

Good Shepherd's Community Outreach Blessings: Thanksgiving Dinner

The congregation of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church was once again blessed to host a Community Thanksgiving Dinner on November 24th. Pastor Bruce Alkire welcomed everyone by mentioning "the first Thanksgiving was a community coming together to share in the year's bounty and therefore makes perfect sense for our congregation to do the same and share with the community". With a total of 86 attendees, the year's event included good food, fun, fellowship and thankful praise to God.

According to event coordinator, Bill Bassett 'we originally thought this would be a good way to include singles, couples and families seeking a meal of thanksgiving who could not afford or did not have extended family in the area for the Thanksgiving holiday. This was our third Thanksgiving meal and we are thrilled that attendance has grown each year'. Although there has never been a charge for the dinner nor were contributions expected, donations were accepted with the idea that donated money would be distributed back into community charities. This week, church Treasurer, Dave Bertsch, distributed funds to four area not-for-profit organizations which support critical needs around the Northern Neck - the Northern Neck Food Bank, Interfaith Services, the Westmoreland/Richmond Habitat for Humanity and the Northumberland/Lancaster Habitat for Humanity.

In addition to church members that worked to organize and prepare the meal, special thanks go out to Thrivent Financial Services for their generous donation and to Four Seasons Florist and Gifts of Callao for donating supplies and their catering assistance.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is located two miles west of Callao, VA, on Rt. 202 (1717 Hampton Hall Road). For more information about special Advent, Christmas, New Year's or Sunday worship services call 804-529-5948.

