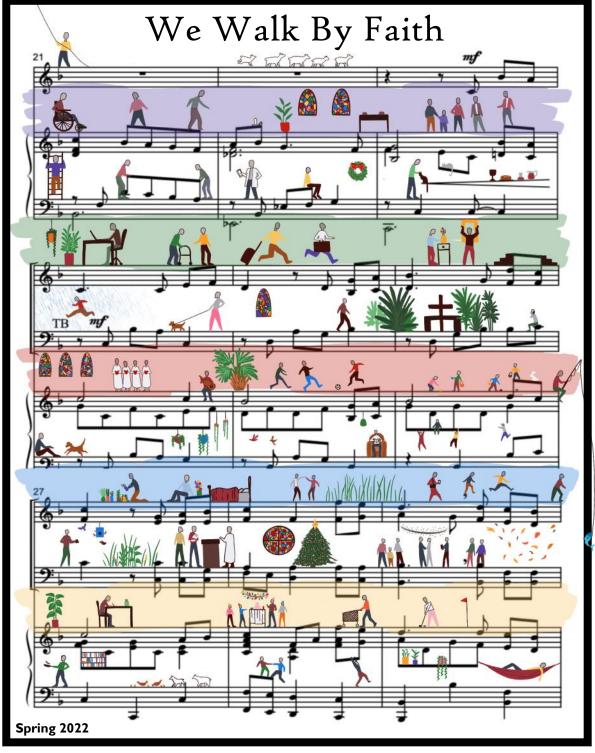
# Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and School, Tequesta, FL



We exist to be a beacon of faith, hope, and love!



#### GOOD SHEPHERD

EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

#### GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

400 Seabrook Road, Tequesta FL 33469 www.goodsheponline.org 561-746-4674

#### GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

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Livestream technology has been a blessing for family and friends unable to gather for important life events. Above, this screenshot captures the moment Rachel Acuña and Brendan Dwyer were married. Congratulations!

WELCOME! As of this printing we are still in Phase 2 of our reopening plan which includes in-person worship. Ministry groups are gradually coming back on campus with changing levels of safety protocols. We continue to offer a variety of digital content and ministry opportunities to help you engage in parish life. Get to know us online, or in-person! Visit GoodShepOnline.org for our calendar.

BAPTISMS are generally administered on Easter Eve, Pentecost, All Saints' Sunday and the first Sunday after Epiphany. Special accommodations are in place for baptisms during the pandemic. A person of any age may receive the sacrament of Holy Baptism. The application form for baptismal candidates is available online under the WORSHIP tab. Please contact Merike Seely or clergy for information.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE requires a minimum of 90 days notice to our office and requires premarital counseling. An initial conference with the clergy should be scheduled by the couple to review the process and any special circumstances before commitments may be made. Please contact Jo Wood to schedule. jwood@goodsheponline.org

FUNERAL OR MEMORIAL SERVICES for communicants of the parish are customarily held in the church and may include the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. During social distancing, special accommodations may be made.

To TRANSFER YOUR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP to Good Shepherd, please contact the office to initiate a transfer. mail@goodsheponline.org

NEW TO GOOD SHEPHERD? Please let us know you're here! Contact Jo Wood, our Director of Hospitality at jwood@goodsheponline.org or call the office at 561-746-4674. You can request information or let us know if you would like to be added to our mailing list.

#### **COVER IMAGE**

We walk by faith and not by sight. When Henry Alford penned these lyrics in 1844, he was referring to the apostle Thomas' lack of faith in the resurrected Jesus. These lyrics continue to speak to us even today. In the rhythm of our busy lives when we can't seem to see or hear God, we are comforted in our faith that he is with us. In the measures of life, with all of their tempos, harmonies, scales, and sometimes dissonance, we can find God in the rests.

O Jesus, help our unbelief; And may our faith abound, To call on you when you are near, And seek where you are found.



Cover Illustration: Evelyn Seely



# Tidings

SPRING 2022

- 2 Rector's Message
- 3 Christian Formation Opportunities
- 4 The Walk of Faith: Living Between Memory and Hope by The Rev. Dr. Douglas Scharf
- 7 We Cycle by Faith by Fr. Derek Larson
- 8 Youth and Family Ministries
- 10 Good Shepherd School Notes
- II Ministry Spotlight: Music
- 12 Outreach & Missions: We Walk by Faith
- 13 Daily Office Ministry
- 14 Pennies For Heaven: A Recipe For Faith
- 16 By the Numbers
- 16 Stewardship 2022: Campaign Update
- 17 Financial Status (2021)

#### **OUR VISION**

We are called to be a vibrant spiritual and educational community resource, radiating God's love for everyone, everywhere!

Tidings is the quarterly newsletter of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and School. To receive a copy in the mail, please notify the office at mail@goodsheponline.org or 561-746-4674. Please see submission guidelines at www.goodsheponline.org. Tidings is produced and edited in-house by Merike Seely. Photo credit Merike Seely unless otherwise indicated.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Tequesta is a 501(c)(3) religious organization.

# A Word from the Rector

(26.4271932, -82.1033581)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As this edition of *Tidings* is being published, the church is getting ready to begin the penitential season of Lent followed by the joyful celebration of the resurrection throughout the season of Easter. During these two liturgical



seasons, we focus our attention on the events of Christ's final days on earth – his passion, death, resurrection, and ascension. These transformational events form the foundation of our faith. In fact, in our Eucharistic celebration, we summarize these events in the proclamation of the *mystery of faith* – Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. But, of course, *faith* is about more than our intellectual assent to a list of doctrines. *Faith* is something we live. *Faith* must be put into practice. *Faith* ultimately encompasses the whole of our being.

Throughout this edition of *Tidings*, we will be exploring what it means to *walk by faith*. In his Second Letter to the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul declares, "We walk by faith and not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). This does not mean we walk blindly or without a sense of direction. But rather to *walk by faith and not by sight* means that in the face of all that we don't understand, we trust in God's goodness and power; we believe that God is active and present in the world, even in the midst of the perennial challenges and difficulties we experience. To *walk by faith* means that we are willing to surrender to the leading of God's Spirit and trust in God's grace no matter what.

As we explore this theme of *faith*, we will also be highlighting the importance of music as a particular way we express our faith in corporate worship. During the pandemic, music programs have been hit especially hard, but we are hoping that this coming year will be a season of renewal and rebuilding for our music program at Good Shepherd and throughout the church. May God bless you in these coming months as we journey through Lent in preparation for the glorious celebration of our Lord's resurrection!

In Christ,

Dong +

#### Rector's Forum

#### **Practicing Resurrection**

God Transforms Our Daily Lives

During the seasons of Advent and Epiphany, we focused on our call to practice incarnation, the call to practice the presence of God in our daily lives. As we enter the seasons of Lent and Easter, we will turn our attention to our call to practice



Third Sunday of each month at 9:00 AM

resurrection. What difference does it make that Jesus was raised from the dead? How does the reality of the resurrection transform and shape our daily lives and our mission in the world? How do we embody God's new creation as we strive for justice and peace among all people? We will explore these questions and more during the Rector's Forum in the coming months.

#### Part One: Transforming Lives - March 20

The resurrection of Jesus changes everything. During this first part of our series, we will explore the ways in which in the resurrection *transforms our daily lives*. A whole new way of living has been opened to us – a life charactered by healing, reconciliation, purpose, and joy. But how do we begin to *practice resurrection* every day, even in the midst of the mundaneness of our ordinary lives? Join Fr. Doug as he reflects on the meaning of Jesus' resurrection for the *here and now*!

#### Celebrating the Resurrection - April 17

This year, Easter Sunday falls on the third Sunday of April, which is the date we would normally gather for GROW Sunday. Of course, due to the busyness of that particular Sunday, we will not be holding our usual Rector's Forum. But it is fitting that as we reflect on our call to *practice resurrection*, we will be gathering to *celebrate the resurrection* and once again renew our faith in God's power over death.

#### Part Two: Transforming the World - May 15

The second part of our series entitled *Practicing Resurrection* will focus on the ways in which the resurrection *transforms* the world through our work of mission and ministry. In our

baptismal covenant, we promise to "strive for justice and peace among all people." This is not something we can do in our own strength. This is the work of God's Spirit through us as we share the Good News of Jesus' resurrection with the world. Join Fr. Derek as he explores the church's mission and the ways in which we are all called to *practice resurrection* in the world.

#### Clergy Bible Study

#### Witness at the Cross

Looking at Good Friday from Every Angle

#### March 9-April 6

Wednesdays II:00 AM In-Person 2:00 PM Via Zoom

This five-week study will focus on the story of the crucifixion of Jesus as told by the four gospel writers. However, what will make this study unique is that each week we will view the events of the crucifixion from the perspective of a different person or group who was present when Jesus died. The study will be based on a recent book by New Testament scholar Amy-Jill Levine, but the book will not be required. Join Fr. Doug for this fresh approach to Holy Week and the biblical stories that shape our understand of Jesus' death.

#### The Green Bible:

Exploring Our Relationship with God and the Earth

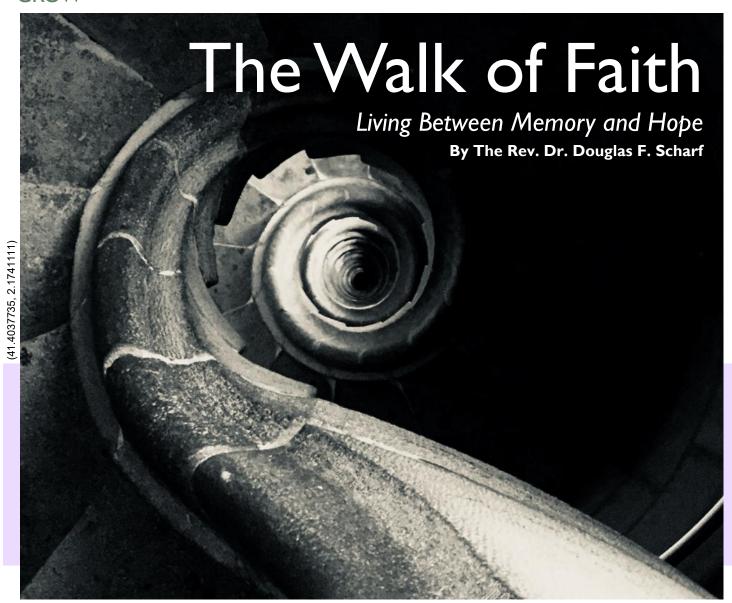
April 27-May 25

Wednesdays II:00 AM In-Person

2:00 PM Via Zoom

From its first pages, the Bible is chock-full of stories, songs, and lessons on the sacredness of the earth. In it we see God's creation of the earth, the earth's worship of God, humanity's charge to care for the earth, the earth's groaning for restoration, and God's vision for a new earth. In this season of Easter, what does it look like to practice resurrection in our relationship with the earth? Join us for this 5 week series as we explore themes of creation care, the environment, and nature within Scripture. We'll meet Wednesdays starting with the last week of April and all through May at I I:00am in person and 2:00pm on Zoom.

Please visit our website GoodShepOnline.org for the latest pandemic safety protocols for worship services and campus facilities.



we are going to talk about walking by faith, it is important that we find that important that we first define exactly what we mean by faith. We often associate faith with the act of believing. For example, we affirm the basic tenets our faith every Sunday when we proclaim the ancient words of the Nicene Creed, which begins "We believe." In the New Testament, the words faith and belief are both translated from the same Greek word. However, this very same Greek word can also be translated as trust or confidence, which adds a whole different dimension to our understanding of faith. For the first followers of Jesus, to walk by faith meant that they placed their whole trust in Jesus no matter what circumstances or challenges they might face. For us, to walk by faith means that we completely surrender our lives to God's loving care. As theologian and teacher, Richard Rohr, observes, "The opposite of faith is not doubt; the opposite of faith is

control." Therefore, to walk by faith means giving up control and offering our lives to God in the deep assurance that God's plan is always for our good.

However, the metaphor of walking also implies that we are going somewhere; it implies that we are on a journey or pilgrimage. So, to walk by faith means that we are daily engaged in the work of discipleship, the work of growing in the knowledge and love of the Lord. As with any journey or pilgrimage, we must be attentive to where we are (the present), but we must also be mindful of where we've been (the past) and where we're going (the future). In fact, in the life of faith, our past and our future inform and shape how we understand and interpret our present. In the life of faith, we are called to be firmly grounded in the present moment, and yet our inspiration and motivation are often drawn from our

memory (the past) and our hope (the future). Our call to walk by faith is ultimately the call to live between memory and hope.

#### The Urgency of the Present

Our culture is obsessed with the present moment. We want the fastest internet speed. We don't want to wait in line. We become frustrated when we are even momentarily delayed. We live in a "soundbite culture" that is too often addicted to what Charles Hummel called the tyranny of the urgent. This mindset can have a profound effect on the way we think about faith. Since patient waiting is not highly valued in our culture, we frequently find it difficult to wait upon God. Since instant gratification has become a dominant cultural norm, we often despondent when it seems that nothing is happening in our spiritual lives or when our prayers appear to go unanswered. Even though we worship the God who created time, we still fall victim to the deception that everything needs to happen now. Of course, God is present and active in every moment. God has promised to be with us always. But when it comes to walking by faith, we are often challenged to look beyond the present moment, to look beyond the immediate, in order to see God's hand at work in our lives. For the people of God through the centuries, the life of faith has been guided by memory and hope.

#### The Foundation of the Past

In the Old Testament, memory was a central part of the relationship between God and the people of Israel. Over and over again, God's people were instructed to remember God's covenant faithfulness, to recall the ways in which God had acted in the past as a source

of inspiration for the present. The great festivals of the Jewish people, including the Feast of Passover, were all occasions when God's people remembered the powerful deeds of God in ages past. As Christians, we follow in this tradition every time we gather at

"...to walk by faith
means giving up
control and offering
our lives to God in the
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for our good."

the altar to celebrate the Eucharist. We gather in obedience to Jesus who instructed us to take bread and wine as symbols of his Body and Blood, and to "do this in remembrance of me." These acts of remembrance are not simply a nostalgic longing for the past, they are a recalling of the past into the present; the transformational power of those past events becomes a present reality. This is why memory is such an important part of the life of faith. Our trust in God is built on the foundation of God's faithfulness in ages past. Because God has been faithful and trustworthy in the past, we can live in the assurance of God's faithfulness in the present. To walk by faith is to remember the steadfast love of the Lord.

#### The Promise of the Future

But God's people were not only strengthened and sustained by *memory*, they were also inspired by *hope*. Throughout the Old Testament, especially through the words of the prophets, God promises to bring salvation and redemption to the whole

world. God promises to bring about a new creation and to restore all things. As Christians, we believe that this work of redemption has been accomplished through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. And yet, we also believe that there is a future consummation still to come. We believe in the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. It is this hope that encouraged and inspired the first followers of Jesus. They knew that despite their present suffering, there was a new creation that was in the process of being born. They were convinced that one day God will restore all things. And so, the Apostle Peter declares in his epistle, "we have been given a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead" (I Peter 1:3). To walk by faith is to be sustained by this living hope, trusting in God's promise to make all things new.

#### Between Memory and Hope

We live in the space between memory and hope. We walk by faith because God has been faithful in ages past, and God has promised to bring about a joyful future. So, during the seasons of Lent and Easter, let us set aside time to remember God's faithfulness. Perhaps you might even make a list of the ways in which you have experienced God's mercy and grace in your life. And let us also set aside time to reflect on God's promise to make all things new, to bring creation about new that characterized by unity, justice, peace, and joy. In the midst of the trials and tribulation of this life, God has called us to walk by faith, to trust in God's abundant provision, to offer our lives in joyful obedience to God's mission in the world, and to rest in that holy space between memory and hope.

#### **WORSHIP**

# Church on the Green Spring Schedule

Second and Fourth Sundays at 5 PM

Sunday, March 13, 2022: St. Patrick Join us for Church on the Green on Sunday, March 13, 2022 as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day! As patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick is a significant figure in the tradition of Celtic Christianity, with its particular



emphasis on finding God in nature. Legend has it St. Patrick often taught about God by pointing to the natural world around him. Join us this week as we learn from the Celtic tradition and form deeper connections with the earth around us.

Bring a leaf, rock, three leaf clover, shell, blade of grass, or other item of nature from a place particularly important to you (your lawn, a nearby park, the beach) as we bless your encounters with God in nature.

#### Sunday, March 27, 2022: Spring Sowing

Join us for Church on the Green on Sunday, March 27, 2022 as we celebrate the planting of seeds. On Plough Sunday we prayed and reflected on the preparation of land and blessed workers of the earth and their tools. At this service we discuss the planting of seeds after the land has been prepared. With our hearts ploughed and ready, what seeds is God planting in our lives?

Bring a pack of seeds for a special blessing over all the things being planted in your life.

#### Sunday, April 10, 2022: Palm Sunday

Join us for Church on the Green on Sunday, April 10, 2022 as we celebrate Palm Sunday. Palm branches, which represented victory, triumph, and peace in the ancient world were waved and laid in the path of Jesus as he entered Jerusalem at the beginning of holy week. Here in Palm Beach County, the palm continues to be a central image in our lives. Come reflect with us on the significance of the palm branch as we enter this sacred week before Easter.

Bring the palms received at the morning's service for more special prayers.

#### Sunday, April 24, 2022: Earth Stewardship—At the Beach!

Join us for a special Church on the Green on Sunday, April 24, 2022 at the beach! In celebration of Earth Stewardship Sunday and Earth Day this special service will take place at a local beach and will offer prayers and lessons on caring for this sacred place we call home. Come early to join the combined efforts of Good Shepherd Church and School to pick up trash along the beach. Details for this exciting event will be announced in the coming weeks.

Join us also on Wednesday, April 27th for the beginning of our Easter Bible Study Series: The Green Bible: Exploring Our Relationship with God and the Earth.



GriefShare, our bereavement support ministry, is reorganizing for a new session in the fall of 2022. In the coming months we will develop the program through updated schedules and leader training, GriefShare is a ministry of caring and support for anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one. If you feel called to find out how you can support this ministry in a leadership capacity, please contact Fr. Doug. 561-746-4674



# Hygiene kit drive update

THANK YOU!!! We just delivered our most successful Hygiene Kit drive EVER. Thanks to the combined efforts of church and school, we collected **over 200 completed hygiene kits**, plus approximately 400 toothbrushes, 350 tubes of toothpaste, and 2 shopping bags full of assorted soaps, tissues, deodorants and shampoos as well.

Hats off to all participants. And a huge thanks to Roger Thomas, who once again agreed to load up his truck to take the supplies to the Warfield School in Indiantown.

### We Cycle by Faith

Three Things Riding a Bike has Taught Me about Faith By The Rev. Derek M. Larson

or the last seven months I have commuted to work, taken my son to school, picked up take-out, and gone to the beach by bicycle. My family only has one car and when we moved to Jupiter I decided that rather than buying another vehicle, I would see what it's like to get around by bike (I have an electric bike, so its easier). While cycling to work certainly has its challenges, I LOVE it. Surprisingly, riding my bike to work each day has also taught me a lot about my faith. Here are three lessons I've learned.

#### Slow down!

Our world is in such a hurry! When we drive our cars, we often take speed limits as general suggestions, race the yellow light, and become irate when we get stuck behind slower drivers. In our rush, we don't always pay attention to the world around us and pedestrians are often ignored. On a bicycle though—even on an ebike—you can't help but take it slow. And when you slow down, the things you begin to notice are amazing! You learn patience. You learn to enjoy the journey rather than trying to just get to your destination. And in the end, you normally arrive just 5 minutes later than your neighbor who rushed and missed it all.

Isn't the same true in our journey of faith? In a world where fastest is best, we can't help but approach faith in the same way. We want quick fixes. We want short church services. We want to jump through the parts where we are challenged and get to the parts where we are comfortable. But faith doesn't work like that. Like walking or cycling, you have to take it slow, one step at a time, trusting that God will bring you to the place where God leads in good time. We have to remember that in the journey of faith, God is not only in your destination, God is in your journey. God is your travel companion. If you move too fast, you'll miss who's walking beside you.

#### **Embrace your humanity!**

When we drive our cars, it's easy to remain anonymous. We are shielded by chunks of plastic, metal, and glass, and no one can see us or knows us. Unless we know their cars well, we won't even notice our friends that drive by us. Despite being around hundreds of people along the way, we are completely alone. In a sense, our humanity is eclipsed and we become a sort of automaton. Our cars become just moving props

among the concrete
and metal that is
the city landscape. But
on foot or bike you can't
hide. You are a person. When
I commute to the office by bike,
I encounter in other pedestrians,

people! And they encounter me. And suddenly people I know start seeing me and waving or calling out or telling me later that they saw me. I am a human!

GROW

Just like the chunks of metal and glass in the car, often we go through life shielding ourselves from those around us. We crave connection, but we are afraid of the vulnerability that comes with it. And so we put up obstacles, we put on faces, we put up fronts so that no one can really see us. We cannot, however, walk in faith alone. We are meant for community. We are meant for relationship. It's human!

#### See beauty!

You simply cannot experience the full beauty of the earth inside a car. You can catch glimpses of it. You can see parts of it through your window. But there's nothing like riding a bicycle over the Alt AIA bridge into Tequesta and smelling the salt in the air, seeing the Atlantic on the horizon, and feeling the brisk, cool wind over the water. Each morning a prayer rises on my breath, "The sea is yours for you created it! And your hands have molded the dry land" (Psalm 95).

The journey of faith is full of beautiful moments but we don't always see them. Whether it's because we're too busy, too worried, too self-consumed, or whatever, there are so many gifts of beauty around us that we simply don't notice. The invitation from God is to open our eyes and see the beauty.

We are on a journey of faith. We can't always see where that journey is going, but each step of the way we trust in faith that God is leading us. We walk by faith, not by sight. But to walk that journey we must slow down, embrace our humanity, and see the beauty. And riding a bicycle to work has taught me that.

Rev. Derek Larson is the Assistant Rector at Good Shepherd since July 2021. Reach him at dlarson@goodsheponline.org

# T AMILY

# Faith in Good Times and in Bad

By David Dixon, Youth Minister

It was in my middle school years that I first encountered death. A close relative who was in his 50's developed emphysema and eventually it got the best of him. I had been there several nights before his death sitting with him and talking about all sorts of silly stuff.

I was raised in church. My mother, an exemplar of faith, taught me to pray and believe that God would answer our prayers. I prayed for my uncle's life. For three days I fasted and prayed and hoped that God would restore him to health. But it didn't happen.

I went through a spiritual crisis. I challenged God, and even said God was cruel. My disappointment in my uncle's death, and ultimately in God's choice not to heal him, was paralyzing. For a moment, my hope in God's goodness vanished—and I was thirteen years old. As adults we come to realize that death is a part of life. This happens all the time, but at thirteen it was a traumatic event in my life.

Think of the last person who sat next to you in traffic. You may not know a single thing about them, but it's likely, you have something in common: you have both grieved. Grief is one of the most confusing, frustrating, and universal of human experiences. In the context of youth ministry, the moment of loss can be transformative—either toward despair and cynicism, or toward hope and faith.

Visit us online at GoodShepOnline.org/family-ministries

Contact David to find out more about Youth and Family Ministries at ddixon@goodsheponline.org

Visit our Youth and Family Ministry page for info and ministry schedules. GoodShepOnline.org



Inevitably, we all experience seasons of doubt and we question not only who we are but what we believe. In the context of youth and family ministry I am commissioned with the task of offering support to our youth and families in the good times and especially in the midst of those seasons of questioning faith. What's the best to do this? That is, how can we all offer support to our youth, children and families during difficult seasons?

I have found that sharing my own experience regarding questioning faith, God, and the church frees others to open up to me. We were not meant to navigate this world alone, so be more intentional about making connections with others whether over coffee or normal activities. Reach out to young people in your life. Connect with young families you know. Do something that brings encouragement and lifts the spirit. Normal activities can remind a young person, and all of us, that faith can be fun.

As a teenager, I thought I was indestructible. But loss of anything shatters that illusion. Faith in God's sovereignty provides some relief in that, despite the vulnerability of humankind, there is some bigger, deeper meaning to the trials we face in life. Faith provides the fundamental belief and hope for our future. We cannot survive without hope. It's the motivation to rebuild, to restore, and to endure.

After Jesus was crucified, his followers were at a low point, grieving their loss of safety, direction, and hope. But the minute they met the risen Lord, discovering God's redemption through loss, they were changed for life. Frightened followers who scattered and hid when Jesus was arrested became resilient, willing to offer themselves for the cause of Christ.

At the end of the day, we are all on a journey of faith. We journey together whether we recognize that or not. We need to stir one another's faith—faith in the future, faith in the present, and faith in God's purpose and plan for our lives.



In December, Youth Group met in "the Barn" (their new space) for a seasonal creative project with Kate Gouery.

#### Office News

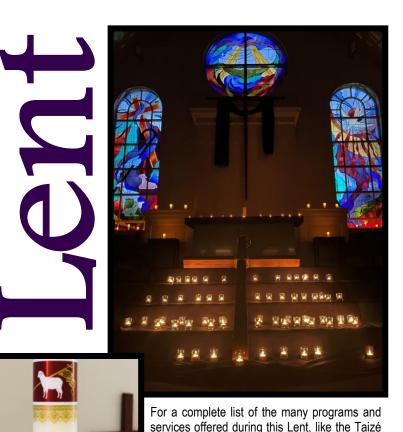
Mary Lou Crifasi has joined our staff as Interim Office Coordinator following Julie Brown's



resignation from the position in January. Julie accepted a position in her primary field and is still an active member of Good Shepherd. Mary Lou has served in a volunteer capacity since 2020 and we are thrilled to have her with us! She also is our Theological Book Study Coordinator and works with Pennies for Heaven on the Ebay sales team.



Our Super-duper Pennies Ebay Team: (I-r) Ned Edwards, Mary Lou Crifasi and Catherine Oenbrink



#### Ash Wednesday is March 2

The imposition of ashes will be offered at services throughout the day. We will also have a recorded liturgy available on the Lent page of our website for those unable to attend in-person. Service times: 6:30 am, 8:30 am, 10:00 am, and 7:00 pm.

#### Lenten Formation Series 4 **Voices of Faith**



service pictured above, please visit the Lent

page on our website GoodShepOnline.org.

#### Wednesdays beginning March 9, at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall

How do we discern when God is speaking to us? How has God spoken in ages past? How are we empowered to find our own voice of faith? Join us this Lenten season as we focus on five distinct moments when God speaks directly to men and women in the Bible. In each case, the voice of God is responding to the particular emotional and spiritual needs of the person. At times, God's response is comforting, at other times, challenging. In each case, the person is empowered to find their own voice of faith.

Each Wednesday in Lent, we will focus on one biblical story and character, including Moses, Hagar, Elijah, Rebekah, and Paul. During our small group discussions, we will share and explore our own stories of faith as they relate to the Bible. Join us this Lent as we gather for prayer, fellowship, and an inspirational time of spiritual formation.



#### GOOD SHEPHERD

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

#### We Walk by Faith at School

Heather Vaughn, Head of School, Good Shepherd Episcopal School

Every day we challenge our students to make decisions based on faith and trust in God. We make room for God and believe in his power to shape our lives.

Right: **Father Derek** reads "Tilly and Tank" to our Early Childhood students, as an example of the power of seeing others through God's love.







SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL **GOLF TOURNAMENT** Friday MAY 6

9:00 AM Shotgun Start Jupiter Country Club

> ANNUAL GALA Saturday MAY 7

6:00 PM Cocktails Dinner and Auction "Boots and Bling" at the WhiteTrail Club of

Jupiter Farms







L-R, Third grader, Mallory Alfuth, leads us in prayer, Fourth grader, Alana Corbitt, lights the candles in preparation for Chapel service, Fourth graders, Matthew Zisa, Tyler Claridge, and Grady Scharf, lead the processional during Chapel service.

> Good Shepherd School is enrolling now for the 2022/23 academic year. Contact us at 561-746-5507 or visit us online at GoodShepSchool.com

#### Appointment of Heather Vaughn as Head of School



One year ago, our School Board of Trustees appointed Mrs. Heather Vaughn as our Acting Head of School for the current academic year. Since that time, our Transition Committee has been overseeing the process of discerning the future needs of our school as well as the process of selecting our next permanent Head of School. The selection process was conducted in consultation with the leadership of FCIS and Southern Teachers, a consulting firm that specializes in Head of School search processes. Our Board of Trustees felt it was essential that we conduct a thorough and comprehensive search process in order to ensure the future success of our school.

We are pleased to announce that our Board of Trustees has unanimously approved the appointment of Heather Vaughn as our permanent Head of School. Heather has been a strong and effective leader over the course of her many years with our school, and she has done an exceptional job in navigating our school through the challenges related to the ongoing pandemic. Heather will officially assume the role of permanent Head of School at the start of the next academic year in July 2022. In the meantime, the Board of Trustees and the leadership of Good Shepherd Church look forward to working with Heather as we build a bright future for our school community.

#### Ministry Spotlight:

## Music Ministries

By The Rev. Derek M. Larson

It's Wednesday morning and the church is filled with early learning students, ages 2-5. Their hands clap and their feet stomp as they follow the simple liturgy of chapel prayers, stories, and songs. At times their minds and bodies wander until Fr. Doug and Fr. Derek begin to sing. Their voices shout as they—with sudden lightning focus—join in,

"Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so."

It's Saturday afternoon in a small assisted-living room at Waterford Health Center where a woman whose age is just shy of a century lies in bed just hours before she passes from this life. In her weakness, conversation and words fail her, though her bed is surrounded by her daughter and two other friends from church. They pray with her and begin to sing when suddenly the woman joins in,

"Little ones to him belong, they are weak but he is strong."

It's Sunday evening and a small gathering of parishioners surround a fire and an altar on the green space between the Parish Hall and the school. They have gathered to say prayers, to worship, to receive communion, and to receive blessings. Before the Eucharistic Prayer, at the offertory, smiles appear as the congregation sings under the sky,

"Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so."

Music is powerful. Before we are old enough to have a conversation, music finds us. When we are old and words begin to fail us, music finds us. And everywhere in between, music captures our attention, permeates our being, and gives voice to the deepest parts of our heart. The words of the song are important, but it is the music that allows them to pierce our very souls. For many people some of their greatest joys and transformative moments happened with music, and whenever they hear the songs again, the whole experience is resurrected from the past and made present again. We turn to music for comfort and for celebration, for relaxation and relief, for praise and prayer. Music is powerful.

And it is for this reason that music is so important at Good Shepherd. When the pandemic began and the church had to quickly adapt in a new context to protect its community, many things were put on hold. For two years the church has missed the voices of the choir. And yet while other ministries went completely absent, music burst through the cracks and found other ways of existing. Early on our musicians recorded themselves digitally and creatively edited together beautiful renditions of songs, hymns, and Psalm chants. Later a core group of vocalists, including Debbie White, Lydia Schweizer, and Ian Anderson, joined our Music Director and Organist Timm Johnson-Reynolds, and sang behind plexiglass, carrying the musical prayers when the congregation could not join. When church met outside, music persisted with guitars, keyboards, and new songs. A youth band formed and played last year on Wednesdays in Lent and now every 5th Sunday on Sunday morning. Mrs. and Mr. Shepherd, the

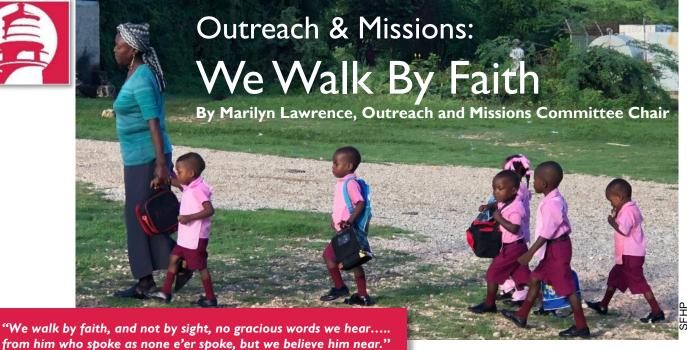


music teachers at our school, each week lead students in worship at our chapel services. Like all our ministries at Good Shepherd, music ministry has changed significantly over the last two years, but it has persisted and thrived, finding new ways of connecting with the congregation because music is powerful.

As we move into a new chapter of ministry, we are thinking critically about how music can continue to be an intentional and important part of our life here at Good Shepherd.

We invite you to join us on Sunday, March 13, for a showcase of Music Ministry in the Narthex after the 10:00 service. It is important for you to see our vision for music ministry not only as an integral part of worship for everyone, but as a vehicle for delivering meaning, learning, comfort, and joy through other ministries and experiences.





he opening verse of this hymn pretty well sums up our life of faith. We don't always know where we're going; the vision belongs to God, not to us. We don't usually hear God's 'gracious words' spoken directly to us we don't need to! The voice of our Lord echoes down through the ages, and it speaks to all of us: "Love God and one another. Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, free the prisoners - bring Good News to the poor."

When we feed the hungry - through our Food Pantry, our St. George's ministry, our Food Packing for Haiti - we empower people to go forth and build lives of their own. When we provide clothing – to the children of the Warfield School, to the homeless in Riviera Beach, to children in foster care of those served by Faith Farms ministry - we promote in them a sense of self-worth and value to the community. When we provide hygiene kits to the students at Warfield school, or toiletries to people who are homeless at St. George's, or support South Florida Haiti Project's medical missions to Bondeau - we provide healing and hope. When we provide books – to the children of the Warfield School or in Bondeau, Haiti - we open up new possibilities, and we help to set them free!

For not all prisoners are behind metal bars. Far too many of our sisters and brothers are imprisoned in other ways: by racism, sexism, stereotypes, prejudices, poverty, addiction, fear. By our service, by our caring, by our gifts and our

respect, we open up new possibilities which some, but not all, will follow. And this is also key to our life of faith. We cannot guarantee the results of our efforts. The future belongs to God, not to us. The prayer of the Conference of Catholic Bishops says it best: "We are prophets of a future not our own." We water seeds that others have We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities. We are workers, not master builders. The future is not ours, but the present IS ours. And we, as people of faith, are called to do what we can today to share the Good News with the poor. May we always do it well and faithfully.

"We lay the stones where others walk, we cannot see the way. We cast the bread that others eat to live another day. We share a smile, a kindly word, to speed them on their way. We cannot know what lies ahead, it is not ours to say. We walk by faith that leads us on, and guides us day by day." - Original prose by Marilyn Lawrence

Outreach and Missions Committee meets monthly to discuss projects and opportunities that make a real difference in real lives. To learn more, please contact Marilyn Lawrence at marilaw@msn.com or visit us online.

> The Food Pantry is open on Tuesdays from 11-2 Curbside in the south parking lot For pick-up or drop-off



# 2022 Lenten Outreach Project

Let's Help Build a Kindergarten!

Our Lenten project for this year is to once again come along side our brothers and sisters in Bondeau, Haiti and the youngest members of the community. For a small handful of years now, the community and school administration have identified a need for a separate kindergarten building on the Bon Samaritan School campus. Our goal is to help underwrite this project.

The total project cost is \$65,000. An individual donor has already provided the S. Florida Haiti Project an amazing gift of \$25,000 toward the project. It is our hope that our Good Shepherd community will provide \$15,000 for the new kindergarten. The S. Florida Haiti Project is working with other organizations concurrently to raise the other \$25,000 needed for full funding. Details coming soon!!



#### **Morning Prayer**

Monday through Friday at 9:00
Zoom Live: link on Prayer page
of GoodShepOnline.org
Recording available later on the same page

### Daily Office Ministry

#### Ian Anderson, Coordinator

#### A Prayer of Thomas Merton

My Lord God. I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

As I write, we are approaching the second anniversary of daily online Morning Prayer here at Good Shepherd. Since the Daily Office lectionary has a two-year cycle, there is a sense of "completion" in this anniversary. For example, this week I did my last cutting and pasting of the lessons from the online lectionary into our Good Shepherd service leaflets; we now have service leaflets for every weekday morning of the two-year cycle (about 500 of them in total!).

We should remember that this ministry began in March 2020 as a temporary way for Fr. Doug to connect with the congregation during the pandemic closure, which we all assumed would last for only two weeks! After two weeks, Doug asked me to share this ministry with him, and then as spring turned to summer, a handful of us agreed to share the ministry of leading Morning Prayer, joined by a dedicated group of regular participants. We have reached this two-year anniversary together simply by taking the next step each day, the one presented to us.

And this brings me to the theme of this edition of Tidings, "We walk by faith." As beautifully articulated by the late Thomas Merton, we cannot see the path in front of us. We are simply called to put one foot in front of the other, attempting to answer God's call as we best understand it that day, and trusting that our desire to please God does in fact please God. Before we know it, we will have traveled a long way. For faithful attenders of our services, this long journey has taken us through the majority of the Bible in a regular cycle, while allowing us to daily bring intercessions for our loved ones, our parish, the Anglican communion, and events in the news that call us to pray to God, in some words or other, "Thy will be done."

I give thanks for all who have shared this journey with the Daily Office Team, and celebrate Good Shepherd's individual and corporate walks of faith that comprise our shared ministry.

### A Recipe for Faith

By Beth Long, Pennies For Heaven Shop Manager

When I open the door to Pennies and turn the lights on, it's so comforting to know that the volunteers are going to show up with a smile and ready to take on the day. The pride they take in making the shop the best it can be is heartwarming to see. Our loyal, reliable worker bees include;

Diane S. who is constantly checking the racks to make sure everything is in the correct spot, and Susan M. who encourages her friends to come and shop on the day she is there. Janell A. is one of the best sales people in the shop, and Nadia, who creates artistic and colorful displays. Anna tidies up and vacuums, and Jessica S. greets our customers with the specials of the day. And if it weren't for all of our cashiers -- Connie T., Jennifer J., Becky B., Joan F., Debbie A., Connie R., Beverly C., Barb M., and Dona S.-- we simply could not run the store!

Behind the scenes at Pennies is just as important:

Barb M., Sally R., Anne L., Val W., and Barbara B., spend their time inspecting, hanging, tagging and pricing all the clothing that comes through the door while Kathy C., Joan B., Dona S., Connie R., Dennis C., Ellen F. and Mary Jane S. will price, fix, wash, mend, paint, test, and clean anything from shoes, household goods, toys, appliances, books, pictures, lamps, and what nots... you name it!

And in the back room of Pennies we have;

Catherine, who handles all correspondence of eBay, researches, negotiates, packages everything by finding just the right box to handle all our treasures and Mary Lou, who helps Catherine while Ned E. assists with jewelry, watches, researching silver and helps to deliver eBay packages to the local post office.

I also love our "pop-ins" who help when schedules allow:

Gayle C., Charlotte P., Shirley C., Mary Jean W., Jean S., Julie & Pete B., and Deni W. Evi is another person who brings Pennies to life through all our social media. Also our dedicated furniture movers, Mike H., Mike G. and Ron G., who have helped take sales to a new level by volunteering to pick up items locally.



And there's Denise, my partner in "Faith". We are similar but different, we complement each other's strengths and weaknesses, and have gotten very good at tag teaming Offer Up, Faith Farms, and other charities, and donations that come in the door. We also remind each other of important upcoming dates! She is so creative from a marketing perspective and has such a clear "vision" of the image of Pennies. The stars aligned over Pennies when we began to work together!

If faith was a recipe, I think it would have a little bit of belief, trust and gratitude in it. Was it faith that brought all these wonderful people together 4 days a week in one little place on the Good Shepherd campus? Is it Faith that every person has a gift that they offer Pennies every time they volunteer? I don't know the answer to those questions, but I am blessed that faith in God and our mission has shone its light upon us.



Dennis Cassidy and Denise Parson work on assembling a piece of furniture for merchandising. Pennies For Heaven has been receiving and selling larger items from the north end of the Parish Hall since the campus closure in 2020. As we get back to on-campus meetings, we are actively looking for solutions for a more permanent space for large items — an important segment of shop sales.

#### THRIFT SHOP HOURS:

Tuesday—Friday, 11-4

Please check our Facebook page for current safety protocols.

Donations accepted when the shop is open or call us to make arrangements

at 561-406-2923. Thank you!



We are collecting auction items now! Types of items that have done well in the past include: restaurant gift certificates, golf packages, spa or personal services, experiences (theme parks, sports, art fairs, adventure, etc.), luxury gift baskets, retail gift certificates, fine art, and jewelry.

All proceeds from donated items will fund Outreach and Missions. Just drop us a line with a description of the item or bring it to the office at 400 Seabrook Road, Tequesta, FL 33469. If you are having something delivered, please let us know so that we can arrange to receive it.



Artie's Party is our annual major fundraiser that benefits Outreach ministries and our ministry partners locally, regionally, and globally. Our goal is \$50,000 to provide a range of support for those who need it most.

Save the date — Friday, May 20, 2022 when we will celebrate the good work we do throughout the year with food ministries, community support, education, and urgent needs assistance. Artie's Party has been helping others for over 20 years and while needs shift and change over time, our commitment to serve as lesus' presence in the world remains as brilliant and beautiful as ever. Kaleidoscope promises to be a colorful and exciting evening of fellowship and community. This year it's a vibrant, sparkly evening, indoors and out. We can't wait to see you there! (Invitations coming soon!)

Left: The current kindergarten building at Bon Samaritan in Bondeau, Haiti. Our outreach project for Lent is a cooperative project with other partners to construct a new

building. (see page 13 to read all about it!)

# Snapshot Journal

Right: The 2022 Food Packing team.

We helped pack over 75,000 meals for children in Bondeau!



Above: The children of Good Shepherd School welcomed the news of Heather Vaughn's appointment as Head of School with a bulletin board of notes of love and congratulations.



Above left: Fr. Doug presents a Christian formation session at the Rector's Forum in February. Above right: A colorful slide from the annual meeting showing our national livestream viewership for services and other content.

# By the **NUMBERS**

Here are some of the numbers behind this year's events, services, and activities that reflect the life of this parish.

#### 128

Attended our Annual Meeting in January—including 19 livestream attendees!

#### 200

Hygiene kits distributed to the Warfield School in February

\$677,816

Pledged for 2022

#### П

Ministry groups now meeting on campus

#### 50

Pounds of flour used for the Youth Shove Tuesday pancake mix fundraiser

#### 2,000

Youtube channel views in January and February

5

New Vestry members elected in 2022

1,000,000

Oak leaves on the north parking lot (estimate)

#### 1,170

Round trip miles travelled for the CEEP conference in Atlanta

# Stewardship 2022 Campaign Update: Looks Like We Made it!



The Generosity Team, our committed stewardship planning group, wishes to thank everyone who contributed to the success of our 2022 pledge goal

Generosity Leads to Living with Purpose

of \$675,000 — a 10% increase over the 2021 goal. Since the beginning of the pandemic, our interim BRIDGE plan identified several areas that would allow us to maintain connection and relevance in our community and beyond in these challenging times. Staffing, technology, and communications have been enhanced for 2022, easing pastoral care and worship constraints for clergy, allowing us to reach people who are unable to attend in-person worship, and engaging those in our community who need a helping hand or have one to lend.

Our Generosity Team members are Patti Hamilton, O'Neal Bardin, Rob Taylor, Teresa Grashof, and staff members Merike Seely and Fr. Doug Scharf. Patti Hamilton has served as committee chair for the past couple years and we thank her tremendously for her enthusiasm and leadership in developing a culture of generosity through gratitude. In 2022 Patti is passing that baton to O'Neal Bardin, who has accepted the role of committee chair. While Patti will remain an active member of the Generosity Team, we whole-heartedly welcome O'Neal in this new role. If you feel called to find out more about serving on the Generosity Team, please contact the church office for O'Neal's contact information.







Newly elected Vestry members in 2022: I-r lan Anderson

Carol Block Akin Owosina







George Hines Brad Davis Zach Gouery— Youth Vestry Representative (not elected)

#### **Annual Meeting Recap**

Good Shepherd's 2021 Annual Meeting was held in-person and via livestream on Sunday, January 29 in the church, where 109 were present and another 19 joined us online. New vestry members were elected through acclamation and a real-time vote was available for livestream viewers. Senior Warden, Heather Graham, announced Fr. Doug's candidacy for Bishop of Southwest Florida which will culminate in an election and announcement around April 2. Fr. Doug presented the State of the Parish, and Treasurer, Mike Green, presented the financial reports for 2021. Outgoing Vestry members Gwen Gouery, Kathy Hawken, Stephen Pollard, and Rob Taylor were thanked for their service. The meeting concluded with a year-in-review video presentation.

#### Financial Status (Jan.—Dec. 2021)

	Actual	Annual Budget
Operating Revenues	1,041,297	948,462
Operating Expenses	1,003,853	939,432

37,444

**Net Total** 

We thank everyone for keeping pledges current. If you would like to arrange recurring donation, please contact Letty, our Business Manager. 561-746-4674.

Fr. Doug's Bishop Candidacy: Original Announcement to the Parish from our Senior Warden (from email dated January 29, 2022)

On behalf of the vestry, I am writing to inform you that our Rector, Fr. Doug Scharf, has been nominated and selected as a finalist for the Bishop Coadjutor search process in the Diocese of Southwest Florida. At this point, Fr. Doug is only a candidate, but this does mark the beginning of a two-month process that will culminate with the election of a new Bishop in April. If elected, there would be a transition period over the summer. We are very excited for Fr. Doug as he embraces this opportunity to follow God's call in his life and career, and we look forward to offering our support for him and his family throughout this process.

9.030

Fr. Doug's nomination is a testimony to the health and vitality of our congregation, which is the fruit of the mission and ministry we all share together. Good Shepherd has a strong vision for the future, and we are confident that with God's help we will be empowered to fulfill all that we have been called to do regardless of the outcome of the election. You are encouraged to join us either in-person or online for tomorrow's Annual Meeting at 10:30 AM, during which Fr. Doug will provide additional information regarding this process. Please keep Fr. Doug and the other candidates in your prayers in the coming months. May God continue to bless us in all we do!

In Christ's love, Heather Graham, Senior Warden

#### Ways to Give to Good Shepherd **Recurring Gifts**

Linking your giving to your bank account cuts processing fees and means that more of your gift can be used for mission and ministry. You can set up this direct giving on our secure giving page by selecting a recurring ACH gift. You will also have the opportunity to select the giving schedule and, once established, you can change or cancel it at any time.

#### **Checks and Credit Cards**

Please mail checks to the church at 400 Seabrook Road, Tequesta, FL 33469. Credit cards are processed easily on our website on the Giving page and can be done at any time on any schedule. You can also set up recurring credit card donations or electronic pay-by-check

#### **Stock Donations**

Stock donations may be made to Good Shepherd for any purpose. If you would like to make a donation on realized gains from stock, please contact Merike Seely for the trade instructions. Important Request: If you make a stock gift to the church for memorial gifts, for endowment, or for your pledge, please let Merike or the clergy know about it so that we can properly recognize and allocate your gift. Contact us at mseely@goodsheponline.org.



The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd



400 Seabrook Road Tequesta, FL 33469 Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID West Palm Beach, FL Permit No. 1930

Current resident or

Masks are currently optional Updates post regularly on our website

Love Thy Neighbor

#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP 8 AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE I** (IN-PERSON ONLY)

#### **10 AM HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

(IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM AT GOODSHEPONLINE.ORG)

**DURING THE WEEK 9 AM MORNING PRAYER** (ON FACEBOOK AND ZOOM)

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

TUESDAY—FRIDAY 10 TO 2

#### **THRIFT SHOP HOURS**

TUESDAY—FRIDAY II TO 4 (DONATIONS ACCEPTED WHEN THE SHOP IS OPEN 561-406-2923)

> **FOOD PANTRY HOURS** Tuesdays 11 to 2

#### **GOOD SHEPHERD VESTRY** 2022

Heather Graham, Senior Warden Mike Howard, Junior Warden Mike Greene, Treasurer Mark Chittum, Clerk Tracy Smith, Matt Ulman, Brad Davis, Beth Bohnsack, Beverley Cunningham, Akin Owosina, Ian Anderson, Carol Block, George Hines







### Holy Week

#### April 10 **Palm Sunday**

Holy Eucharist 8 pm 10 pm Liturgy of the Palms 5 pm Church on the Green

#### April 14 **Maundy Thursday**

7 pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy Stripping of the Altar

9 pm All-night Vigil begins

#### April 15 Good Friday

9 am All-night Vigil concludes 12 pm Stations of the Cross 7pm Service of Taizé

Good Friday Liturgy

#### April 16 Holy Saturday

8 pm Easter Vigil

#### April 17 **Easter Day**

6:30 am Sunrise Eucharist 8 am Festival Eucharist 10 am Festival Eucharist 11:30 am Easter Egg Hunt

Please visit GoodShepOnline.org for the most current times and service descriptions closer to Holy Week.