

The Voice

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Vicar's Voice

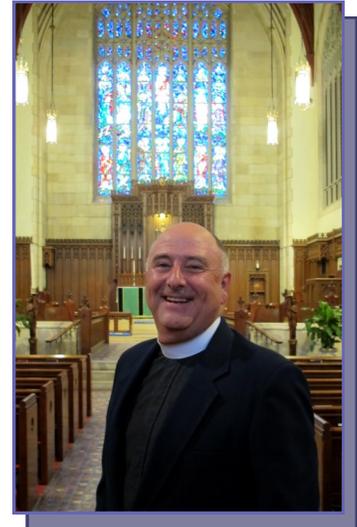
Dear Parish Family,

If you were in church last November on Stewardship Sunday, you know how reluctant I am to speak about finances. I am keenly aware that "I am preaching to the choir" when it comes to support of Good Shepherd Church. In addition, it may seem like over the last few months you have heard a lot about the financial needs of Good Shepherd, and the truth is you have. What continues to impress me is the willingness of the congregation to address the needs of our parish and the ministry we are called upon to do in the name of God.

In August we announced our capital campaign, "Back to the Future", relating to our wonderfully strong past as we move into a stronger future. The results of that campaign have been most impressive. At this writing we are at 99% of our stated goal of \$150,000. I am optimistic we will be able to surpass our stated goal and accomplish some additional projects the vestry and finance committee are anxious to address. If you have not made a pledge to this special three-year project, please do so and help us rectify the deferred maintenance plaguing our roofs, ceil-

ings, peeling paint and safety issues.

Your parish leadership is extremely grateful for all of this success. We must keep in mind that repair of deferred maintenance is completely separate from the parish budget, which is addressed in November. That is when we ask you to consider another component of stewardship, financing the continuing work and presence of our church throughout the year. Are you aware that we have one of, if not the highest, insurance premiums of churches in the diocese because of the age, construction and extensive facilities that make up Good Shepherd? Such extensive facilities mean it is not unusual for us to have a monthly JEA bill of over \$5,000. Last year during an energy audit we were told that other churches envy us for our conservative, frugal discipline. (Some of you have been here when it has been uncomfortably warm.) I can tell you that the parish staff works above and beyond a typical work day, and they deserve to be financially recognized. Over the past two years we have made significant improvements in our support of the diocese and our commitment to outreach. All of this has been because of your com-



mitment to stewardship.

The truth is that stewardship is different from simply making a budget. Stewardship is a recognition that our members give to Good Shepherd as they give of their resources to many worthy causes. The church is different for we don't charge fees. Not many organizations would ever consider such an approach. The church is different for it welcomes everyone without restrictions on the ability to pay. Stewardship is the recognition that the work of the church will continue, funded by the willingness of its members to give
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November 10th is Stewardship Sunday

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what they feel called to give by God for the greater work of the church.

Stewardship Sunday is planned for November 10th. A more detailed description of all that is included below

. My prayer for our parish is that you will make every attempt to be with us for this special day, which will define the life and extent of our ministries next year. God has blessed us individually with tremendous resources. Your parish leadership and I look

forward to working with you as we seek to share God's love through the vibrant presence of Good Shepherd Church.

Sincerely and faithfully,

Jeff

Stewardship Sunday

Stewardship is typically defined by how we use our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure. Stewardship should not be thought of as an annual giving appeal. Fr. Jeff makes it a point throughout the year to talk about stewardship in his sermons, in communications to the parish, and in recognition of what our members do in support of Good Shepherd Church.

It may be as a result of our culture that stewardship is often thought of only from the perspective of financial giving. So much of our culture focuses on money, but if you stop and think about all that our volunteers do for our parish and the ministries that come from Good Shepherd, it might help others understand the importance of a balanced approach to stewardship that includes our time and talents, and not just our financial donations.



Kattee Patterson, 94 and Betty Malone, 98 celebrate with cake at the parish lunch in October

Stewardship education is important and this year we are blessed to have a special preacher at both our 8:00 and 10:00 services on stewardship Sunday, November 10th. The Rev. Tony Ferguson is the rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church on Timuquana Road. Fr. Ferguson has been described as both brilliant and very entertaining. Fr. Ferguson is passionate about stewardship and travels widely sharing his insights and passion for this important aspect of our lives. You will not want to miss this special blessing for our congregation.

Following the 10:00 service we will enjoy our regular monthly potluck lunch in Worsham Hall. This is such an important event that every member of the church will be personally invited to attend. Members of the vestry and other parish leaders will be making phone calls to invite you to sit at their table on November 10th. Please make time to attend the luncheon, and since it a potluck event, bring a covered dish or dessert to add to the fabulous varieties of offerings.

A brief program will begin after everyone has been seated to reflect on Fr. Ferguson's sermon and its impact on us indi-

vidually and as a growing and meaningful church. At the end of the program, pledge cards for the ongoing operation and missionary efforts of the parish will be distributed. Individuals and families will be asked to complete their pledge card and return it to the offering plate on the front table. As we traditionally do, we will then sing the doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below, praise him above ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen." Then we will leave with a blessing as we joyfully make plans for next year. Extended child care will be provided in the nursery so families can be fully involved in the entire program.

Our gifts of time, talent, and treasure vary from person to person. Some may have more time to give than others. Some may have the talent or ability to help with Sunday services; or around our grounds; or reaching out to educate, clothe, feed and help those with particular needs. The reality is that the third component of how we use our gifts is also vitally important to the health and future of Good Shepherd. We look forward to sharing this wonderful day with you.

Message from the Stewardship Chair

Please consider the following when making your 2014 pledge to Good Shepherd.

The pledges we make are but tokens of the awesome gifts that have been given to us and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all that we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place.

Hopefully they are the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over. They are an offering to God, sacred, holy, yet earthly filled with possibilities.

I implore you to see your very selves as being part of your offering, a living sacrifice to God.

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ's gift to us was 100% of all he had.

John Conder
Stewardship Chair

Good Shepherd History Book

Parishioner Jenny Cocanougher, working with our archivist Duncan Sawyer and others in the parish, has captured the long history of Good Shepherd in a stunning new book. Filled with photographs, the book provides a narrative and pictorial journey from our founding as a Sunday school mission in the 1870s right up to the present.

The archives yielded images of people and events associated with our history and development, from that first Sunday school class to all the priests

who have served as rectors, associates and assistants, to remembrances of the May Fete and other parish and community events that made Good Shepherd a vibrant Riverside institution.

The first printing of the book sold out quickly, but orders are being taken for additional copies. The cost is \$35.00 per book. Orders may be given to Jenny at jennycocanougher@yahoo.com.



Blessing of Pets

St. Francis was the founder of the Order of Friars Minor, the Order of St. Clare and the Third Order of St. Francis. He was known for his life of poverty and devotion to Christ. He became the patron saint of animals and on the Sunday closest to his feast day (October 4th) we remember his love for animals with blessing for our own pets. Here are some pictures of this year's event.





“Back to the Future” Construction Update

It was announced at a special parish meeting in August that the vestry and staff were making plans for significant improvements to our facilities. With grants from a couple of funds and donations from parishioners and friends of Good Shepherd, plans were designed to make capital repairs sorely needed. Initial repairs to the stairs leading to the choir room have been underway and not a moment too soon as water damage and structural reinforcements were addressed.

Now further and more extensive remodeling and renovations are underway. Our contractor has scheduled the demolition of the men's lavatory behind the parish office and the women's lavatory off Worsham Hall for late October. The women's facility will be redesigned to include a unisex/ADA compliant handicap lavatory with a baby changing table and a custodial storage and work room. The men's facility will be completely gutted, redesigned, expanded and completely rebuilt. While all of this is happening, demolition will begin for the new community resource room which will be built on the second floor for the many organizations that hold meetings at Good Shepherd. This extensive project will involved a new heating and

air conditioning system, the construction of a large rectangular multipurpose room with closets and a kitchenette. In addition, a new ladies lavatory will be built on the second floor. These projects could take a month or more and we appreciate your patience and understanding.

Beginning in early November our contractor will be removing the floor of Craig Lounge and repairing the subfloor and then rebuilding the lounge with an entirely new wood floor. This will commence in early November and will take most of the month. Another change will be a new look to the refurbished hallway from the rear breezeway to the church courtyard. New paint and flooring will give a much improved first impression to everyone entering from the parking lot.

Another part of our fall restoration will be the restoration of many of the remaining roofs that were not rebuilt last summer. These include the roof over Craig Lounge, Worsham Hall, the music room, space occupied on the third floor by the Young Life organization and some other smaller spaces

After the first of the new year, beginning on January 12th, Worsham Hall will be closed

for interior repairs including the construction of new women's and men's lavatories, and storage room, repair of the ceilings, new lighting, floor refinishing on the balcony level and painting of the entire hall. This is expected to continue until the middle of March, so we will rely on Craig Lounge and some other facilities for parish functions.

This is all made possible because of the generosity of our donors to our "Back to the Future" capital campaign, and grants from two local organizations. Not surprisingly, we are finding that initial repairs lead to more extensive problems (some parts of our campus are nearly 100 years old!) If you have not made a pledge to the capital campaign, we need your involvement so that we can accomplish all that needs to be accomplished. We will be investing more than \$250,000 over the next six or more months as funds are available. We are grateful for the many volunteers who are interacting with our contractor and craftsmen in selecting tiles, colors, flooring, fixtures and everything else needed to accomplish this sizable task. Thank you to everyone for your time, talents and financial commitment to helping Good Shepherd grow into the future.



November Birthdays

Winifred Dworschak (1)
Kenneth Draper (4)
Tristan Houghton (6)
Kate Medill (8)
Anthony Marotta (0)

Blake Parks (12)
Peggy Ezell (13)
Felicia Bullock (14)
Mary Graliker (16)
Doreen Roman (18)

Alla Centerwall (22)
Skip Brown (28)
Norma Miller (29)

Falling Back

This article is not about the evangelical concept of “back sliding”. It’s not about team-building and trusting your buddy to catch you as you let yourself fall. It isn’t even about Jesus’ admonition against pride, when He essentially said, “Don’t push to be first. Fall back and let others go before you. If you belong at the head table or the front of the line, you’ll be called there.” No, it’s just a reminder that Daylight

Saving Time ends in the early hours of Sunday, November 3rd. Remember to “fall back” on that day. Set your clocks an hour back on Saturday night – especially the one you rely on to wake you in time for church – and enjoy that extra hour of sleep. If you forget, and you find yourself at Good Shepherd too early for the service, drop by Craig Lounge and have a pre-worship cup of coffee.



Sunday Flower Donations

One of the happier problems we are finding as our parish grows is that we have more and more people asking about providing altar flowers on Sunday mornings. Traditionally, a calendar is posted in the narthex in mid-November allowing parishioners to select a date or dates when they would like to provide altar flowers, often in memory of a loved one, often in thanksgiving for a special occasion. We are now finding that in order to accommodate additional flower requests, we

need to begin asking donors when necessary to share the expense when we have multiple requests by individuals or families. The cost of providing altar flowers beginning in January will be \$80.00 per Sunday. If we have two requests for a particular occasion, the cost will be equally shared by both parties. While this is a departure from past practices, as we welcome new members and they ask to be fully engaged in the life and worship of our church, we need to provide them the same

opportunities other members have enjoyed for many years. The calendar for flower requests for next year will be posted in the narthex on November 10th. We are blessed with a wonderful guild of floral volunteers who design flower arrangements around the liturgical season, calendar and special events. On behalf of everyone who enjoys this enhancement of our worship we give thanks to the many donors providing flowers throughout the year.

New Prayer Books

A big thank you goes out to parishioner Lawrence Denton who recently purchased a quantity of prayers books to replace the most tattered books in the pew racks. This was a most generous donation! If any parishioner would like to make a gift of a case of prayer books – or hymnals, which we desperately need – the parish office can assist with ordering from the least costly source. Call the office for more information.



November Wine Down

This month's Wine Down will be hosted by Hayley Zeller from 5:00 – 7:00 pm on Friday, November 8th. Wine Down has become a monthly occasion



for parishioners to gather outside the worship setting. It affords an opportunity for us to become better acquainted and spend casual time enjoying each other's company. If you haven't attended a Wine Down in the past, come to Hayley's and see what a fun time it is. If you are a regular, you know you won't want to miss this. Hayley lives in Springfield at 1451 N. Market St. Bring a bottle of wine or hors d'oeuvres to share. And if you don't drink wine, come anyway. We always have non-alcoholic beverages available.

Our December Wine Down will be hosted by Tripp Newsum and Matt Wolfe at their Avondale home. The specific date will be announced in next month's newsletter.

We are in need of hosts for future events. If you would like to have a Wine Down in your home, or host it at the church in Craig Lounge or the courtyard, please email Linda Ross at lross@goodshepherd23.org to volunteer.

50 Year Celebration

Good Shepherd will be honored on Sunday, December 1st, to host the celebration of the Rev. Bob Griffiths' 50th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood. Eucharist will be

celebrated at 4:00 pm that day, followed by a reception in Worsham Hall. More detailed information will be coming soon, but be sure to save this date on your calendar and plan

to participate in the joyous celebration of a long and successful ministry.

Mary Ann Bliss Memorial Tile Rubbing Workshop

Due to several requests, we are going to reschedule the Mary Ann Bliss Memorial Tile Rubbing Workshop that was cancelled last year. On Sunday, November 24th (the Sunday before Thanksgiving), we will meet in the narthex at 3:00 pm to begin a walking tour of the nave while hearing about the history of tile-making and specifically, about the tiles at Good Shepherd. Then we will take a seat on the floor and make a rubbing of favorite tiles. Following the rubbing, everyone will adjourn to Craig Lounge for hot cider and snickerdoodles – and an opportunity to compare rubbings.



These rubbings will be suitable for framing. They make lovely gifts, or beautiful home décor. If you are unable to sit on the floor, just choose the tile you like and we'll have assistants available to do the rubbing for you.

In order to ensure we will have sufficient materials on hand, reservations are required. Please email lross@goodshepherd23.org or call the parish office at 904-387-5691 by Wednesday, November 20th to confirm your participation.



Aqua Yoga at the Pool

The Pool is now hosting an Aqua Yoga program twice per week!

Annie McLeod, a registered teacher with Yoga Alliance, conducts one hour sessions from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays. Your first session is free!

Annie also has additional certifications in children's yoga, and yoga for special needs. She is a lifetime swimmer who in the past has taught aquatics for the Arthritis Foundation.

"Water has unique properties which allow one to move in ways that are impossible on land," Annie says. "Water gives resistance to our motions, building strength. It also provides critical support, and helps to prevent injury."

Annie adds that you need not be a swimmer for the class – which is conducted in shallow water – and there's no need to get your hair wet. "I can also guide dedicated swimmers in exercises to balance strength and flexibility," she says.

Costs? For Pool members, the cost is only \$3.00 per session. For non-members, it's \$8.00 per session. And, remember, Good Shepherd parishioners get a 25% discount from regular Pool membership rates, lowering the cost of a monthly membership from \$40 to \$30.

You can contact Annie directly at annie.seahorse@yahoo.com.

Music Notes

On Sunday, November 3rd at 6:00pm, our choirs will present our annual service of Solemn Evensong in Observance of All Saints'.

The roots of Evensong go back to the beginning of monastic life. Holy men and women have been singing evening services since there were services to be sung. When the Church of England broke its ties with Rome in the 16th century, architects of the Prayer Book like Thomas Cranmer combined earlier Roman services like Vespers (to be sung at sunset) and Compline (to be sung before going to bed) into one 'common' service - Evensong - meant to be experienced by all of God's children.

Over the centuries, and in particular in connection with the Oxford Movement in the late 19th century, Evensong has become an important part of the church year in many parishes. From Abbeys and Cathedrals in England, to a remote parish church in New Zealand, Evensong, while less commonly experienced than

Holy Eucharist, happens all the time. It connects us to a small but dedicated group out there in the world (past and present) who understand and appreciate this service's symbolism, beauty, and deep meaning.

Evensong is a largely passive service for the congregation. The Choir is the main component of Evensong - singing prayers, psalms, canticles and anthems, on behalf of the congregation, who are invited to join in certain responses and hymns throughout the service. This passiveness on the part of the congregation permits a more intimate experience of the "beauty of holiness." Extensive preparation on the part of the Choir is meant as a "living sacrifice," acceptable unto God.

Evensong revolves around poetry and symbolism. Even the name 'Evensong' is a poetic combination of 'evening' and 'song'. Our prayers ascend with the incense that is traditionally used at our Evensongs. Shrouded in the imagery of sunset, it is a perfect time to reflect on the day that has passed and to

consider what is to come. Similarly, it is especially fitted to the Feast of All Saints', when we remember our loved ones who have died. The service invites us to reflect on a life that has passed, and what is to come. We hear the Psalms of David, sung to timeless Anglican Chant. We hear the Cantic of rejoicing and of new birth in the Magnificat, the Song of Mary, whose soul magnified the Lord when she received the news that she was to bear the Son of God. We hear the Cantic of relief and peace in the Song of Simeon, the Nunc dimittis, who prayed the Lord to allow him to 'depart in peace,' after finally having seen the 'light to lighten the gentiles.' These bookends perfectly portray Evensong's connection and mirroring of the Beginning and the End.

We hope you will join us for the beautiful liturgy.

Shannon Gallier, MM
Organist-Choirmaster



Making sandwiches for Church Without Walls

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November Calendar

Every Sunday

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

4:00 pm Library – Study Group

Every Monday

7:30 am Chapel – Morning
Prayer II

5:30 pm Chancel – Children's
Chapel

Every Tuesday

3:15 pm Worsham Hall – CEW

5:30 pm Chapel – Evening Prayer II

Every Wednesday

7:30 am Chapel – Morning
Prayer I

5:00 pm Choir room – St. Cecilia
choir rehearsal

5:30 pm Chapel – Holy Eucharist

6:12 pm Craig Lounge – Adult
discussion group

7:00 pm Choir room – Chancel
choir rehearsal

Every Thursday

5:30 pm Chapel – Evening Prayer I

Every Friday

7:30 am Chapel – Morning
Prayer II

Friday, November 1st 7:00 pm
All Saints' Day Eucharist

Sunday, November 3rd DAY-LIGHT
SAVINGS TIME ENDS;

6:00 pm All Saints' Evensong

Friday, November 8th 5:00 pm

– Wine Down at Hayley Zeller
Sunday, November 10th 11:30
am Worsham Hall – Stewardship
potluck lunch

Wednesday, November 13th
4:00 pm Worsham Hall – Prayer
Shawl group

Thursday, November 21st 5:30
pm Library – Vestry Meeting

Sunday, November 24th 11:30
am Courtyard – Sundaes on
Sunday

Wednesday, November 27th
7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eucharist

Thursday, November 28th
Thanksgiving Day PARISH OFFICE
CLOSED

Friday, November 29th PARISH
OFFICE CLOSED