

The Voice

Volume 2014, Issue 3

March 2014

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Vicar's Voice

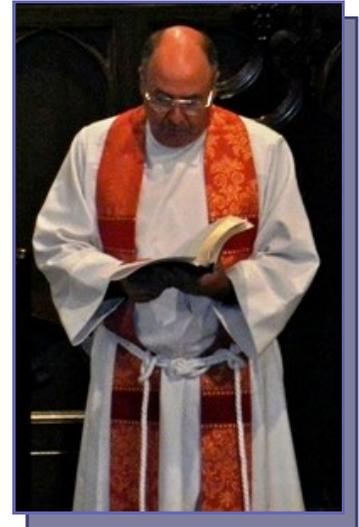
As we approach the month of March my thoughts are focusing on the end of Epiphany, with Shrove Tuesday the night before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th this year. Lent ushers in a number of changes: the liturgical color of purple, self-disciplines and another change that many find confusing and I fear, embarrassing, as we worship together. That change is the elimination of our proclamation of "Alleluia". The word alleluia stems back to the Hebrew term for "praising God!" It was understandably an expression of great joy and our proclamation is a reminder of our current participation in the kingdom of God.

Our liturgical or worship year, like much of our lives, includes peaks and valleys. Peaks include Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and other special times of the year. It is unrealistic to think our lives will always be wonderful and happy, though wouldn't that be nice? Understandably, our worship cycle reflects life with seasons like Advent and Lent when we experience challenges and life's struggles. By omitting the alleluias in Lent and then reintroducing them when

we come to Easter, our joy is more profound.

The season of Lent, forty days, is modeled after the time of fasting and temptation by the devil that Jesus experienced after his baptism. It is a time when Christians look to abstain from certain luxuries and focus more attention on prayer and self-discipline. Our contemporary approach to fasting is very different from centuries ago when meat, fish and many dairy products were prohibited. At certain times people would eat but one meal per day and that meal would be minimal. Now-a-days you may hear people say "I gave that up for Lent." Often I hear such things as alcohol, candy, desserts, etc. I am fine with such practices, not because they are examples of some monumental spiritual discipline, but because they help keep us focused on our need to recognize Lent as a time of spiritual preparation for Easter. If passing on dessert helps remind you of Lent and the effort to be a better disciple of Christ, then make the most of such a discipline.

In the weeks to come we will introduce our Sunday services



with the Lenten opening acclamation of "Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins. His mercy endures forever." At the time of communion we will also omit the alleluias in keeping with the discipline of the season. If you are a creature of habit as I am, and automatically praise God with an alleluia, know it is a temptation we all feel and I trust God appreciates such praise!

Sincerely and faithfully,

Jeff

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2014



Meet Our Interim Organist

Donald McCullough grew up in Jacksonville and left the area to attend Stetson University and Southern Methodist University. He spent most of his professional life in Norfolk, VA, and Washington, DC, where he served as organist/choirmaster, and artistic director/conductor for several churches and professional choirs. He has only recently returned to Jacksonville where he is focusing primarily on his composing career and enjoying being near his family. He resides in Atlantic Beach with his husband, Denny,

spending most of his days composing music. In addition to serving as Good Shepherd's interim Organist and Choir Director, Don is also the Choir Director for the Jacksonville Symphony Chorus. As a pass time, he enjoys gardening and says that "putting my hands in the dirt every once in a while keeps me sane."



And Our New Administrative Assistant

Sheryl Pulley has been a Good Shepherd parishioner for 30 years. She is married with two grown daughters who grew up at Good Shepherd. She has been active as a Sunday school teacher and CEW volunteer

and has worked for Riverside Fine Arts Association for 11 years as the Office Manager. She will continue working part-time for RFAA. In her spare time Sheryl enjoys gardening, reading and antiquing.

New Look for Parish Website

Good Shepherd's website has been updated. The page formats, colors, fonts and overall presentation of information are fresher and navigation is easier. We now have a slide show of photos on our homepage, and more photos on all pages on the site. There is a new tab – **Giving** – with a link to a secure

online giving portal. (See the article on page 3 for more information.) More robust headers and footers allow site users to link to our Facebook pages or send us email directly from the web page.

Please take time soon to visit our site at www.goodshepherd23.org.

Let us know what you think about our new look. And send us your photos to add! We want this web presence to be truly reflective of the wonderful, welcoming place that is Good Shepherd.



Pancake Supper

Good Shepherd will host its traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 4th at 6:00 pm. Pancakes will be served in Worsham Hall. Come join the fun and have a good meal, too.

Now Available: Online Giving

Our new online giving portal is a simple and secure way for you to make your pledge payments or additional designated offerings to one of our many ministries. Through a one-time or automated recurring donation, your giving is as easy as making an online payment. Once you have created a new account, your online giving statements will be available at the touch of a button.

We encourage you to go to our website, www.goodshepherd23.org to use the Giving page (or click the Donate Now button at the top of any page). Once you are on the donation page, click on the New User link to create an account so that you can easily make quick donations with a saved card; automate your giving by setting up a recurring donation; and review past do-

nations in your member profile. To make a quick donation without creating a member account just click on the Quick Donation Button.

You can learn more about how to use this service by clicking the How To Videos at the bottom of the donation page.



Bp. Keyser baptizes his great granddaughter

March Birthdays

Skye Carroll (1)	Adele Griffin (8)	Missy Lindsey (16)
Brian Parks (1)	Lena Lamb (10)	Tom Sawyer (18)
Pierce Holley (2)	Madelaine Cosgrove (10)	Anna Edgar (20)
Ken Pitts (3)	Pat Sanow (10)	Rileigh Bunk (22)
Don Dunn (4)	Lawrence Raybourne (10)	Thomas Pulley (24)
Ann Hopkins (5)	Christyn Lindsey (12)	Susan Brown (26)
Sally McKeithen (6)	Shirley Walters (12)	Mary Price Pickett (27)
Susan Morgan (7)	Maggie Williams (13)	Margaret Miller (28)
Jonathan Crews (8)	Mark Miles (15)	

WATER AEROBICS IS COMING TO THE POOL – AFTER CHURCH!

The Pool will soon be hosting a new, certified, highly experienced water aerobics instructor.

Rachel Kohl, raised in Gainesville, has recently relocated to the First Coast, and will begin classes at the Good Shepherd Pool in the near future. Final details are being ironed out with Pool Director Dave Callen.

One of Rachel's weekly classes will begin at 12 noon on Sundays, so that Good Shepherd members can stop in after

church and coffee! Other classes will be early afternoons during the week. As with most all Pool events, two lanes of the pool will remain open for lap swimmers.

Rachel has over 19 years of fitness teaching experience in water aerobics, senior fitness, Silver Sneakers programs, and Muscle Strength and Range of Movement.

The Aerobics and Fitness Association of America has certified her as a Group Exercise Instructor, and she is renewing a

longtime, 18-year long certification as an Aquatic Fitness Professional from the Aquatic Exercise Association.

Fees for Rachel's classes have not been set yet, but will be significantly lower for pool members. REMEMBER, Good Shepherd parishioners receive a 25% discount on pool memberships. AND, the pool water is always a comfy, reliable 83 degrees year round.



Parish Meeting—Warden's Report



New confirmands with Bp. Keyser and Fr. Jeff

It has been my privilege to serve Good Shepherd as Senior Warden these past 3 years. What a remarkable transition we have made under the guidance of Father Jeff Reichmann! Pledges have increased from \$275,000 in 2011 to \$350,000 this year of 2014. Our current capital campaign has been most successful - \$160,000 pledged from our congregation, \$75,000 received from the DuPont Trust, \$27,000 from the Community Foundation, plus \$85,000 from previous donations. We have also raised \$60,000 last year to reroof over the library.

What has been accomplished to date?

- 1 – New roofs over the Sunday school wing funded by the settlement from Trane.
- 2 – New roof over the library.
- 3 – Rebuilt steps to the choir room.

- 4 – New floor in Craig Lounge.
- 5 – Refinishing the floor in Worsham Hall.
- 6 – Refinishing the floor and repainting the Fant Library.
- 7 – Sealing all the flat roofs throughout our complex.

Projects in progress are the men's toilet on the first floor, the unisex toilet and utility room at the site of the former ladies' room in Worsham, and a meeting room and female toilet on the second floor near the choir room. Next week the roof over Craig Lounge and the walkway will be totally reconstructed. Then we plan to install the men's and women's lavatories in the rear of Worsham.

What a list! We will continue other projects as funding becomes available since our facilities, many over 90 years old, need continual maintenance.

Following long discussions concerning usage of the Sunday School rooms, Episcopal Child Services was contacted and after numerous meetings and the donation of a generous grant from the Gooding Foun-

ation arranged by J.F. Bryan, plans are finalized for refurbished facilities to accommodate 65 children, ages 6 months to 5 years, for quality day care. This construction will commence this month.

The swimming pool operations have been revitalized under the capable leadership of Dave Callen.

As exciting as all these accomplishments have been, we continue with excellence in our most important functions – worship, fellowship, and outreach. Under the spiritual leadership of Father Jeff and the staff of Alina Martinez, Dave Callen, former choir musician Shannon Gallier, former communications coordinator Linda Ross, and our dedicated custodial staff, Good Shepherd continues its Christian ministry to our flock and community. Thanks to all of you for your prayers, presence, and contributions of your time, talent and treasure as we grow into our bright future.

- Ross Krueger

Vestry for 2014

At the parish meeting on February 9th, we expressed our thanks to retiring vestry members, Margo Easter, Davis Ely, Lysa Hoffmann and Ross Krueger. Elected to three-year terms were Kate Medill, Matt Wolfe and John Zell.

Continuing on the vestry for two more years are Homer Bliss, Tom Moore and Keith Sands. Serving one more year are John Bunker, John Conder and Tracy Leeser.

The Senior Warden for 2014 is John Conder and Junior Warden is John Zell. Ross Krueger will serve as treasurer and Anne Graham will continue as clerk to the vestry.

The work of the vestry is vital to the proper and effective functioning of the parish. They all serve as volunteers, and devote personal time to fulfilling their duties. Please find an opportunity to thank each person for their dedication to

Good Shepherd. Volunteer to help them keep Good Shepherd's legacy as a warm, diverse and welcoming parish in the diocese of Florida.

Construction Developments

Among the challenges of maintaining a building that is in some cases nearly 100 years old is that important repairs are necessary that are virtually unrecognizable. A little bit of church humor includes the comment that no one wants to give donations toward a memorial furnace! While our winters are short, imagine no heat, or in the peak of summer, no air conditioning. Never-the-less, we still have repairs that must be done that are out of sight and are not very fancy. Such is the case with our roofs. As reported earlier, virtually all the roofs have been repaired, or at least resealed. The last roof requiring substantial repairs is over Craig Lounge. As of this writing that roof is being rebuilt at an expense of approximately \$32,000. Thank goodness we received the donations we did last year to

make these vital repairs.

Also on the not-noticeable front are the extensive re-plumbing repairs that service the two renovated lavatories under construction. These are now complete and more visible progress is now being made as dry wall has been installed, new fixtures are arriving and tile may be installed soon. Our long process of rehabilitating these rooms is nearing an end.

Once the lavatories are completed the focus of attention will move to the new Community Resource Room, the former second floor ladies locker room. This multi-purpose room will serve the numerous 12-Step groups and other organizations that currently use a classroom along the rear parking lot. Part of this second floor renovation will include the construction of a new la-

dies lavatory.

Recently there have also been some behind the scenes developments with Episcopal Children Services' plan to open a day care facility at Good Shepherd this summer. Architectural plans for the renovations of the Sunday school rooms are virtually completed. Permits are being filed with the city. Soon signs will be posted around the grounds announcing the hearing for the respective proposals.

When much of the above is addressed plans will proceed with initial repairs to Worsham Hall. We have many months of construction ahead of us, but we are fortunate for the generosity and support of our parishioners to help make this possible. Good Shepherd Church is clearly blessed!

We Are a Growing Parish!

Sunday, February 23rd, was a significant day for Good Shepherd. Bishop Charles Keyser made a visit to celebrate the Eucharist with us and to baptize, confirm and receive the largest class of candidates this parish has seen in several years.

Baptized - Emma Christine Green

Confirmed - Christopher Robert Green, Christopher Patrick Lamb, Elizabeth Gray Lindsey, Christopher Robert Mitchell, Brian Alan Palmer, Abigail

Wright, Karen Koehler Zell

Received - Stephen C. Gillick, Grace McLane Fewell

Reaffirmed - Palmer Lamb.
Congratulations to all!



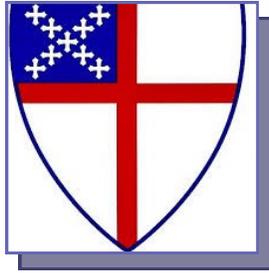
Confirmation 2014

Diocesan Homecoming/Holy Smokes Competition!

The Diocesan Homecoming is taking place on May 2-3. Part of the fun is the annual Holy Smokes BBQ Competition. We will have two contests; one or more teams from each church that will cook ribs and chicken and one or more youth teams from each church that will cook hamburgers. There is a \$150 entry fee for each team that enters the chicken and rib cook-off. If a parish has two teams the fee will be \$150 per team. There will be no fee requirement for the youth teams. Registrations are made directly with the camp. A team, adult or youth, must have at least two members and represent a church.

Also, don't forget to join the "I Went to Camp Weed" Facebook page. Almost 500 people have joined in the fun!

Around the Diocese



This is the first of a series of articles about the Diocese of Florida. And the Episcopal Church

The Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. It is divided into 9 provinces and has 109 dioceses in the United States, Taiwan, Micronesia, the Caribbean, Central and South America as well as the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe and the Navajoland Area Mission. The Anglican Communion is made up of the Church of England and national and regional churches. The Archbishop of Canterbury (Justin Welby) has a precedence of honor over other bishops and archbishops, but does not exercise direct authority outside England. Currently there are approximately 80 million members of the Anglican Communion around the world in 160

countries. It is the third largest Christian communion after the Roman Catholic Church and the Eastern Orthodox Church.

The Episcopal Church had its origins in the Church of England, and the first parish in the colonies was founded in Jamestown Virginia in 1607. The ties with the Church of England caused divided loyalties within the Church during the American Revolution, and in 1789, the church was formally organized as the Episcopal Church of the United States of American, as a member of the Anglican Communion.

The highest legislative body of the Episcopal Church is the General Convention, which meets every 3 years (next meeting in 2015). There are 2 houses:

The House of Bishops – consisting of all active and retired bishops (app 300), which meets between Conventions

The House of Deputies - consisting of 800 representatives elected at the Diocesan Conventions. Each Diocese elects 4 clergy and 4 laity (elected at the 2014 Diocesan Convention). This house meets only every 3 years at the General Convention.

The Presiding Bishop is elected from and by the House of Bishops and confirmed by the House of Deputies for a 9-year term. The Most Reverend Dr. Katharine Jefferts-Schori, previously Bishop of Nevada, was elected in 2006.

- Courtenay Wilson

The Jessie Ball duPont Fund announces gift to Good Shepherd

**JESSIE BALL
DU PONT
FUND**

On Friday, February 7th, Fr. Jeff received a call from our liaison at the Jesse Ball duPont Fund informing us that our parish was awarded a three year grant of \$150,000 to help hire an outreach supervisor and associate priest. This is a huge opportunity for Good Shepherd Church as we seek to increase our missionary outreach locally, within the Episcopal Diocese of Florida, nationally and even internationally.

The grant application detailed some of our current ministries such as the Children's Enrichment Workshop and support of 12 Step groups, but also recognized the resources of a growing congregation and such facilities as our pool. We want

to pursue such opportunities as a second CEW program for our neighborhood elementary schools; increasing swimming instruction, especially to minority children; getting involved with other service organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and local environmental initiatives. Such coordination takes time, but we have a wonderful opportunity to teach compassion and patience by getting involved in local and other efforts. Even our outreach to our companion parish in Florida, Cuba will benefit through visits to Cuba for first hand learning experiences.

In addition, Fr. Jeff has been concerned with the growth of the parish that we need to

enhance our pastoral ministries by visiting the sick and parishioners who may be "shut-in" and generally being more responsive when the needs arise. The duPont grant will cover approximately 75% of the actual cost, and we are optimistic we will be able to find the remaining funds this spring.

Good Shepherd Parish is truly blessed by the legacy of Mrs. duPont. We are also blessed by the trustees and staff at The Fund for their initiative to continue to reach out to help those in need by working with churches and community agencies. We are humbled to collaborate with the Jesse Ball DuPont Fund.

Summer Camp Registration Open

Registration is now open for Summer Camp at Camp Weed! Go to <http://www.diocesefl.org/mission-ministry/youth-young-adult-ministry/summer-camp/camp-session-information.aspx> for the 2014 schedule. Campers of all denominations are welcome to attend Camp Weed to experience wholesome Christian fun in the great outdoors.

Daily Lenten Meditations Available

The forty days of Lent provide us the opportunity to reflect on our lives, our relationships with our neighbors, and the larger world. This year's Lenten Meditations provide a particular focus on creating economic opportunities and strengthening communities while helping us prepare for spiritual healing.

Good Shepherd has Lenten meditation booklets available to parishioners at no cost. Those who prefer an online edition should go to www.episcopalrelief.org for more information or to sign up and receive meditations by email.



Wild Reading Safari

On Saturday, March 1, the Wild Reading Safari is taking place at the Jacksonville Zoo. There will be celebrity readers, local authors, face painting and games. Proceeds from this event will benefit Episcopal

Children's Services. The cost to participate is \$25 Teens and Adults · \$15 Children 12 and under, which includes: Zoo admission, lunch, all performances and souvenirs! Students from The Performers Academy

will bring books to life with music, drama, and dance! For more information, go to <http://diocesefl.org/media/73625/posterv7.pdf>.

Feeding the Soul Update

When I last wrote on the progress of this new ministry, we had launched our first delivery of food to ten children and their families at West Riverside Elementary. As of the end of February our parishioner teams have delivered nourishing food to ten children and their families at WRE six times! To the parish for its support and all who are participating a huge thank you!

In late January we met with the staff of Second Harvest and then traveled on to WRE to meet with the principal and

guidance counselor, and deliver the food. The principal gathered us in a small supply room, closed the door and began the story of the children, their families and her commitment to make a difference in their lives. She is passionate, caring and grateful. We were all touched by her stories and her gratefulness. We fully understood that this Outreach Ministry was a blessing not only to those whom we serve, but also to us.

Now we look forward. We hope to participate in a summer program to provide food for these families over the long break, and we would like to add more children and families next year. We are also developing a plan to track the improvement in behavior, attendance and grades of these children.

...and let the needy not be forgotten. In Christ's name we pray. Amen

Susannah Sands



Bp. Keyser with the newly baptized

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CHURCH OF THE
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March Calendar

Every Sunday

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite 1

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite 2

Every Monday

7:30 am Morning Prayer
(Chapel)

5:30 pm Children's Chapel
(Chancel)

Every Tuesday

5:30 pm Evening Prayer
(Chapel)

Every Wednesday

7:30 am Morning Prayer
(Chapel)

5:00 pm St. Cecilia Choir rehearsal
(Choir room)

5:30 pm Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

6:15 pm Adult Study Group
(Craig Lounge)

7:00 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal
(Choir room)

Every Thursday

5:30 pm Evening Prayer
(Chapel)

Every Friday

7:30 am Morning Prayer
(Chapel)

Tuesday, March 4th 6:00 pm
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
(Worsham)

Wednesday, March 5th 12:00
and 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday
Liturgy

Sunday, March 9th 11:30 am
Monthly Parish Potluck Lunch
(Worsham)

Wednesday, March 12th 4:00
pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
(Worsham)

Monday, March 24th 5:30 pm
Vestry meeting (Library)

