



News of the Flock

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

May 2024

From the Pastor's Desk:

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11

I will freely admit that I have a love/hate relationship with this verse from Jeremiah, however, in this month of graduations we see this verse pop up all the time on gifts and cards. It can bring us a feeling of security as we start a new adventure to remember that God is laying the groundwork for the road ahead. While I do believe that God makes plans for us and places calls in our hearts to help us find our way to serve in God's world, I also believe that God is active when plans don't seem to fall into place. There are times where we make decisions that take us in a different direction than we thought. It might be times like that when we question whether we messed up God's plan for us. When we feel that way, please remember that none of us are that powerful. As I said, I believe God makes plans for us, however I think God is the best at having to recalculate those plans when we do something challenging. I believe that God's plan for us is to walk with us, guide us, love us, and recalculate the GPS on our lives from time to time based on what we do or don't do. I believe God's plan for us is to bear with us when things go wrong and celebrate with us when things so amazingly right. During this celebratory graduation season remember that God shares in the joy as people begin new adventures in life and in the church community we share. God walks with all of us with plans, and with redirection. We are held and guided, loved and forgiven, saved and free by the power of Christ Jesus through all life's journeys into eternal life. Amen!

Pastor Jamie



**Lutheran Church
of the
Good Shepherd**

3099 Chapel Hill Road
Douglasville, GA 30135

770-949-9522

MyLcgs.org

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Jamie Witt

pastor@mylcgs.org

 Find us on
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Lutheran Church of the
Good Shepherd
Douglasville, GA



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Our Council:

President	Alison Webb	bauchalison@yahoo.com
Vice-President	Stephen Austin	autorip@aol.com
Fellowship	Johanna Welch	Skippiejo@bellsouth.net
Property	Brad Dennis	bdennis@fastenal.com
Outreach	Kevin Bauch	kbauch@bellsouth.net
Worship	Diana Calhoun	dncalhoun@gmail.com
Stewardship	Bob Schulhof	sealegal@aol.com
Education	Laurie Ritchie	dallritchie@gmail.com
	Pastor Jamie	pastor@mylcs.org
Secretary*	Charles Craton	ccraton@comcast.net
Treasurer*	Steve Pulver	sjpulver46@gmail.com
* not a voting member		



**TACO
WEDNESDAY!**
May 1st at 6:15 p.m.
 Bring a side dish or dessert
 to share.

Council Corner:

Hello Good Shepherd,

Spring is finally upon us! And now it's time for May flowers!

This month Alison Webb and Randy Stephens will accompany Pastor Jamie to the Southeastern Synod Assembly and we are all very excited for the opportunity to represent Good Shepherd.

The women's group begins this month too! This is a wonderful group for women centered worship and discipleship and you don't want to miss it!

Next month, on June 23, will be our annual congregational meeting to vote for existing and new members of council!

We continue to pray for our church and all of our congregation!

God Bless Good Shepherd!

Council President,
Alison Webb

Council Meetings

The next Finance Committee Meeting is May 9th at 6 p.m.

The next Council Meeting is May 13th at 7 p.m.



Women's Dinner and Devotions

First meeting:
May 20th at 6:30 p.m. at
the Blue Agave
Mexican Grill

Daily Bread Ministry needs this month

are:

WATER

**Your plastic grocery
bags are also needed.**



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First-Wednesday Night Dinner:

Our First-Wednesday-Dinner for this month will be on May 1st at 6:15 p.m. This month's theme is Taco Wednesday! Please sign up on the Fellowship Hall door and bring a side dish or dessert. Come join in for good food and fellowship.



New Member Class:



Interested in becoming a member of Good Shepherd? We will have a class for those desiring to become members of Good Shepherd on May 5th, following the service. If interested in joining Good Shepherd, let Pastor Jamie know or sign up on the Fellowship Hall Door. New members will be recognized during the service May 19th.

Honoring our Graduates:

Is someone in your family graduating? Please send Anne Stephens (annestephens@mylcfgs.org) the names, school, and any degree information for your graduates, including anyone that we may have missed with a December graduation. We will be celebrating their accomplishments with an ice cream social on a date to be announced.



Women's Dinner and Devotions Group:



The first meeting of our new women's ministry, the Women's Dinner and Devotions Group will be **May 20th at 6:30 p.m. at the Blue Agave Mexican Bar and Grill**. Come join this new ministry for new friends and fellowship. The next meeting will be a pot luck at the church. The meetings will alternate formats monthly.

Prayer Team:

Our Prayer Team meets on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. All are welcome to join us as we pray through the church prayer list. This is an opportunity to intentionally make space for prayer each week as a faith community. **Please note the prayer team will not meet on April 3rd.**



Congregational Meeting on June 23:



We will be having a Congregational Meeting on June 23rd to vote on new Council Members. We have two positions opening up on Council. If you are interested in running, please let a Council member know (Alison Webb, Stephen Austin, Johanna Welch, Kevin Bauch, Diana Calhoun, Laurie Richie, Brad Dennis, or Bob Schulhof).

Please plan to attend the Congregational meeting. Remember, to be eligible to vote you must be a confirmed member of Good Shepherd and have taken communion and made a contribution of record within the previous year.



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Financial Update from Our Treasurer:

For the year of 2024 (January thru March)

GIVING

Approved Budget for 2024 general operating income \$19,389 per mo.:	\$58,167.00
Actual 2024 general giving received thru March 31 st : (\$18,645. monthly average)	\$55,937.00
Net gain or loss:	< \$2,230.00 >

EXPENSES

Approved budget expenses for 2024 @ \$19,389. per mo.:	\$58,167.00
Actual 2024 expenses thru March 31 st :	\$62,521.00
Net over budget:	< \$4,354.00 >

Net loss in revenue for the first 3 months of 2024: < \$6,584.00 >

Long term liability: Church mortgage balance \$129,200, with 38 payments to go.

Note: Your continued support is needed and much appreciated. Together we can grow and prosper. Thank you all!

Steve Pulver - Treasurer

Church Calendar:



Need a listing of church activities, meetings, and events? Want to know what time something starts? Please check out our Church Calendar on our website: <https://www.mylcgs.org/calendar>.

Scam Alert:

Please be aware there are many scams that prey on people's goodness and willingness to help. There has been a repeated scam that has hit many churches, including Good Shepherd, where scammers text congregation members, while pretending to be the pastor of their church, asking for gift cards to be purchased and the numbers texted back to them. If you receive any text or email from "Pastor Jamie," please check with her or the church before making any purchases or sending any money. Do not reply to any such texts or emails and ask if you are unsure.

Daily Bread Ministry:

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."
Matthew 25:35



Camp Shinnah has added an additional site and can now accommodate 23. We are currently full and have 7 people on the waiting list. This illustrates the desperate need for affordable housing in the county. Fifteen of the residents have jobs and two are on the list for subsidized housing. Thank you for all you do to support this ministry. - Leila



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ELCA Southeastern Synod News:

Synod Prayer Team:



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything make your requests to God...by prayer, thanksgiving and placing your request to God, the peace of God will guard your heart and mind fully beyond understanding (Phil. 4: 6-7).

Greetings! Our synod prayer team gathers monthly for a time of prayer and thanksgiving via zoom. We pray for the needs of ourselves, our neighbors locally and globally, the needs of the church and world, and for what else might be in need that day of prayer. Please feel free to sign up at any time. **You will then receive the zoom link for the prayer team.** We will meet 11:00-12:00noon ET / 10:00-11:00am CT on the 4th Monday of every month. Sign up at: <https://se-reg.brtapp.com/SynodPrayerTeam>.

The Southeastern Synod Assembly will be held from Friday, May 31, 2024 to Sunday, June 2, 2024 at the Columbus Georgia Convention and Trade Center. Alison Webb and Randy Stephens will be going as our delegates, along with Pastor Jamie.

Racial Justice, Now is the Time - Study Guide:

"Now Is the Time" stresses realism, self-examination and accountability as the church acknowledges and apologizes for the history and impact of slavery and systemic racism. The study guide focuses on deepening our understanding of this history as participants engage in often-difficult conversation and reflection to move the church toward racial healing and justice. The five-part study resource, with a guide and participant materials, is available at: elca.org/Resources/Racial-Justice.

Our May Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Donald Larsen	5/1	Christopher Stephens	5/20
Meadow Martin	5/3	Melissa Alexander	5/21
Bill Stingle	5/3	Leila Myers	5/24
Skip Welch	5/4	Paul Kinzer	5/27
Abby Dennis	5/7	Bailey Franklin	5/31
Bethany Addington	5/12	Adalynn Broucht	5/31
Kobie Webb	5/15		

Happy Anniversary



Beth & Scott L'Hoste	May 12
Charles & Cristina Craton	May 25
Donald & Joan Larsen	May 25

