



# SEA NOTES

**A Monthly Publication of Shepherd of the Sea**

201 East Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512 [www.soselca.org](http://www.soselca.org)

**September 2019**



*You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.  
(Deuteronomy 10:19)*

A couple of weeks ago, the ELCA wrapped up its annual church-wide assembly. One of the things that happened during the assembly was that our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton, was re-elected on the first ballot, which almost never happens. But it was another matter that made the headlines. The assembly voted to designate the ELCA as a “Sanctuary Church.” Many people have asked what this means exactly, and so I wanted to tell you a little about what that designation means for the ELCA and for Shepherd of the Sea.

I will start by stating what the Sanctuary Church designation is *not*. It is not a vote in favor of open borders, and it is not a mandate to disregard US immigration law.

What the Sanctuary Church designation does is recognize that Lutherans have a history of immigration: *to* the United States in search of a better life and away *from* Germany after World Wars I and II to escape the horrors of war. We also recognize that our baptismal calling is to strive for justice and peace throughout the world, and to follow Jesus’ command to love and care for our neighbors.

To that end, calling ourselves a Sanctuary Church highlights the following:

- \* That we continue our support and partnership with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, helping with legal assistance to immigrants pursuing their right to seek asylum in the US, and making sure that undocumented immigrants are aware of their rights under US law.
- \* That we will continue to advocate for just and humane treatment of detained immigrants, such as calling for adequate housing and ending the separation of children from their families.
- \* Congregations who have the means may continue to provide food, shelter, and assistance to migrants in need.
- \* Congregations will continue to speak out against xenophobia, racism, and fear-mongering against all people, and advocate for laws to address our broken immigration system.

*Cont'd on page 2*

The vote by the church-wide assembly does not force any congregation to do any of these things; it is really up to each individual congregation to decide what being a Sanctuary Church will look like for themselves. It is also worth noting that many congregations are already doing some of these things, and they are encouraged to continue in that work.

Some may see the use of the term “sanctuary” in a political light. But a sanctuary is a place of refuge and safety. We worship in a sanctuary; we open our doors to all who are hungry and tired. Our calling as followers of Jesus is to welcome the strangers in a strange land and to care for our neighbors in need. For us, it is not a political issue; it is a matter of faith.

I am happy to sit down and talk with anyone who has concerns or further questions about what being a Sanctuary Church means for Shepherd of the Sea, and share what Bishop Tim and Bishop Eaton has said about the subject.

In the meantime, here are some helpful links:

<https://www.elca.org/ammparo>

Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation, and Opportunities

<https://www.lirs.org/>

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services

Grace + Peace,

Pastor Scott

## **PASTORAL EMERGENCIES**

Please contact the church office during office hours. At any other time, contact Pastor Scott Berry at 336.312.6276 or 252.777.3067

# CHURCH HAPPENINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**BROAD STREET CLINIC** provides medical services to families in need in Carteret County. If you would like to donate, simply write “Broad Street Clinic” in the memo line of your check and drop it in the weekly offering.

## NEW STATUE FOR THE MEMORIAL GARDEN



Did you notice our new statue for the memorial garden? It is an image of Christ, the good shepherd who watches over his sheep. While we are still in the process of figuring out how to fund the need for new siding on that side of the church, the garden itself is almost ready. See Pastor Scott if you have questions or would like further details.

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

On Sat. Oct. 5 at 10 am, we will have a blessing for our animals outside in the courtyard. Animals of all shapes and sizes are welcomed.



**LADIES OF SOS** will meet on October 2 at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. Peggy Blount will lead a bible study on the weekly scripture reading for the following Sunday which can be found on your bulletin.

## CHARITY FOCUS THIS MONTH

### Ministry In Action – Broad Street Clinic

Each month, we have a charity focus. For the last several months, our focus has been on the Broad Street Clinic. We support the Broad Street Clinic through donations, and I wanted to share one story from a woman named Cassandra who is a patient at the Broad Street Clinic. Many thanks to Edie Reed for her help in setting up this interview.

### How long have you used Broad Street Clinic (BSC)?

*About 6 years*

### How did you find out about BSC?

*I came from Mississippi about 6 years ago, and I didn't have anything. A friend told me about BSC. She said it was somewhere I could go and get the help I needed.*

### What kind of help did you need?

*When I came here, I didn't have a doctor and I didn't have any medication for my high blood pressure. At first, I went to see a doctor, and he got me on my medication. I also got to be part of a program: "Taking Control of Your Health" which was great. I went to class and was able to get my blood pressure under control.*

### How is the staff at BSC?

*They are the best! They really care about the people and they treat everyone with respect. BSC treated me like I was a regular patient. Everyone is so nice and helpful and considerate, and they take the time to make sure you understand.*

### What do you think your life would be like without BSC?

*I would probably be dead. I had no doctor, no medication, and no money. BSC got me to see a doctor and got me my blood pressure medicine and that saved my life. BSC picked me up and I am thankful for all they do.*

### What is the best thing about BSC?

*All of it!*

# Missions of Grace



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER

We are collecting old /used magazines for the Domestic Violence shelter. You can place your magazines in the basket in the Narthex. (The Dialysis Center is no longer accepting magazines).

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR "DINNER OF HOPE AND FELLOWSHIP"

Volunteers are needed who would like to help serve a meal to the homeless at Hope Mission. Our next opportunity will be on **October 18 at 6 pm**. If you are interested, please contact Marita Bretzke at: [maritabretzke@yahoo.com](mailto:maritabretzke@yahoo.com)

## HOMEBOUND MEMBERS



Keep our homebound members in your prayers. They always love cards, calls, or visits! Contact the church office for address information.

June Boyette

Nancy Schrum

Vernon Schrum

Nancy Womack

## VISITATION TEAMS

We are looking for volunteers to serve on visitation teams to visit our homebound members. If you interested in being a part of this wonderful ministry, contact Pastor Scott.

## ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING

August 4	76	4,898.63
August 11	91	2,435.00
August 18	84	3,554.00
August 25	79	2,820.00

**TOTAL**                      **\$13,707.63**

## SOS WORSHIP SERVANT SCHEDULE for: September 2019

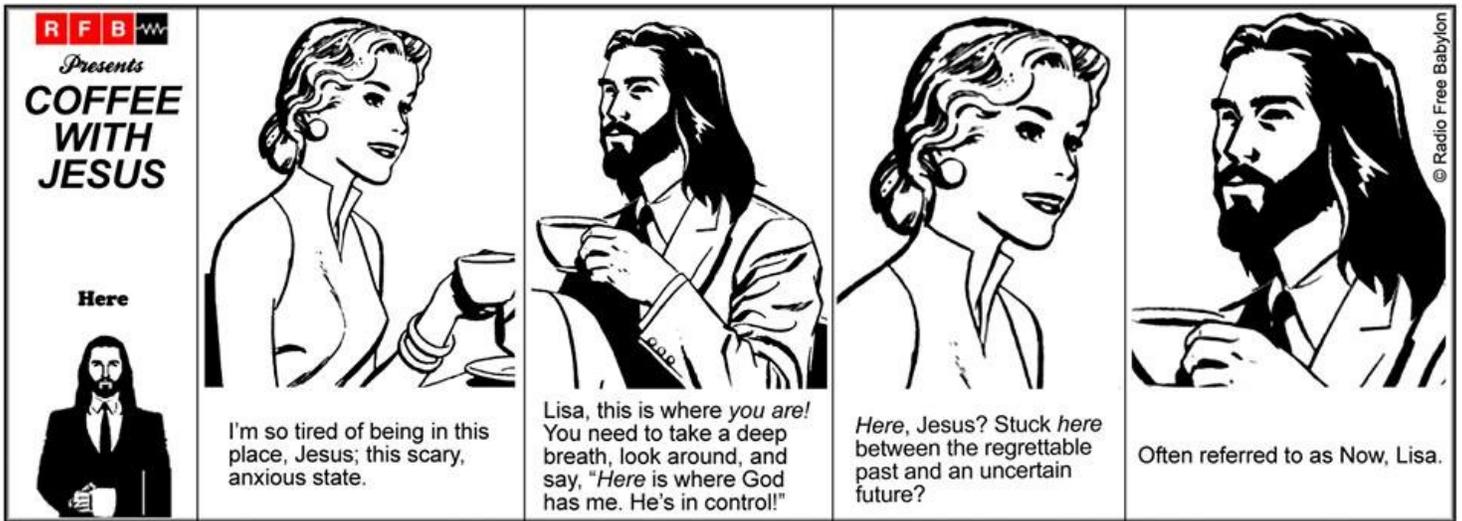
Color of the Day	Sept 1 Pentecost 12	Sept 8 Pentecost 13	Sept 15 Pentecost 14	Sept 22 Pentecost 15	Sept 29 Pentecost 16	Color of the Day
<b>First Reading</b>	Proverbs 25:6-7	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Exodus 32:7-14	Amos 8:4-7	Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3	<b>First Reading</b>
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 112	Psalm 1	Psalm 51:1-10	Psalm 113	Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22	<b>Psalm</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Philemon 1-21	1 Timothy 1:12-17	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Revelation 12:7-12	<b>Second Reading</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Luke 14:25-33	Luke 15:1-10	Luke 16:1-13	Luke 10:17-20	<b>Gospel</b>
	<b>9:00 Faith Formation</b> <b>10:00-WORSHIP</b>	<b>9:00 Faith Formation</b> <b>10:00 WORSHIP</b>				
<b>Acolyte</b>	Mara Jennings		Lily Warren	Josh Bretzke	Clay Jennings	<b>Acolyte</b>
<b>Crucifer</b>	Emily Moles		Anna Jernigan	TJ Bretzke	Trey Piccini	<b>Crucifer</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	Toby McDaniel Chris Collins	David & Dixie Stephens	John & Polly Hagle	Cheryl Mansfield Lauren Herbst	Tony & Anthony Piccini	<b>Ushers</b>
<b>Worship Assistant</b>	Emily Moles		Kim Condie	Donna Benson	Danny Collins	<b>Worship Assistant</b>
<b>Lay Reader</b>		Larry Federer				<b>Lay Reader</b>
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Ilona Murta	Karma Rodholm Larry Federer	Emily Berry	Ernie Hayman III	Malcolm Condie	<b>Communion Assistant</b>
<b>Bell Ringer</b>	Wes Condie	Jack Condie	Wes Condie	Jack Condie	Wes Condie	<b>Bell Ringer</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Polly Hagle Nancy Warren	<b>Altar Guild</b>				
<b>Fellowship</b>	Drop Off	<b>Fellowship</b>				

### Social Media Outreach—Last Month

People reached through our Facebook page	585
Facebook likes, comments, and shares	318
Visits to our website	1,002



# CHURCH FUNNIES



## Church Mice

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## CHURCH COUNCIL

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