

COMBINED VESTRY REPORTS

October 2025

Hospitality - Ruth Bruno

There were no events assigned to Hospitality this month except for the Men's Breakfast organized by John Johnson.

Respectfully submitted.
Ruthanne Bruno

Outreach: Megarie van Sickel and Barbara Davis

The Outreach team met in October to plan for a busy Christmas and winter season of activities to help those in the community.

The team set up the Christmas schedules and plans for the Salvation Army Bell Ringing collections as well as the Salvation Angel Tree Ministry and the Prison Ministry children's gift programs.

Katherine Riherd heads up the Bell Ringing kettle donation program, coordinating with the Salvation Army, Walmart and our church volunteers. The schedule this year will run in two hour sessions, from 9-5 p.m., on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from November 28-December 24, with two people on each shift. Sign-ups began on November 2.

Desiree Hudson and Elizabeth Townsend are organizing the Salvation Army Angel Tree Ministry for underprivileged Venice area children to receive Christmas presents from our parishioners. The Salvation Army provides the list of children and their gift wish list for parishioners to make purchases. The unwrapped gifts are delivered from the church to the Salvation Army for distribution.

Libby Chinman, assisted by Barbara Davis, will administer the Prison Angel Tree Ministry Christmas gift program which provides presents to children of incarcerated parents on their behalf. This year the Prison Ministry has given the names of 11 children who have a parent serving a sentence. The suggested price limit is \$30 and gifts should be wrapped. The gifts will be delivered to each caretaker's home by Libby and Barbara in December.

The Salvation Army and Prison Ministry children's info and gift suggestions will be written on tags and combined on a single Christmas tree for parishioners to select from starting in November.

Children First's Head Start preschool in Venice continued to receive weekly bread and bakery items from our Publix and Panera donations. Megarie delivers a box of the baked goods to the early education school every Monday morning. Students and their families, as well as staff, are most appreciative.

The Outreach Ministry received a very heartfelt letter of gratitude from one of our five \$1,000 each scholarship recipients. The nursing student wrote about her deep appreciation for the tuition funding, how her classes are going, and that she found out she has been studying with another of our grateful recipients.

The Outreach Ministry was thrilled to learn from a Good Shepherd parishioner that he will be donating \$5,000. to fund additional scholarships to needy local students pursuing professional and technical careers. The generous parishioner wishes to remain anonymous.

We will be presenting Habitat for Humanity homeowners with a gift of a first aid kit at the dedication of their new home.

Outreach Ministry members were featured on two of Fr. Joe's Wednesday chats on the email news blast during October to support the annual fund campaign. Megarie and Barbara gave an overview of all the Outreach projects that occur throughout the year. Grace Gagliardi was interviewed about the Publix and Panera donated bakery items bread ministry.

The Outreach team is pleased to be able to support so many community projects. We are grateful to the congregation for both volunteer and financial support.

Megarie van Sickel and Barbara Davis

Parish Care - Report submitted by Barbara Davis

Grief Recovery – Deacon Rich

Nothing to report.

Mailbox Ministry – Megarie van Sickel! Birthday cards - 25

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Birthday cards sent - 25

Anniversary - 6

Get well – 6

Sympathy - 3

Comfort Meals – Barbara Rao

As of October 2025, we did not have any requests for food.

Eucharistic Visitors – Deacon Rich

October, 2025: 5 Visitations with 13 Communicants.

September Year to Date: 67 Visitations with 147 Communicants.

Prayer Team – EK Beall

The total number of new prayer requests for the month of October was 22.

Our Prayer Support Team continues to faithfully pray daily for those in need, as well as contacting them throughout the month with phone calls, emails, or personal visits. It is truly a privilege for us to pray for our Good Shepherd family and their loved ones, to offer our comfort and support in their time of need.

Sending God's peace, love and prayers to you.

Blessings,

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Health and Wellness – Elaine Hedrick

During the month of October, no incidents or blood pressure screenings. Continuing to work on an End of Life presentation and have a speaker, Susan Adams from Care Finders, who is willing to come to Good Shepherd during a week day. I would like to schedule the presentation when our parishioners from the north are here.

Transportation - Mark Higgins

We are currently helping 5 people with rides. The rides include church, food, Dr's and fun. We look forward to doing more.

Spiritual Formation - Libby Chinman

Our Fall schedule is moving right along with “Faith and Reason,” Bob Sawyer and Deacon John leading. This class has added another weekday for our studies, Tuesdays at 1:30.

Father Joe’s continuing core curriculum is now doing the book “Awareness” on Wednesdays at 1 pm, and the women’s Bible study led by Nancy Fees is studying the parables of Jesus on Thursdays at 10 am.

Flocks are starting up again as people are returning to our Sunshine state for the winter. Look forward to coming studies for Advent!

Libby Chinman
Christian Formation

Welcome: Ed Silva

The month of October seems to have flown by so quickly! The greeters and ushers, both new and seasoned, continue to do an outstanding job in greeting our parishioners as they enter to worship at Good Shepherd. Due to the message in our weekly E-Blast, two new people have responded and have come forward to volunteer as ushers/greeters. Other than this, there is very little to report for this month.

Faithfully Submitted:
Ed Silva