



# The Shepherd's Voice

January 2025

439 E. Norvell Bryant Hwy, Hernando, FL 34442



---

## PASTOR'S PAGE

---

**Dear Members and Friends of Good Shepherd,  
A Happy and Blessed New Year's 2025!**

We know that we've come to a God unlike any other when we hear the beautiful words of Psalm 23. In this beautiful Psalm, the one true God is delighted to reveal himself as a Shepherd who blesses, loves, and protects us. What a great way to begin the New Year 2025!

A king, we can understand. A warrior, we could expect, a counselor, we might anticipate. But a Shepherd? What ancient religion would ever think to boast that its God was a Shepherd and tended sheep? What primitive faith would glory in a deity eager to identify with lambs and ewes? The gods of the ancients were cunning and vindictive beings best symbolized by lions, dragons, and other monsters with powerful claws and fangs.

Yet the one true God reveals himself as a loving Lord in His Son, Jesus Christ (whose birth we just celebrated at Christmas) and identifies himself as our Good Shepherd! This newborn King leads his people in the way of abundance, safety, peace, and hope in a world filled with so much uncertainty, cunning, division, and vindictiveness. Oh yes, he now sits enthroned between the seraphim and cherubim – he is a King. He wielded his saving might –through his death on the cross and resurrection to new life. He continues to guide his people in the “paths of righteousness” and “to restore their soul” – he is a Counselor!

As we begin this New Year, this beautiful Psalm of “all hope and comfort” reminds us that Jesus, our Savior and King, loves to be called “Shepherd” and even more, he loves his sheep (us) with an unending love. So, I share with you the following reflection on Psalm 23 that a friend sent to me. It touched my heart and blessed my life with the reassuring love of Jesus, our Good Shepherd, and so I pass this gift of blessing on to you!

The Lord is my Shepherd = **That’s a Loving Relationship!**

I shall not want = **That’s Supply!**

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures = **That’s Rest!**

He leadeth me beside the still waters = **That’s Refreshment!**

He restoreth my soul = **That’s Healing!**

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness = **That’s Guidance!**

For His name sake = **That’s Purpose!**

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death = **That’s Testing!**

I will fear no evil = **That’s Protection!**

For Thou art with me = **That’s Faithfulness!**

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me = **that’s Discipline!**

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies = **That’s Hope!**

Thou anointest my head with oil = **That’s Consecration!**

My cup runneth over = **That’s Abundance!**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life = **That’s Blessing!**

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord = **That’s Security!**

Forever = **That’s Eternity!**

Let’s face it, the Lord is crazy about us and loves us with an everlasting love this New Years 2025 and always!

**With God’s Goodness, Love and Mercy,  
Pastor Bob**

THE **LORD** IS MY  
*shepherd*  
I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED



# Church Council News

The Council met on December 12th and approved the following items:

- Approved the proposed 2025 GSLC Budget.
- Approved the Installation of Officers and Council members on January 5, 2025.
- Approved the Installation of the Call Committee on January 19, 2025.
- Approved the Annual Congregational Meeting date for January 26, 2025.

## Executive Council Meeting

January 2nd @ 9:30 AM

## Council Meeting

January 9th @ 3:00 PM



“Basically, we’re looking for an innovative pastor with a fresh vision who will inspire our church to remain exactly the same.”

© 2014 Dennis Fletcher



## Church Council

### Welcome 2025

New officers were elected in August at the Congregational meeting. We will be installing the new officers this month. The officers are as follows:

**President** - Joe Adams

**Vice-President** - Gladys Keen

**Secretary** - Dan Cashman

**Treasurer** - *to be appointed*

**Financial Secretary** - Sue Fowler

### Council Members

Sue Buldiger

John Colson

John Giammasi

Sally Hennessey

Sharon Maxwell

Karen Monsen

Ann Serafin

Fran Stetson

Tom Stickler



## Bible Quiz



The short Old Testament book of Lamentations is a set of communal laments (sorrowful songs) about the destruction in 587 B.C. of which city, by which people?

- A. Babylon; the Assyrians
- B. Jerusalem; the Babylonians
- C. Rome; the Greeks
- D. Caesarea Philippi; the Romans



## President's Message

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. As we welcome in the New Year, I also want to welcome our new Council members. Dan Cashman will serve as Secretary, and the new members will be Ann Serafin, Sue Buldiger, Karen Monsen, and John Giammasi. They will serve for a two-year term, with the exception of Dan, who will serve a one-year term. I look forward to serving with them!

January will be a busy month at Good Shepherd. The installation of Council members and officers will be on January 5th. Then, on January 19th, the Call Committee will be installed. Finally, January 26th will be our annual Congregational meeting. Following our Congregational meeting, Pastor Nicole Eastwood, Assistant to the Bishop for Transition and Candidacy, will answer questions about the Call process. Pastor Eastwood is a great resource for answering any questions and hopefully dispelling any rumors. She will be preaching that day, so you don't want to miss worship on January 26th.

Finally, as we welcome in the New Year this is a perfect time to volunteer to be on one of our many committees. Some members serve on several committees and I know they would welcome the additional help. Getting involved in a committee is a great way to get to know your fellow Church members better. For me personally, if I hadn't signed up several years ago to be on the Property Committee and then the Media Committee, I may have missed the opportunity to get to know the other members of those two committees. We have since become very good friends. It has been very rewarding for me and I hope you will give it a try too. Further in this newsletter is the contact info for all our Committee Chairs. I know they would love to hear from you.

Grace and Peace,

Joe

**GET**  
**INVOLVED**  
Be a volunteer. Make a difference.



# MESSAGE FROM FINANCIAL SECRETARY

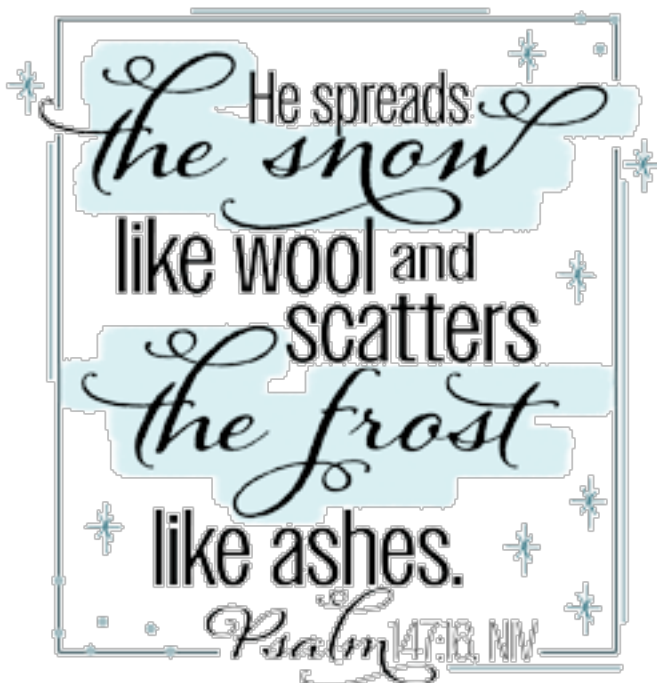
## Happy 2025!

Year- end financial statements for 2025 will be available shortly. If you would like to receive your statement, kindly notify me.

1. **Send an email to [financial-secretary@gslchernando.org](mailto:financial-secretary@gslchernando.org)**
2. Drop a request off in my mail box.
3. You may write a note on your church giving envelope that you would like a statement.
4. Call me or leave a message with the office. I work on Wednesday mornings.  
Don't forget to let me know if you want your statements by email, by mail or if you would like to pick up a hard copy. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me. I'm in the book!

Best Regards,

Sue Fowler



If you would like to order a magnetic name tag please contact Donald Marchetti at (401) 568-8017 or [11thhourssigns@gmail.com](mailto:11thhourssigns@gmail.com) Cost is \$5.00.

# WELCA NEWS



*As a community of women created in the image of God called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.*

For our December circle meeting, 12 women enjoyed lunch and fellowship at La Pergola. Both the food and the fellowship were wonderful. Remember, every other circle meeting will be a luncheon at a local restaurant. All circle meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month; the luncheons are at noon.

When we're not meeting at a restaurant, we will be enjoying Bible Discussion with Dessert. These meetings, again on the third Tuesday of the month, are at 1:00 PM. We'll be using videos, Gather studies, and other materials that are interesting and appropriate. On January 21<sup>st</sup>, we will watch a video on one of the miracles of Jesus, presented by Amy-Jill Levine, a Jewish Professor of New Testament and Jewish studies. We hope to see you there!

We are still working on the book club idea. Any suggestions are welcome!

Your officers for 2025 are Sally Hennessey, Unit Leader; Anne Storan, Secretary; Aagot Green, Treasurer; Nancy Gomes, Circle Chair; and Cindy Gaertner, Projects. Coincidentally, these are also the Board members. The Board welcomes anyone who would like to learn more about, and become more active in, WELCA at Good Shepherd.

Sally Hennessey, Unit Leader



## Thrivent Choice

*The following Thrivent for Lutheran Members have directed their months Choice Dollars to be given to Good Shepherd.*

Dianne Kohm



# Fellowship

Our Fellowship Committee meeting will be held on Monday, January 13, 2025, at 1:30 PM. We are asking our committee members to attend if their schedule allows.

Happy New Year to our members and visiting guests of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. May your new year be filled with good health and many blessings.

If you would like to help with serving coffee, tea and hot chocolate, and with clean-up after worship, please sign your name on the volunteer sheet near the coffee bar in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider helping when you can. It will take about an hour of your time once a month and will be greatly appreciated. We are asking our congregation to occasionally help with bringing a dessert. It does not need to be homemade. Anything from a bakery whether it is gluten free, sugar free, or a regular dessert will help with making our coffee hour special for our members. Thank you in advance.

Elaine Giammasi, Chair  
John Giammasi, Co-chair





# Serving Our Savior

## Update from December 2024

Families served: 392

People served: 1080

Pounds of Food: 23,995

Average pounds per person: 22.2



DONATE NOW!



SCAN TO DONATE



352-462-0901  
SOS Food Pantry  
PO Box 640774  
Beverly Hills, FL 34464  
email [sos4food@gmail.com](mailto:sos4food@gmail.com)



Can goods always needed

## Craft 'n Share



Next meeting January 22nd

## Quilters

Quilters will meet at 10AM on Wednesday January 15th.  
No experience necessary.( Bring a snack)  
We will finish some quilts for Lutheran world relief.



Submitted by C Gaertner

# Memorials and Special Gifts

**Listed below are the names of people who have donated Poinsettia plants to help beautify our church for this most blessed Christmas.**

Anonymous	In honor of Jesus's Birth
Anonymous	In honor of the season
Margot Berger	In Memory of Jim Berger
Jack and Maggie Breger	In memory of our mothers, Thelma and Iris
Susan Buldiger	In honor of her family
John Giammasi	In memory Carol Basile
Harvey Johnson	In memory of Barbara Johnson
Stacey Johnson	In memory of Ralph Johnson and John Gortner
Deanne Kohm	In memory of Bob Kohm
Barbara Lauer	In memory of Richard Lauer
Lois Lenhart	In honor of Christ's Birth
Linda Lepore	In honor of Robert Svenningsen : In memory of Grace & Vito Lepore
Kent Melteson	In Memory of Ken Melteson
Karen Monsen	In memory and honor of Ray Monsen Family In honor of Mildred Kudrna
Kathy Nicholas	In memory of Todd "Nick" Nicholas and Craig Blair Johnson
Betty Sanger	In memory of loved ones
Rich and Ann Schaeffer	
Ann Serafin	In memory of loved ones
Faith Skelonis	In honor of her granddaughter
Diane Spengler	In memory of Steve Spengler
Susie Steinour	In memory of parents Bill and Mildred Geppert
Un-named	In honor of the season
Nate & Sauny Williams	In memory of parents
Marty Zacharczyk	In memory of C. Howard Ruthfuss, MD, Jean E. Ruthfuss, June Neal, Walter and Jane Zacharczyk

## Worship and Music

January 7th @ 1PM - Meeting


Tuesdays @ 6:30 PM - Bells

Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM - Choir

Bells resume on Jan 7th and Choir resumes on Jan 8th.



## Building & Property

As a lot of the Congregation probably doesn't / didn't know, we had the Greening of the Church December 13th. We were **underwelmed with two volunteers**, Betty Sanger and Cindy Gaertner, to help brighten our building putting up Christmas trees, garland, candles, etc. 

I hope you enjoyed the fine job they did. The De-Greening will be Monday, Jan 6th at 9 AM and hope we will be **Overwelmed** with volunteers.

In the future we may have to hire a Professional Decorating Company for about \$500 to do what our volunteers used to do .

Harv Johnson ( The Grinch of GSLC )



## Health Ministry

Your Faith Community Nurse is Kathy Metz, she can be reached @ 352-746-1911 and the Health Team members are: Barb Lauer, Donna Pease, John Colson, and Leith Masters. We will provide blood pressure screenings on the last Sunday of the month after worship.



## Special Dates

1 - New Year's Day

6 - Epiphany

**DE-GREENING** of the church

12 - Baptism of our Lord

20 - Martin Luther King Day

26 - Congregational Meeting



**Every Tuesday @ 7:30 AM**  
 Breakfast at Mama's Kuntry Kafe

**First Thursday @ Noon**  
 Lunch @ Angelotti's

# January 2025



Wednesdays @ 9 AM  
**A Time for Prayer**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1 - OFFICE CLOSED</b> 	<b>2 9:30A</b> Executive Council <b>1P</b> Outreach <b>2P</b> Stewardship	<b>3 8:00A –</b> Workday on Grounds 	<b>4</b>
<b>5 10A - Worship</b> <b>Sunday School</b>	<b>6 1:30P</b> Social Ministry Meeting  <i>Epiphany</i> 	<b>7 11A - WELCA</b> Board Meeting  <b>1P -</b> Worship & Music Meeting  <b>6:30P -</b> Bells	<b>8 7:30A - SOS</b>  <b>11:00A -</b> Bible Study <b>1:00P -</b> Newcomer's Club <b>6:30P -</b> Choir	<b>9 7:30A - SOS</b>   <b>3:00 P</b> Council Meeting	<b>10 8:00A –</b> Workday on Grounds	<b>11</b>
<b>12 10A - Worship</b> <b>Sunday School</b> <i>Equal Exchange</i> <i>Coffee &amp; Tea</i> 	<b>13 1:30P -</b> Fellowship	<b>14 6:30P -</b> Bells	<b>15 7:30A- SOS</b> <b>10:00A- Quilters</b>  <b>11:00A -</b> Bible Study  <b>6:30P -</b> Choir	<b>16 7:30A - SOS</b>   <b>10A-11:30A</b> Citrus Hills POA Meeting	<b>17 8:00A –</b> Workday on Grounds	<b>18</b> 
<b>19 10A - Worship</b>  <b>Sunday School</b>	<b>20</b> 	<b>21 1P - WELCA</b> Bible Discussion  <b>6:30P -</b> Bells	<b>22 7:30A-SOS</b>  <b>11:00A -</b> Bible Study  <b>6:30P -</b> Choir	<b>23 7:30A - SOS</b>   <b>10A</b> Christian Education	<b>24 8:00A –</b> Workday on Grounds 	<b>25</b>
<b>26 10A - Worship</b>  <b>CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b>  <b>Sunday School</b> 	<b>27</b>	<b>28 6:30P -</b> Bells	<b>29 7:30A-SOS</b>  <b>11:00A -</b> Bible Study  <b>6:30P -</b> Choir	<b>30 7:30A - SOS</b> 	<b>31 8:00A –</b> Workday on Grounds	



# ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS



Jack and Nancy Gomes

01/01/83

Mike and Maggie Kirkeby

01/17/14



1 - Lenore Deck

17 - Larry Benefiel  
Carol Colson

27 - Susan Fowler

11 - Harv Johnson

18 - Fran Stetson  
Randy Wagner

29 - Nancy Jo Schroeder

12- Nate Williams

22 - Walter Weimer

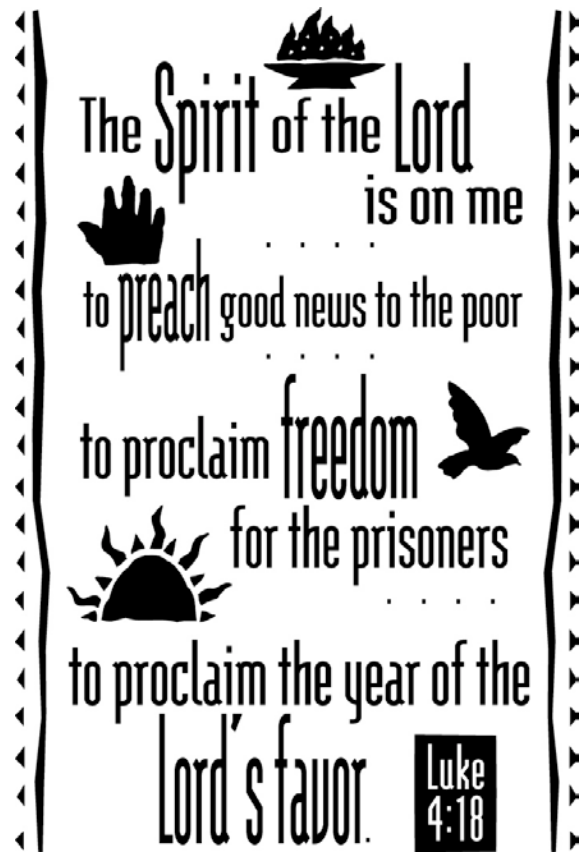
30 - Jim Kauth

15 - Jane Lobenthal  
Cindy Towne

23 - Colleen Garvin  
Nina Giglio

“And Christ Himself is the means by which our sins are forgiven, and not our sins only, but also the sins of everyone.”

1 John 2:2





**Let us remember:**

Benefiel, Larry & Karen	Hassinger, Doug & Donna	Lauer, Barbara	Mongardi, Eloise
Brit-Busler, Elizabeth	Jimenez, Jeanette	Lawrence, Ivalee	Page-Wood, Jeremy
Cashman, Dan	Johnson, Carol Lee	Lepore, Linda	Pawelko, Diane
Clark, Dawn	Kauth, Gerry	Masters, Leith	Peterson, Gloria
Costa, Denise	Koch, Michael	Meltesen Family	Wagner, Carole
	Krenauer, Linda		

**Those who are shut in or residing in assisted living homes:**

Frost, Joann	Hartsfield, Sylvia	Lowe, Faye	Moll, Bob
Philipp, Dick	Pufahl, Jean	Whitcomb, Ray	

**All who serve our country in the military:**

Burba, Jake	Jackson, Brad	Radosevitch, Eric
Ceballos, Jason	Johnston-Garcia, Christian	Springer, Dennis
Corsino, Mykael	Luchay, Alan	Stroble, Jeramy
Day, Kenneth	McCann, Jim	Swain, Jr., Terry
Harrington, Bryan	Miller, Tyler	Thomas, Peter Chris
Heinz, Karinne	Much, Jason	Thompson, David
Hickman, Richard	Piott, Trenton	Timpe, Chris
Hicks, Nathan	Posa, Codymicheal	
Holman, Evan	Radloff, Steven	



**Relatives and Friends:**

Arbuckle, Amy & Matthew	Campano, Thomas	Fowler family	Hunt, Jim
Balastieri, Casey	Cato, Cecelia	Fratto, Joseph	Iudiciani, Georgia
Barber, Steve & Kitty	Cipollone, Elaine	Garling, John	Johnson, Jim
Beeftink, Paul	Crooks, Candi	Gifford, Judy	Kraft, Carter
Bluver, Linda & son	DeVenuto, Lisa	Goetter, Lisbeth	Koch, Dennis & Linda
Blyth, Ruby	Dortin, Rachel	Goetter, Thomas	Lahera, Andy
Brace, Quin	Drake, Matthew	Goforth, Jeffrey	Lavaja, Jim
Brugger, Tristan	Eckloff, Dennis	Goodloe, Ernestine	Lewellen, Emily Anne
Burkhardt, Faith & Dina	Farmer, Tom	Graves, Janice & Declan	Lobenthal, Jean
Cahoone, Bill	Fidwell, Eloise	Hertel, Karl	Loftin, Tracy

Longworth, Kathy	O'Keefe, Chris	Rothmeyer, Heidi	Vulkelich, Alejandra
Lublemon family	Pach, Barbara	Sbani, Carol	Welch, George
Lundsford, Victoria	Page-Wood, Jake	Scheetz, Cathy & Family	Wells, Emmarie
Magnotta family	Parruche, Linda Ama	Sillen, Rita	Wierzel, Rosalee
Magrum, Corbin	Pope, Jeff	Small, Brenda & Steven	Williams, Dorothy
Maidhof, Dexter, Gary, Jeremiah	Pope, Rick	Smrdel, Terri	Wilson, Karen
McHugh, Mark	Queen, Max	Stewart, Sam	Wizard, Joe & Dana
Meidl, Nancy	Rajotte, Keith	Stuart, Neil & Family	Wolff, Jack
Mena, Steve	Ralph, Bruce	Thatcher, Jean	Wood, Harper
Nickerson, Mike & Beth	Rambaldini, Jim	Thompson, Lori	Woods, Donna Jean
Nine, Tim	Riccio, Gino	Traywick, Edward	Woolf, Nick
O'Berry, Darlene	Robertson, Jeanine	Tuegel, Chuck	Wright, Matthew

Please take this prayer list and use it in your private or family devotions in the coming month. You can see that our congregation has a great many people who are in need of our prayers. Please let us know if your loved one is no longer serving in the military. Contact [gslchernando@gmail.com](mailto:gslchernando@gmail.com) for any updates.

## Newsletter Editor

**ALL** submissions for the **newsletter** or website should be sent to [gslchernando@gmail.com](mailto:gslchernando@gmail.com).

Stephanie

January Deadline is **January 18th**



For 2025, AIM High!

**REMINDER:** Sundays are a day of worship for **all**. That includes the clergy and council members. Please do not bother them with church business. Contact them Monday through Saturday.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL/NURSERY**

Susan Fowler

**USHERS**

**January 5th & 12th**

Dave & Peg Bocker  
Gary Knecht

**January 19th & 26th**

Gary Bush  
Cara & Tom Stickler

**MEDIA CENTER**

Fran Stetson  
John Gifford  
Joe Adams  
Dan Cashman

Donate QR code  
Click for Link

**LECTORS**

**January 5th**

Sue Okimoto

**January 12th**

Shelly Fortin

**January 19th**

Tom Krenauer

**January 26th**

Vera Swade

**DEACON in Training**

John Colson





God's work. Our hands.

**CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor Bob Yankovitz**

Office: 352-746-7161

Fax: 352-746-5013

E-mail: [pastor@gslchernando.org](mailto:pastor@gslchernando.org)

**Intern**

**Rick Mainster**

Cell: 352-207-8140

Email: [shallowthinkin12.rm@gmail.com](mailto:shallowthinkin12.rm@gmail.com)

**Administrative Assistant**

**Shirley McField**

Phone: 352-746-7161

Email: [gschurch@live.com](mailto:gschurch@live.com)

**STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Building / Property**

Harv Johnson 352-270-3391

**Christian Education**

Sue Fowler 352-464-0571

**Enduring Gifts**

Dan Cashman. 352- 400-6024

**Evangelism (Outreach)**

Tom Stickler 610-659-5553

**Fellowship**

John & Elaine Giammasi 352-527-8706

**Finance**

Gail Sotrines 352-860-1765

**Mutual Ministry**

Sharon Maxwell 352-249-7032

**Pastoral Care**

Intern Rick Mainster 352-207-8140

**Social Ministry**

Vera Swade 352-637-5308

**Stewardship**

Sally Hennessey 440-796-9055

**Technology**

Fran Stetson 352-419-7227

**Worship & Music**

Renate Williams 352-228-7809

**COUNCIL LIAISONS**

**Building /Property**

John Colson 352-634-5470

**Christian Education - YOUTH**

TBD

**Enduring Gifts**

TBD

**Evangelism (Outreach)**

Tom Stickler 610-659-5553

**Fellowship**

Gladys Kean 352-514-6998

**Finance**

Kathy Swartz 352-746-5374

**Mutual Ministry**

Sharon Maxwell 352-249-7032

**Pastoral Care**

TBD

**Social Ministry**

TBD

**Stewardship**

Sally Hennessey 440-796-9055

**Technology**

Fran Stetson 352-419-7227

**Worship & Music**

Sally Hennessey 440-796-9055

**PLEASE RECYCLE!**



**WEBSITE**

[gshernando.org](http://gshernando.org)

Webmaster: Stephanie Adams

NEWSLETTER

[gslchernando@gmail.com](mailto:gslchernando@gmail.com)



Find us on **facebook**



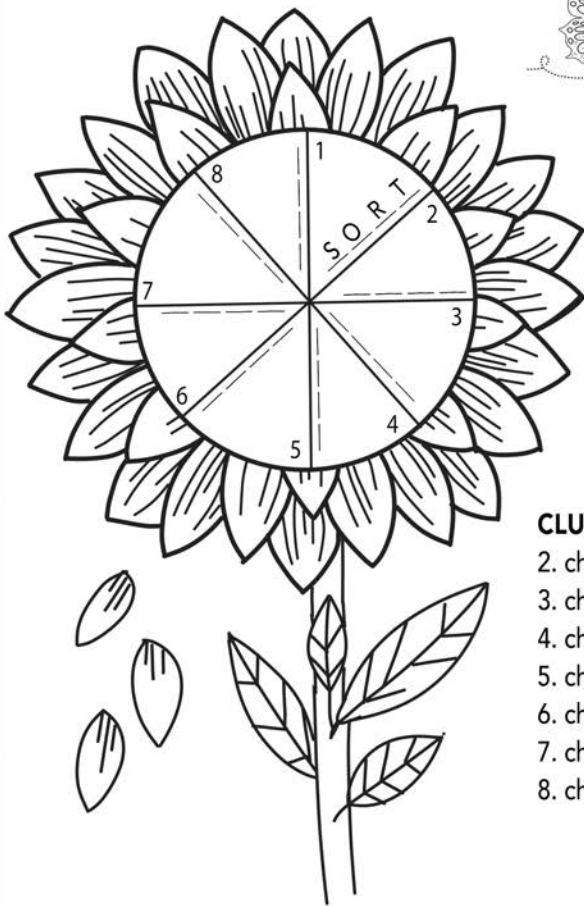
# Kid's Corner



## THE LOVE CYCLE

In 1 John 4, God instructs us to love other people. Where does our love come from?

*Directions: Starting at #1 and going clockwise, solve each clue to create a new four-letter word. Then write the eighth word in both blanks below to complete 1 John 4:19, NIV.*



We \_\_\_\_\_  
because [God] first  
\_\_\_\_\_d us.

1 John 4:19, NIV

### CLUES

2. change 1 letter: a tent to play in
3. change 2 letters: a crease in paper
4. change 1 letter: a precious metal
5. change 2 letters: a beautiful dress
6. change 1 letter: opposite of up
7. change 2 letters: a type of bird
8. change 1 letter: God is this  
(see 1 John 4:16).

Answers: fort, fold, gold, gown, down, dove, love; We love because [God] first loved us. 1 John 4:19, NIV



## NEW YEAR'S NOISE-MAKERS

Ring in the New Year with these fun noisemakers!



### What you need:

- Wooden craft sticks
- Metallic paint (gold and silver)
- Paint brushes
- Jingle bells (gold and silver)
- Hot glue gun
- Metallic ribbon
- Scissors
- Adult help

### What you do:

1. Paint half the sticks gold and half silver. Let dry.
2. Glue three bells to each stick.
3. Cut a six-inch piece of ribbon for each stick. Tie a bow and glue it to the noisemaker. Celebrate!