COMBINED MONTHLY REPORTS
September 2026

Hospitality - Pat Madyda and Donna McCutcheon

CWF
Nothing to report for CWF; our first meeting is Oct. 13th!
Carol

HOSPITALITY
Nothing new to report this month.

Sincerely,
Pat Madyda
secamad@gmail.com

Donna McCutcheon
mccutcheond@yahoo.com

Outreach - Barbara Davis and Megarie van Sickel

The Outreach Commission continued its activities in September with grants sent out to five local charities after Vestry approval, as well as provided our ongoing programs of community aid.

The Outreach Commission's $2,500. annual mini-grant program identified five worthy area non-profits to each receive a $500. donation. These five charities cover a range of needs, assisting the homeless, struggling families, the disabled, seniors, and low literacy adults with medicine, food, socialization and education.

The five mini-grant charities are:

On the Spot Aid, Inc. of Venice takes medical care to the streets, providing services, supplies and education to the homeless where they are located in area encampments. The volunteer medical professionals help an average of 450 homeless a year, with 1,200 health interventions. By doing so they are able to care for lesser ailments in order to prevent more serious and costly medical conditions. On the Spot also provides a recuperative shelter.

Englewood Helping Hand has been working to prevent local homelessness with food and utility assistance to families in the area since 1983. Partnering with All Faiths Food Bank, they offer struggling residents access to healthy foods, hygiene and infant products. Englewood Helping Hand also helps with utility bills to those who have had their service shut off. In addition, the charity reaches out to the homeless with practical backpacks filled with blankets, socks, basic care medicines and personal hygiene items.

North Port Meals on Wheels has been delivering nutritious meals to homebound seniors, veterans, and disabled adults for over 50 years. Volunteers bring the meals each morning, six days a week to those who cannot provide for themselves, to keep them healthy and able to live independently. The program also serves as a wellness check and a welcome time of socialization for these clients as the volunteers make their friendly daily visits.

Hearts Up for IDD in Venice is a group of families and caregivers who support those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The group creates social events and sports programs for those with disabilities to enhance their lives. These activities include dances, beach picnics, theater visits and a bowling league and a powerlifting team for over 140 athletes. These gatherings not only directly help the disabled, but also give networking opportunities. They bring together the caregivers to share experiences and information about community resources.

Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County has offered literacy services to adults to improve their reading, writing and English-speaking skills in the area since 1982. Approximately 450 learners, including Ukrainian and Spanish-speaking adults, are currently offered a range of learning opportunities. These opportunities include classroom and online training and one-on-one tutoring sessions with the volunteers at our local libraries. By improving their English language knowledge, these learners can go further in their education, improve employment opportunities and enhance their everyday life.

Food distribution continued in September with All Faiths Food Bank on the first and third Wednesdays, coordinated by John Buntel. Panera and Publix overstock bread and pastry items are delivered each Monday to Children First's Project Headstart classes in Venice by Megarie van Sickel. The overstock items are also donated to Tidewell Hospice. Grace Gagliardi oversees and schedules the two store pickups and deliveries of our food donations to the Center of Hope.

Plans are underway for the next building projects in 2027 for our Habitat for Humanity volunteers. Good Shepherd volunteers, led by Dave Beall, will help build homes on the fourth Tuesday of each month from January through April. Habitat plans to construct seven new homes in our area, with two of them in Venice. Good Shepherd's seven Habitat volunteers have been promised priority for the two Venice homes assignment.

The Creative Designs ministry, under the direction of Barbara Johnson, continued making prayer shawls and lap blankets available for parishioners and those in Tidewell Hospice.

The Outreach team is grateful to the parish for its support which makes all these contributions to the community possible.

Megarie van Sickel and Barbara Davis

Parish Care - Elaine Hedrick

GRIEF RECOVERY – Deacon Rich

Nothing to report.

MAILBOX MINISTRY – Megarie van Sickel

April 2026
Birthday cards sent - 23
Anniversary - 5
Get well – 3

COMFORT MEALS – Barbara Rao

There were no requests for meals during the month of September 2026.

EUCHARISTIC VISITORS – Deacon Rich

September 2026: 4 Visitations with 8 Communicants. Year to Date: 63 Visitations with 147 Communicants.

PRAYER TEAM – EK Beall

The total number of new prayer requests for the month of September 2026 was 5. We also had Updated Prayer Requests for those already on our lists, for a total of 1; for a grand total of 6..

Our Prayer Support Team continues to pray daily for those on our prayer lists; as well as contacting them throughout the month with phone calls, emails, and personal visits. We also offer Intercessory Prayer at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Service for those who wish prayers for themselves, or for their loved ones.

It is truly our privilege for us to pray for our Good Shepherd family, to offer our comfort and support in their time of need.

TRANSPORTATION - Mark Higgins

15 rides for the month of September 2026.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS – Elaine Hedrick

During the month of September 2026, no incidents in church. There were 4 blood pressure screenings at 2 Community Dinners in September 2026. I attended a Parish Nurse Meeting by zoom in September 2026.

PARISH CARE MEETING REPORT – Pam Clark

The first Committee on Aging with 7 participants will meet on Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 10:00 am, at Good Shepherd in the Church Library, to prepare for the Committee on Aging Seminar to be held on February 6, 2027. The Committee plans to meet about 3 more times (once in November, December, and January) to check on the progress each time). We will begin advertising it in November so parishioners can get it on their calendars too.

Christian Formation - Libby Chinman

Christian Formation Monthly Report
September 2026

Happy Autumn 🍂
Christian Formation met this month to discuss and schedule our exciting studies and programs coming up.

Father Joseph is offering his last installment of his Core Curriculum Study. It's been a deep and meaningful few years. Thank you Father Joseph and to all who've attended.

Welcome back, Deacon John. He will be offering Foundational studies in the near future.

And welcome back to all our northern lights who can rejoin their various groups that continue here at Good Shepherd.

Please look to Communications Table in the back of Parish Hall, Email blasts and weekly bulletins.
God Bless Us All🙏🙏

Libby Chinman
10/5/2026

Welcome - Bob Sawyer

The month of September was uneventful. Several first-time visitors have returned for multiple services and are being welcomed with open arms.

Our greeters and ushers faithfully served at all Sunday worship services.

Bob Sawyer
10/06/2026