frontrunner for replacing Christianity.

The primary competition to Christian views & assumptions is the theology of "Postmodern Neo-Marxism". For a detailed discussion of that view and its manifestations in culture, education, and politics, I recommend a [Jordan Peterson interview](#) with Logan Lancing, subtitled The War on Children (Peterson episode #473). It's long & detailed but worthwhile if you want to better understand why our culture is shifting so drastically.

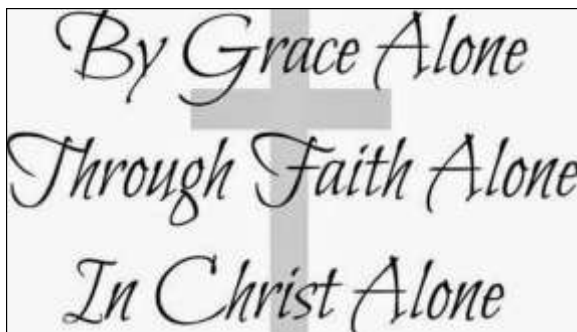
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For our purposes in this article today, we can summarize Peterson & Lancing to say that Christian values are at war with the religion of the “resentful, hedonistic, and the power-mad.” These are the opposing values being promoted and pursued in our culture today.

As we give thanks for 40 years of ministry and gospel proclamation here at ESLC, we find ourselves at the end of the ascendancy of Christianity based on historical & cultural momentum (valuing Christianity because “it’s what we’ve always done”). As Eternal Shepherd looks to the future and the next 40 years that God may grant, we face a culture that must decide if it will actively choose to retain Christian values or if it will give in to resentment, hedonism, & power. We can no longer presume a Christian culture. We must declare its value and invite others to meet the Savior who produces His kingdom’s fruit in our hearts, our lives, and in our land.

This isn’t anything new. 500 years ago, The Reformation spoke truth to confused Christians. Even when cultures are formed by the faith, individual people in every time and place need the reforming Word of God’s saving grace in Christ to correct their hearts & minds. Today, the Reformation must continue both in individual hearts and in our culture. We have an alternative message to resentment, hedonism, and power. A better way of life that flows from the Love of Christ. Our Lord did not disdain us for our sin but set aside his own glory to seek our good and become the Servant of All who gave His life to forgive and redeem. As followers of the Lord, rescued from selfish pursuits and made new in Christ, we learn contentment, self-control, and the joy of putting others first. Pray that Eternal Shepherd will declare the saving, life-changing Gospel to the world for decades to come as we have faith in our gracious Savior as proclaimed in the unchanging, holy Scriptures.

*Indeed, it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God* Ephesians 2:8 EHV



*Pastor David*

**Reformation Sunday, October 27th  
Communion Both Services**

## 40th Anniversary Celebration Sunday, October 13th Schedule of Events

Sunday Morning: Normal Schedule

- Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 am
- Sunday School at 9:45 am

*The hymns and order of service will mirror ESLC's Charter Service from 40 years ago.*

Sunday Afternoon:

3:00 pm – Special Anniversary Worship Service

4:00 pm - Catered Celebration Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

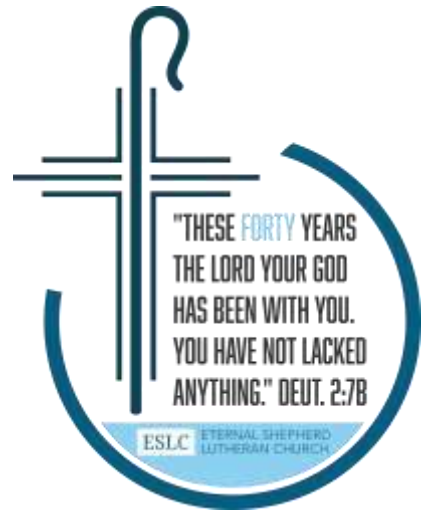
Remember: Be in prayer throughout our 40 Days of Prayer!

Special Offering: As our congregation began with much assistance from Abiding Savior and several other congregations who provided money, material support, and prayer, we will be helping a new congregation in the same way. A special offering collected at the Anniversary Service & dinner will help us “pay it forward” to a new congregation.

Join us on Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>!

*Thanks be to God for His abundant blessings!*

*Please note you must have sent your RSVP by Sept. 22nd to attend the dinner.*



**LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES:** For over 100 years Lutheran Hour Ministries has been committed to sharing the Gospel with those who need to hear it. Today, LHM energizes, equips, and engages Christians to share the Gospel throughout North America and around the globe. We are able to offer many free or low-cost resources because people like you have already joined our mission. Learn more about how you can get involved at [lhm.org/discoverlhm](http://lhm.org/discoverlhm).



## Liturgy: Confession and Absolution

Baptized in the name of the Triune God, I am washed clean of my sins and I am in Christ a sinless saint. Yet moments after that Invocation every Christian confesses, “I am poor miserable sinner...” So which is my true identity – saint or sinner? The answer is yes. In Christ by faith I am a saint, God’s very own beloved child, His joy and delight. In myself, I am as St. Paul confesses, “wretched man that I am...” I am righteous because I am forgiven of all my sins and the righteousness of Christ has been Imputed to me as my own. Yet I still sin because the Old Adam – my sinful nature - still clings to me and opposes the New Man in Christ that the Holy Spirit has created in me by faith. Martin Luther, in Latin, said it well, “Simul Justus et Peccator” at one and the same time I am a sinner (in & of myself) and a saint (in and through Jesus Christ).

And so the battle commences as it did for Christ. Remember! After He was baptized the Holy Spirit led our Lord into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan – that is to do battle. So we sinner/saints enter into the New Life of Faith to fight the Good Fight of Faith, to struggle against Satan’s temptations, this world’s corruptions and yes our sinful natures. **This is the Baptismal life of every Christian:** dying to sin daily in repentance and rising to renewed faith in Christ empowered in us by the Holy Spirit and actively expressed in all manner of loving deeds.

The confession of sins we whisper together each Sunday is for the sake of our Lord’s blood bought forgiveness. Because it is Christ’s forgiveness, not our honest or even most heartfelt confession of sins, that empowers the amendment of our sinful lives and the daily living of the new Life. To the unbelieving world it may seem a futile and demeaning way to live. Yet this is the way the Holy Spirit transforms us to be Christ reliant, Christ confident and Christ compassionate towards others especially our fellow saints in Christ.

Therefore when through Pastor we hear Christ Jesus say, **“I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”**. Then breathe a sigh of joyous relief for our sin is taken away and our continued struggle with sin along with its failures is set in the context of Christ’s victory. Living this Baptismal Life by the power of the Holy Spirit will enable us to wait expectantly upon our Lord’s return in glory when confession of sins and its absolution will never be heard again. Come Lord Jesus – Come.



# Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church History

## Our Beginning to Present

***“These forty years the LORD your God has been with you.  
You have lacked nothing.” Deut. 2:7b***

This article reviews our history from 2012 to present. Blessings continued even through the pandemic! There was another construction project, more outreach and mission programs began, and a couple of familiar faces arrived.

**August 2012**-Lightening strikes the church property!

**February 26, 2012** – New service times of 8:30 and 11:00 made permanent.

**February 2014**- First Honduras Mission Trip led by Pastor Ray and Alice Ramsburg.

**July 1, 2014** – Deaconess Holly Lustila arrived from the Seminary to begin her 1-year Internship.

**August 3, 2014** – Organist David Phillips began his service to Eternal Shepherd.

**November 16, 2014** – The congregation voted to go forward with facilities expansion plans.

**March 15, 2015** – Groundbreaking Ceremony for expansion held. Closed on bank loan for \$661,000 the following day.

**July 26, 2015** – Deaconess Holly Lustila commissioned and installed as our deaconess.

**September 2016**- Operation Christmas Child expanded to holding shoebox packing party at ESLC instead of just providing shoeboxes. This effort was led by Terri Baumann.

**November 2016** – Disaster Trailer arrived for our Disaster Response Team.

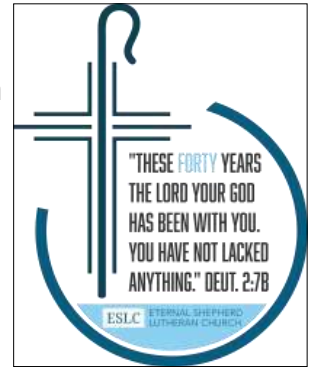
**April 10, 2019** – Acquired Seth Comfort Dog from Lutheran Church Charities – Beginning of Comfort Dog Ministry, Kyra Carbone serving as Top Dog.

**March 15, 2020**- Church Council voted to close the church campus and to switch to “virtual” worship services due to Covid Pandemic.

**June 7, 2020**-Resumed on site worship services with precautions and limited number of worshipers.

**February 27, 2022**-Mortgage for addition was paid off. The mortgage was shredded at the congregational meeting. ESLC is debt free!

**March 2023**-Ramp Building Ministry completed its first ramp. This effort is led by Deek Decker.



# The Other Thief

by Kerry Blount

<sup>33</sup> When they came to the place called The Skull, they crucified [Jesus] there with the criminals, one on his right and the other on his left.<sup>34</sup> Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." They cast lots to divide his garments among them.<sup>35</sup> The people stood watching. The rulers were ridiculing him, saying, "He saved others. Let him save himself, if this is the Christ of God, the Chosen One!"<sup>36</sup> The soldiers also made fun of him. Coming up to him, they offered him sour wine,<sup>37</sup> saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"<sup>38</sup> There was also an inscription written above him: "This is the King of the Jews."<sup>39</sup> One of the criminals hanging there was blaspheming him, saying, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"<sup>40</sup> But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God, since you are under the same condemnation?<sup>41</sup> We are punished justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for what we have done, but this man has done nothing wrong."<sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom."<sup>43</sup> Jesus said to him, "Amen, I tell you: Today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:33-43 EHV

I've read this part of the story of Jesus' love hundreds of times. But I don't remember ever taking a moment to think about the unrepentant, blasphemous thief hanging next to The God Who Came Down. Just a no-account unbelieving criminal. But He, like his partner in crime crucified on the other side of the innocent, brutalized man in the middle, was a soul that Jesus had come to save from the consequences of his sin. It was for him that the Christ had called out, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," on the banks of the Jordan. It was for him that the Teacher entreated the crowds on the shores of Galilee, "Come to Me, all you who are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest." It was he that the Messiah had in mind when He lamented, "O Jerusalem... how often I have wanted to gather your children together as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!" It was he—still unbelieving and writhing in pain on a cross—who looked to his side and heard my Savior cry, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing." It was for him. It is for me. It is for us.

I avoid thinking about the times when I have been stubbornly and defiantly unrepentant. I avoid thinking about how often I have refused to lay my crushing burdens at Jesus' feet and receive His rest. I avoid thinking about the times when I have refused to be gathered and sheltered under the wings of His mercy. Those dark and painful memories are not, I must admit, entirely discarded, and the accuser, our ancient nemesis Satan, seeks to use them from time to time to dissuade me from the redemptive path I have chosen. But those memories grow dim and powerless when I focus intently on the Light, and not on the darkness. When I live with a repentant heart, surrender my burdens to Him, and take shelter and strength from the family of God among whom I serve. And most of all, when I live in a way that shows I understand the price of the forgiveness imparted by His precious, redeeming blood. May it be so, O Lord.



## **Comfort Dog News**

Seth and team were recently deployed to Winder, GA after the tragic shooting at Apalachee High School that took the lives of 4 precious people, 2 teachers and 2 students. As would be expected after an unbelievable event like this, the whole region is experiencing a devastating sense of loss.

Seth was joined by 8 other LCC K9 Comfort Dogs from across our region and beyond - **Faith** (St. Stephens – Hickory, NC), **Hope** (Faith Lutheran – Marietta, GA), **Jemimah** (St. Paul – Boca Raton, FL), **Job** (Christ the King – Memphis, TN), **Moriah** (St. Luke’s – Oviedo, FL), **Peace** (Trinity – Orlando, FL), **Phinehas** (Trinity – Freemont, NE), and **Zoara** (Island Lutheran – Hilton Head Island, SC).

Seth was accompanied by handlers, Jean Dombi and Sue McCart for the initial 4 ½ days and due to their previous scheduled plans, Rudy and I finished the remainder of the deployment which was a day and a half. Jean and Sue had the bulk of the hard work of the deployment. Please, when you see them, offer your thanks, support and encouragement. A deployment such as this where grief is raw and there is much sadness and fear among the community members, the “comforter” (which includes Seth) can absorb the trauma as well.

The time spent in Winder, GA involved visiting students, teachers, parents, firefighters and other community members. There were lots of tears, hugs, and love shared. What impressed us the most was the strong faith of this community. From their motto, “Love Will Prevail” to Bible verses on school doors and prayers offered up for us by the principal of an elementary school, it encouraged us that this community will prevail. Please continue to pray for Winder, GA and all schools in Barrow County as they continue to heal and walk the difficult days ahead. We thank God we were given the opportunity to serve and to love those we met. Working with Lutheran Church Charities and the K9 Comfort Dog program has really opened doors for us and they do a great job making the connections we need to get in the door of schools and other organizations. In addition, they organize our visits, hotels, and other arrangements needed for a successful deployment.

On another topic, due to the generosity of donors and a Thrivent Action Team Card, we have reached our goal of \$2000 for the Lutheran Towers holiday bags of personal care items. Therefore, we will **not** be asking the congregation for donations. All items have been purchased and placed in bags thanks to Ginger Barthel’s savvy shopping and the generosity of store owners. In addition, Eternal Shepherd’s Sunday School class will be creating loving notes on postcards to be inserted into each holiday bag. *Thank you to all for working with us on this project!* The Lutheran Towers residents will be thrilled to have us visit and receive these gifts of love!



**Memorial Site at Apalachee High School Deployment  
September 8-13, 2024**

To God be the Glory,  
*Kyra Carbone, Top Dog*





## 2024 BABY BOTTLE DRIVE FOR THE FOOTHILLS CARE CENTER

Thank you to all who supported the 2024 Baby Bottle Drive to benefit the Foothills Care Center (FCC) this year. I presented the Eternal Shepherd check to FCC for \$7852. Foothills asked me to give the congregation a heartfelt thanks for your generosity, faithfulness, and commitment to their ministry. This check will help Foothills fulfill their mission *“To glorify God the Creator, by protecting and promoting the value of all human life”*. Foothills has a new location for their office in Clemson. They will move into this location on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Their new address is 518 College Ave, Suite 170. What a blessing to be part of this God pleasing ministry!

Many thanks to Celeste, Pastor, Grover Stewart, Bill Smith and Jim Zwahlen for their help throughout this campaign to support FCC. On behalf of FCC, thank you and God bless! *Tracy Cochell*

**A Special Thanks to Jim Randles!** Jim has managed Eternal Shepherd’s employee payroll for the last ten-plus years. In addition, he served on the church’s Finance Board. *Thanks, Jim, for your many years of dedicated hard work and service to the ESLC employees and Congregation!*



# Operation Christmas Child News

The Project leader Workshop held on Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> was a big success. Dinner was great and lots of helpful information was communicated to those present. Seventy-six attended representing 36 churches in our area. A thankyou note was received and is posted on the main bulletin board for you. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening.



## **SCHEDULED IN OCTOBER:**

There will be 2 Sundays in October reserved for assembling 300 school supply bags and 300 toiletry kits for our shoeboxes prior to the packing party on 11/9. Please save the following dates as we'd so appreciate your help, and many hands make light work!

**Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> we'll be assembling 300 school supply bags following late service.**

**Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> we'll be assembling 300 toiletry bags and 50 Feminine hygiene kits following late service.**

All the items will be provided and we're asking for all those who'd like to participate with the ministry in a new way to come out and help us get ready for our Packing Party on 11/9 by giving us a hand. It'll be a fun time and you'll get a sneak peak at what happens behind the scenes every year before the packing party!

## **SCHEDULED IN NOVEMBER:**

**Our 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Shoebox Packing Party will take place on Saturday, 11/9 from 2-4pm in the Fellowship Hall. Snacks will be provided.**

**National Collection Week will take place 11/18-11/25.**

**TRAINING SESSIONS for National Collection Week will take place following late services on 11/3 & 11/10.** All those who've volunteered to help will need to attend training, even if you attended training last year, to refamiliarize yourself to the jobs. The sessions will last about an hour. An email will be sent out the first week of October with more information and will include our hours of operation during National Collection Week. You'll be able to respond to that email with the days you're available to work. Lunch will be provided during the training. Watch the bulletin for announcements and reminders, and call me if you have any questions!

**Terri Baumann, Project Leader (864)482-1243**

**SPECIAL THANK YOU:** I would like to thank all those that helped with the prison ministry. Thank you to all our cookie suppliers (bakers): Sandy Kunkel, Susan Sherman, Carrie Haenggi, Sue Watson, Alice Mercer, Kenny Bell, and Shirley Cotton. We needed 92 bags of cookies (4 per bag) and we got them! Also thank you to our devotion volunteers. Frank Kieninger, Delane Dukes, Lars and Lois Helland. Your time and prayers are appreciated. **Next Prison Ministry is Friday and Saturday Dec 13 and 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30** at the Oconee County Detention Center in Walhalla. *Thank You, Ann Miller*

**Honduras Mission 2025:** The excitement grows as this year's Honduras Mission Team is coming together to prepare for their 2025 week of serving in Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras. You might say, "The Capital? How can there be poor people in the capital of a country?" Well, believe me there are. The word Tegucigalpa comes from two words; Teguz (hill) and Galpa (silver). The city began because of large silver deposits found there, however, the mines have long since been depleted and the source of the people's well being is gone, and yet people still continue to flood into the city. The growth is more than the infrastructure can handle and therein lies the poverty.

Our team from ESLC is one of many, many mission teams that travel to the country to bring all forms of help and relief. Some are builders, some are teachers, some bring medical assistance. Our's is one of the latter. Our host World Gospel Outreach has created a medical mission with an evangelistic outcome to not just bring medical help but to bring the greatest healing, the Gospel. You do not have to be a medical person to participate. Last year only five of our twenty-two team members had medical experience yet with installing water filters, ministering to the children, assisting the dentists, gathering meds in the pharmacy, finding the correct eyeglasses or sunglasses and sitting with the people and sharing the gospel we kept everyone very busy.

There are still a few slots left on the team. We previously asked you to pray about this opportunity. If you don't have an answer you need to find a quiet spot and just listen for God's reply to your prayers. Christ is counting on you to join Him in the remarkable endeavor known as short-term missions. Talk with John Cochell or Pastor Ray Ramsburg and let them know that you are ready to serve the people of Honduras or just ask them to tell you more about the mission. *Dios te bendiga (God Bless You)*



## Hearts of Mercy and Compassion

The mission of this organization, which is part of Lutheran Church Charities, is to bring the **Mercy, Compassion, Presence** and **Proclamation of Jesus Christ** to those who are suffering and in need. The crosses and representatives were present in Widner, GA along with Seth and 7 other Comfort Dogs. Hearts of Mercy and Compassion (HMC) provides a physical and spiritual symbol through the giving of hearts and crosses or markers to families and friends who have suffered a loss or are experiencing the illness of a loved one. An HMC can also be given to celebrate a victory, honor service, as an expression of love, or to be an encouragement in the face of adversity. Our Comfort Dog Ministry often comes alongside HMC in times of loss but that is just a part of what the ministry is about. HMC provides the love and hope of Jesus through presence and prayer.

Our church has been approached to become an HMC location by Lutheran Church Charities. To do so we would need a group of individuals who are interested in serving in this manner. It does not involve making the hearts and crosses but does involve a loving presence when the hearts and crosses are delivered. **If you feel called to be part of this kind of ministry please let Pastor Ray, Jean Dombi or the church office know that you would like more information. Please pray about serving in this way.**



## OUR MISSION IN HAITI – PAS BONBON

Although the political situation in Haiti is still a mess, the church and school at Pas Bonbon is safe and well away from the troubled area of Port au Prince. The 320 children start each day singing the Apostles Creed. The classes range from First through Seventh Grade. Each day each student receives a hot meal provided through Trinity Hope, Nashville, Tennessee. The cost remains at 28 cents per child. We also pay the staff of eight by wire transfer. Most teachers receive \$100.00 per month which they use to feed their family and often the extended family living with them.

Jobs are scarce, and so is food. Fortunately the 100 fruit trees ESLC provided several years ago compliment the lunch meals and excess can be used to barter at the market for school supplies and bottled water.

In preparation for the 2025 Missions Committee Budget, it is a challenge to make ends meet. With the budget and designated gifts we will still be short next year. If you or maybe your former church would like to get involved, donations to Trinity Hope Attention Pas Bonbon ESLC would be greatly appreciated. For more information contact [Lars.Helland48@gmail.com](mailto:Lars.Helland48@gmail.com).

The picture below is the staff, and they are holding up the signed confirmation of the Staff salaries. Each wire transfer covers two months.





# DISASTER RESPONSE RECENT ACTIVITY



**LERT Mercy Work, housing repairs, Stepping Stone Ministry (LCMS RSO), Conyers GA, September 9-13 2024. The team consisted of Harvey, Bill, Lars, Jim, Will, Walt, Dave, John, and Joel.**



**The accommodations were excellent and all meals provided.**



**November will be a return trip for chainsaw work. Contact Bill Barthel or John Beattie to join the team.**



**Hospitality** continues as an important ministry in our church since our church believes that fellowship with other Christians is vital. We always remain committed to our church and are always looking for new members. We are increasingly utilizing this ministry more and more with each passing day. We would love to have more people involved: This requires as LITTLE or as MUCH as you would like to help with: providing food, set-up, serving and clean-up at certain functions. All these are helpful and needed. If you are interested in joining our ministry, please contact Colleen Wakeman.



On Sundays, we are involved with treats for Bible study between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> services. This again can be as MUCH or as LITTLE as you want, having the coffee made and any treats that can be homemade, store bought or packaged: Emphasis being put on amount...it need not be large quantities...working with other families is often helpful. If you sign up and are not sure how to proceed, just let Colleen Wakeman know and she will help you learn the ropes (which is not difficult). It will allow you to get to know more people and is great fun. The pumper pots are now color coated...matching color to color and they will work.

Hospitality has worked to "organize" the kitchen. Items have been removed and they are currently in the basement. If you feel that any of these items be returned, please let hospitality know. Many of these items have taken up shelving space and have not been used for the last two years.

We are currently working towards the 40<sup>th</sup>. Year Celebration for our church. The sign-up sheet for different things for hospitality to participate in on this special day is up and on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Thanks to all who do so much to further our "hospitality" ministry.  
Blessings, Colleen

## Join Us For Wonderful Wednesday's!

Please make plans to attend our Wonderful Wednesday Potluck Dinners. It is always a great time of fellowship and good food. Please bring your favorite dish to share. ~We look forward to seeing you there.

### Wednesday Schedule:

- 5:00 pm Confirmation Class in room 210
- 5:45 pm Potluck dinner
- 6:30 pm Bible study with Pastor David
- 6:30 pm Choir practice



## FEEDING THE HUNGRY MINISTRY

Our next Feeding the Hungry Ministry Event is Saturday, 10/12/24. To prepare for this event, we need 4-8 volunteers to help assemble the sandwiches and pack the lunches. We will meet at church in the Fellowship Hall at 7pm on Friday 10/11/24. It will take approximately one hour to complete this task. Then on Saturday, 10/12/24, we will need 4-6 volunteers to assist with the delivery, set-up, and handout of the lunches to the Our Daily Bread home. We need to be there by 11am. If you would like to volunteer for either of these times, please call Mark Kunkel at (248) 766-8002 and let me know? *Thank you for your support!*



**FOOD BANK NEWS:** Please help us in collecting preferred needed canned, or boxed grocery items each month to help restock the Golden Corner Food Pantry's shelves. **October's** preferred product is "**Peanut Butter**" (Please place your items in the containers marked Food Bank down by the Fellowship Hall). *~Thank you for your generosity and support.*



**ON-LINE GIVING** Remember you can give on-line. Just go to our church website at [www.eternalshepherd.org](http://www.eternalshepherd.org) and click on the On-line Giving bar in the top right corner on the homepage. *~Thank you for your faithful support.*



**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. Find out more about serving with us at <https://www.oconeehabitat.org>.

**Scrip Cards** are available and make ***great gifts*** as well as **earn money for Eternal Shepherd** at the same time. Please note we have Publix, Ingles and Walmart gift cards available. For orders pick up an order form from the Scrip Box or please contact **Beckie Rau** at (864) 944-6096. After the order is received one of the Scrip ladies will contact you to make arrangements for delivery. Scrip Card Team: **Beckie Rau, Libby Dunlap, Elisabeth Baker & Sue Hauser.** *~Thank you for your support.*





## Hospitality Happenings for October

- 10/6 — Dan & Jeanne Arkfeld  
10/13 — The Hospitality Board  
10/20 — Sandy Alford & Sandy Kunkel  
10/27 — Vendo Toming & Sue McCart  
& Rev. Phil & Margi McLain



Hospitality is going full speed. We provide for Memorial Services and Sunday Bible Study. We always remain committed to our church and are always looking for new members. This requires as little or as much as you would like to help with: providing food, set-up, serving and clean-up. All these are helpful and needed.

If you are interested in any of these, please contact me at 864-784-0421 and I will gladly help. ~Colleen Wakeman

### October Birthdays

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 – Jim Fireovid    | 14 - Elaine Grotheer |
| 2 – Dave Smith      | Tristan Phelan       |
| David Stupke        | 15 - Rev. Ray        |
| 3 – Elisabeth Baker | Ramsburg             |
| Rodrnick Eslinger   | Elijah Wolber        |
| William Harth       | 18 –Ken Schneider    |
| Lindsay McKay       | 19 – Juanita Dettman |
| 4 – Jason Fireovid  | Norman Dukes         |
| 5 – Dave Compton    | 20 – Cas Marszal     |
| Tina Hundsdorfer    | Craig Wells          |
| 6 – LuWanna Johnson | 22 – Ann Bonagura    |
| 7 – John Hermann    | 23 – Mark Kunkel     |
| Ethan McKay         | Doreen Schulz        |
| Lisa Wagner         | 24 – Helga Johnston  |
| Sue Wennermark      | Kim Wennermark       |
| 9 – Jeep Feldt      | 25 – Bob Morriss     |
| John Presley        | Chet Pilcher         |
| Sue Schneider       | 27 – Gabe Sitler     |
| 12 - Tyler Beck     | 29 - Bon Kruse       |
| 13 - Amy Rebholz    |                      |



### October Anniversaries

- 8 – Larry & Jan Snyder  
9 – Shannon & Dcs. Holly Cox  
Joshua & Katrina Madden  
12 – Jim & Carole Bluhm  
19 – Jason & Mary Fireovid  
20 – Milo & Marlene Bell  
22 – Kerry & Sue Blount



## **SPECIAL GIFTS/MEMORIALS**

**In August the following gifts were given:**

**In loving memory of *Lillian Grace Bartle*  
the Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received a gift of \$500.00**



**In loving memory of *John David Engle*  
the LLP C.A.R.E. Scholarship Fund received a gift of \$500.00**

**In loving memory of *Jewel Ridley Foster*  
the Bd. of Christian Ed. received a gift of \$500.00**

### **Other Gifts:**

**The Altar Care Fund received a gift of \$1,002.00 for a new Flagon**

**The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$679.07**

**The Elders Fund a gift of \$24.20**

**The Food Bank Fund received gifts of \$120.18**

**The FCC Baby Bottle Drive Fund received gifts of \$3,445.15**

**The General Fund received a gift of \$800.00 from Blessings Shared Grant**

**The Haiti Mission Fund received gifts of \$1,472.56**

**The Honduras Mission Fund received gifts of \$650.00**

**The Little Lambs Preschool Fund received gifts of \$185.05,  
and the LLP C.A.R.E. Scholarship Fund received gifts of \$3,760.00**

**The Lutheran Witness Fund received a gift of \$24.20**

**The LWML Fund received gifts of \$1,025.10**

**The Operation Christmas Child Fund received gifts of \$2,866.94**

**The Board of Outreach received a gift of \$500.00  
for the ESLC 40th Anniversary Outreach Initiative**

**The Safety Committee Fund received a gift of \$48.13**

# Little Lambs Tales

*“The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, blesses us” Psalm 67:7*

As we head into the month of October, we are thankful for the cool mornings and the wonders that God reveals to us in the season of autumn.

It is hard to believe that we have already finished our first few months of our new school year. The children have settled in and we are all enjoying our new school routines. We currently have 52 students enrolled at Little Lambs Preschool and we are so blessed to be able to share in this most important ministry of Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church.

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, the “Farm” came to Little Lambs Preschool! Mrs. Sara Foster, a former parent from our school, brought some of her farm animals to meet all of us. We met a goat, 2 lambs, 2 bunnies, a few chickens and of course the beloved farm dog. We always appreciate Sara and her willingness to share her animals with our students. The students also spent the day shucking corn, milking a “cow”, washing the play animals, finding the hidden “eggs” and sharing in a farm craft. What a fun day we all had!

This year we decided to invite our families to attend the annual Teacher Commissioning that was held on September 15<sup>th</sup> during the 8:30am service. If you were in attendance, we hope you enjoyed our singing of “This Little Light of Mine”, a favorite song that we sing during chapel. We know that the families that were able to attend received many blessings from the church service and we hope this remains a new tradition in the future.

In the month of October, we will be taking our annual trip to the Little Cane Creek Pumpkin Farm. This farm is a perfect field trip for our school. The children get to go on a hayride, see the corn fields and get an up close visit with the cows. Always a memory to be treasured!



We continue to ask for your prayers as we go through our autumn season! The sniffles have begun so we ask for prayers of health and wellness for all our children as well as our teachers. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!



*Blessings,  
Gina*

# Hands That Give



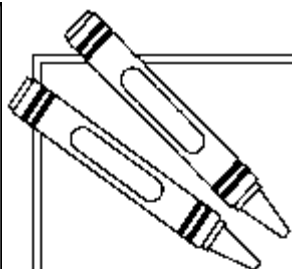
There are many ways you can give to others.  
All you have to do is lend a hand!

## What you need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Yarn or heavy string
- Clothespins or paper clips

## What you do:

1. With your parents' help, think of seven (or more) things that you can do for seven (or more) people. For example, you could clean out closets and donate the items to charity, help a neighbor bring in her trash, and so on.
2. Trace your hand on the paper seven times. Cut out each hand.
3. On one side of each hand, write a person's name. On the other side, write how you will help him or her.
4. Cut a long piece of yarn (or heavy string) and hang it in your room like a clothesline.
5. Use the clothespins or paper clips to hang each hand on the "clothesline."
6. When you've completed each act of service, take the hand off, but keep it to use another time.
7. Do this activity over and over again by "giving a hand" to someone.



Just for **KIDS**

# THE POWER TO GIVE

In the New Testament, Jesus emphasizes the importance of giving and doing for others. In the Old Testament, Proverbs 3:27 (NIV) tells us what not to do.

Cross out ALL of the following letters to reveal Proverbs 3:27.

..... **B J K Q X Z** .....

Write the remaining letters (in order) on the spaces below.

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

"DO NOT

PROVERBS 3:27, NIV

Answer: "Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act."

## **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 Cox

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