

Tidings

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and School, Tequesta, FL

BRIDGE
adapting as we go in 2021

SPRING 2021

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
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GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

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PENNIES FOR HEAVEN THRIFT SHOP

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GOOD SHEPHERD VESTRY 2021

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Mike Howard, *Junior Warden*
Mike Greene, *Treasurer*
Mark Chittum, *Clerk*
Tracy Smith, Rob Taylor, Kathy Hawken,
Steve Pollard, Matt Ulman, Gwen Gouery,
Beth Bohnsack, Beverley Cunningham,
Mike Hanseter



Whodunnit? We think it was Mrs. Couillard, in the sacristy, with the candlestick. And she's not the only one! Our Altar Guild works every week, as it has for decades, to make worship a meaningful and often sparkly experience. This month, our ministry spotlight is on Altar Guild, a group that has discovered ways to adapt to pandemic church protocols through paper cups, sanitizer, and ashes-to-go. We're sure she's smiling under that mask! Read about our dedicated Altar Guild team on page 15.

WELCOME! As of this printing we are still in Phase 2 of our reopening plan which includes limited in-person worship. **Registration is required.** Ministry groups are still virtual with the exception of our Thrift Shop and other diocesan approved activities. We continue to offer a variety of digital content and ministry opportunities to help you engage in parish life. Get to know us online and, eventually, join us in person!

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

Our path is not always clear. A foggy view of the bridge over the C-18 canal at the southern end of Riverbend Park, in Jupiter, portrays the uncertainty that we may feel in 2021 as we learn new ways to do Christ's work in a changing world.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. -Psalm 25:4-5

Photo credit: Merike Seely
Location: (26.9150431, -80.1687794) Jupiter





Tidings

SPRING 2021

- 2 Rector's Message
- 3 All About Lent
- 4 The Other Side: *Crossing over into God's Future*
- 6 Daily Office: *Where will BRIDGE take us?*
- 7 Show Me the Way: *Living Fully into the Life of the Parish*
- 8 Good Shepherd School Notes
- 10 Outreach & Missions: *Something That Connects*
- 12 Youth and Family Ministries
- 13 Snapshot Journal
- 14 Pennies For Heaven News
- 15 Ministry Spotlight: *Altar Guild*
- 16 By the Numbers
- 16 Annual Meeting & Vestry News
- 17 Financials

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 blessed palm fronds from Palm Sunday last year were burned for Ash Wednesday this year for the start of Lent.



A Word from the Rector



Dear Friends in Christ,

One year ago, I was writing the welcome article for our Spring edition of *Tidings*. The theme for that particular issue was “Radiate: Ministry Beyond the Walls.” Who could have imagined how much ministry was about to take place *beyond the walls* of our buildings? Who could have imagined that hundreds of our members would be worshipping virtually from home for almost a year? Who could have imagined that our food pantry would become such a vital ministry in our local community? Who could have imagined that newcomers would begin to engage with our congregation without ever stepping foot inside one of our buildings?



Who could have imagined that so much would change in the span of just twelve months? Yet here we are. Of course, we still face many challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic; however, we are also witnessing the emergence of exciting new opportunities for mission and ministry in our community and beyond. A brief look at the history of God’s people reveals that God is continually calling us to *look forward*, to look beyond our own limitations and to reimagine what is possible. God is calling us to *cross over* into a new way of being the church in the world.

But how do we cross over to this new place? *We build a BRIDGE!* We work together to create new patterns and paradigms for doing ministry. We imagine new ways to collaborate and foster partnerships with our local community. We focus on the foundational work of developing disciples and growing leaders for Christ. This is the work to which we are being called in this moment. So, through this Spring edition of *Tidings*, we will be exploring the component parts of the *BRIDGE* we are being called to build. This work will take all of us, and will only be possible by God’s extravagant grace. I leave you with these powerful words from Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

In Christ,

Lenten Bible Study

Covenant: A Sign of God's Steadfast Love

5-week Study — Begins February 24

The theme of *covenant* is central to the story of the Bible. Beginning with creation itself, God established his everlasting covenant of love and faithfulness. Even when God's people rebelled and rejected his covenant, God's steadfast love never wavered. Using the Old Testament readings for the Sundays in Lent, we will trace the theme of *covenant* from Noah to the prophet Jeremiah, who spoke of God's promise to establish a *new covenant*, which Christians believe was fulfilled in Jesus Christ. **This five-week study will begin on Wednesday, February 24. Two sessions will be offered via Zoom at 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM. A recording of each session will be available on our YouTube channel.**



For the Duration of Lent:

We are seeking 300 \$50 sponsorships to meet critical food needs for our friends in Bondeau, Haiti.

You may remember our Food PACKING event two years ago when Fr. Phanord came to Good Shepherd from Bondeau to help us assemble nutritious food packets. We created more than 75,000 meals that weekend!

Since we are unable to gather for this event due to the pandemic, we are hoping to PAIR your gift, IN ANY AMOUNT, with someone who needs this life-sustaining nutrition. Your donations will send a container of rice and beans, and dried spices and vegetables to Bondeau.

AND, if you have a message of prayer or support to include with your donation, please send or email it to us. The messages will be translated into Creole and presented to community members. We are PAIRING people with people.

By clicking on the GIVE TODAY link on our home page, GoodShepVirtual.org, you will be living into Good Shepherd's mission and vision to radiate God's love to everyone, everywhere.

Lent on the Lawn

A River through the Desert:

A Virtual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 PM

Begins February 24

For the past year, most people have not been able to travel or spend much time exploring the world around us. So, this Lenten season, you are invited to join us for a virtual pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Hosted by St. George's Anglican College in Jerusalem, each week will include a short video message from the Dean of St. George's followed by reflection and discussion. Fr. Doug will also be sharing photos and videos from his own pilgrimage experience. Our virtual pilgrimage will focus on the following six geographical features of the Holy Land and how these locations relate to the ministry of Jesus and our own spiritual journeys.



- The Desert
- The Well
- The Mountain
- The Sea
- The Road
- The Garden

Each gathering will be held outside on the field.*

You are encouraged to bring your own lawn chairs or blankets. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will not be able to gather for our usual soup supper, so plan to eat before you come!

*If you are unable to attend in person, there will be recorded content available the following day. No registration required. Bring a chair.

The need is great. Visit our Lent page for more information about our 2021 Lenten Outreach project.

There, you can view the gallery, download a prayer, make a donation and follow our progress with an updated graphic.

GoodShepVirtual.org
Lent



Teresa Grashof

The Other Side

Crossing Over Into God's Future
By The Very Rev. Dr. Douglas F. Scharf

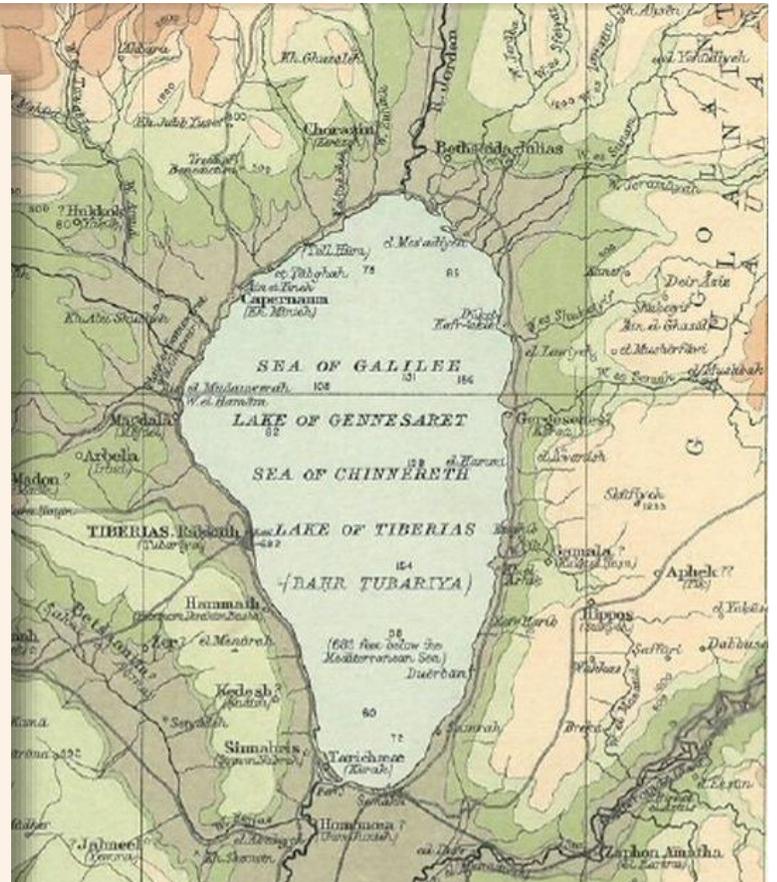
When Jesus called his first disciples and began his public ministry of teaching and healing, he exercised that ministry within a relatively small geographical region called Galilee. Using the town of Capernaum as his “base of operation,” Jesus went out to the surrounding villages to proclaim in both word and deed the Good News of the Kingdom of God. For the first followers of Jesus, the region of Galilee was familiar territory; it was their “home turf,” the place where they had lived and worked for most of their lives. Doing ministry in the region of Galilee was comfortable. It was manageable. It was containable.

But all of that changed one evening when Jesus announced to his disciples, “Let us cross over to *the other side*.” The destination to which Jesus was referring was *the other side* of the Sea of Galilee, the body of water that separated Israel from the Gentile regions to the east. Although the Sea of Galilee is only eight miles across at its widest point, the two sides of the lake represented two entirely different worlds. The western side of the sea was almost exclusively Jewish with respect to culture and worldview,

while the eastern side was primarily Gentile and dominated by a pagan worldview. In other words, *the other side* of the lake was *unknown and unpredictable*.

It's important to remember that this is not the first time God has called his people to cross over to *the other side*. In the book of Exodus, as the people of Israel were fleeing their captivity in Egypt, they eventually came upon the Red Sea. Facing almost certain death, God made a way for his people to cross over into the next phase of their spiritual journey. Likewise, when the Israelites were on the threshold of the Promised Land, only the expanse of the Jordan River separated God's people from their pledged inheritance. Another *crossing over* was required. Another leaving behind of what was comfortable, manageable, and containable was necessary in order for God's people to enter the fullness of God's vision and purpose. Just as God's people had *crossed over* in ages past, now Jesus beckoned his disciples to make the eight-mile journey to *the other side* of the Sea of Galilee.

Now we have to acknowledge that stepping out of our comfort-zones is not an easy task. Left to our own devices, we would rather stay where we are. It's human nature to



resist the unknown and unpredictable. As biblical scholar Karoline Lewis observes, “We would rather ignore the desperate need for change than make that change happen. So, we sit. And we wait. For what? The right time? For someone else to make the first move?” Jesus doesn’t give the disciples much of a choice! He knows their preference would be to remain on the safe side of the lake. He knows the disciples would rather stay in their comfort-zone. But he doesn’t let them linger. Instead, “on that same day” they *crossed over to the other side*.

The biblical image of *crossing over* is profoundly relevant to our current cultural situation as we look forward to a post-pandemic future. The phrase “new normal” has been tossed around in reference to the dramatically changed world that lies in front of us. However, as one

The biblical image of crossing over is profoundly relevant to our current cultural situation as we look forward to a post-pandemic future.

observer has noted, what lies ahead is really just the “next normal,” because our world is constantly in the process of changing and evolving. Regardless of how we define the terms, there is no question that the global pandemic has changed our cultural landscape, and many of these changes will leave a

lasting impression on the way we live our lives. Of course, the church is not immune to these changes and will ultimately need to adapt to new ways of doing ministry in order to fulfill its mission in the world.

At Good Shepherd, we have adopted the image of a *bridge* to guide our visioning and planning for the future. Just as the disciples were unsure of what they would encounter on *the other side* of the Sea of Galilee, we do not know precisely what the post-pandemic church will look like. The disciples encountered resistance and challenges during their journey across the sea. We, too, will almost certainly face both obstacles and opportunities as we enter our “next normal.” However, the gift the disciples received when they crossed over to *the other side* was an expanded vision of the Kingdom of God. For the first time, they began to understand that the mission of Jesus far exceeded anything they could have imagined. He truly was the Savior and Lord of the whole world. In the same way, God is expanding our vision and revealing his purpose for the world, which is always more than we can ask or imagine!

So, now is the time to heed the call of Jesus! Can you hear his voice? Can you feel his presence? Can you see his face? He is our friend, our teacher, our Lord. And he’s calling out to us right now – “*Let us cross over to the other side!*”



2021 is a year of transition as we move from a pre-pandemic place to another new and different world. To guide us, we have created a “mini” strategic plan for the next 12-18 months to achieve six major goal areas, listed below — our BRIDGE.

In many ways, these goals have revealed themselves as needs have changed in our parish, in our community, and in the world. To be clear: **our mission and vision have not changed.** We are still called to be *a beacon of faith, hope and love, and a resource radiating God’s love for everyone, everywhere.*

This BRIDGE year is already yielding exciting new ministries and connections that we may not have otherwise recognized. Livestream worship, enhanced technology utilization for formation and fellowship, and amplified outreach ministries are ways in which we are crossing this BRIDGE now.



Read the full plan at GoodShepVirtual.org

WORSHIP

Daily Office Ministry: Where will BRIDGE take us?

By Ian Anderson, Coordinator, Daily Office Team

As we begin 2021, and approach a year of our socially distanced reality, ministry leaders have been challenged to critically evaluate how their activities might evolve to meet the challenge of our time. Given that the Daily Office ministry emerged in the wake of the COVID-19 closure, we could easily claim that we already embody many of our BRIDGE goals. The question is, where do we go from here?

In the words of our BRIDGE collect, the Daily Office ministry has the opportunity to “strengthen one another in showing forth Christ’s love” by beginning a cycle of prayer for each of the ministries here at Good Shepherd. This parish ministry cycle of prayer would supplement our parish prayer list and our companion diocese (both on a weekly cycle), and the Anglican Cycle of Prayer (roughly three years to cover each Anglican diocese, one per day). For our parish ministries, we would plan to focus on our four major areas of ministry (Worship, Connect, Grow, and Serve) on Monday through Thursday, respectively, then use Friday to highlight a ministry or an initiative that is currently under way (e.g., our Lenten Project during Lent). If we tie this cycle of prayer to the seven-week cycle of Psalms, we could cover all of our ministries by focusing on two each day.

The stretch goal is the last and most challenging of the BRIDGE goals: Engage community. What can the Daily Office ministry do to embody our Vision “to be a vibrant spiritual and educational community resource, radiating God’s love for everyone, everywhere”? A possibility would be to have a monthly Evening Prayer service in which we intercede for and hold up a civic institution or organization within our local community. In the planning of the service, we would engage the institution, have them articulate their concerns, goals and hopes, then plan a service, with Bible readings, canticles, and prayer, that address these issues. We would let the community know when we would be broadcasting the service, or, post-COVID, invite the members of the institution and the community as a whole to attend the service, then possibly host a post-service reception. Prayers AND refreshments? Sounds like Good News to me!

Morning Prayer—Weekdays at 9:00
FaceBook Live: @GoodShepOnline
Zoom Live: link on Prayer and Study page
of GoodShepVirtual.org
Later on YouTube: Good Shepherd Tequesta

Artie's Party
Friday, April 16, 2021
The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

**THIS YEAR, IT'S ALL ABOUT
OUTREACH**

- A VIRTUAL ONE-HOUR EVENT
- FANTASTIC ONLINE AUCTION
- ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUTREACH & MISSIONS

Artie's Party is happening anywhere you are this year!

GriefShare

GriefShare is a program of focused group discussion and personal study for those who have experienced significant loss.



We have been meeting via Zoom since the start of the pandemic. Our latest 13-week series began on February 15, 2021. It's never too late to join!

Anyone who has experienced loss is encouraged to join the group or extend the invitation to someone you know. We will also provide tech support if you need it. The minimum technology required to join a meeting is a phone. Please contact the program registrar, Beverley at 561-339-4750.

Food Needs

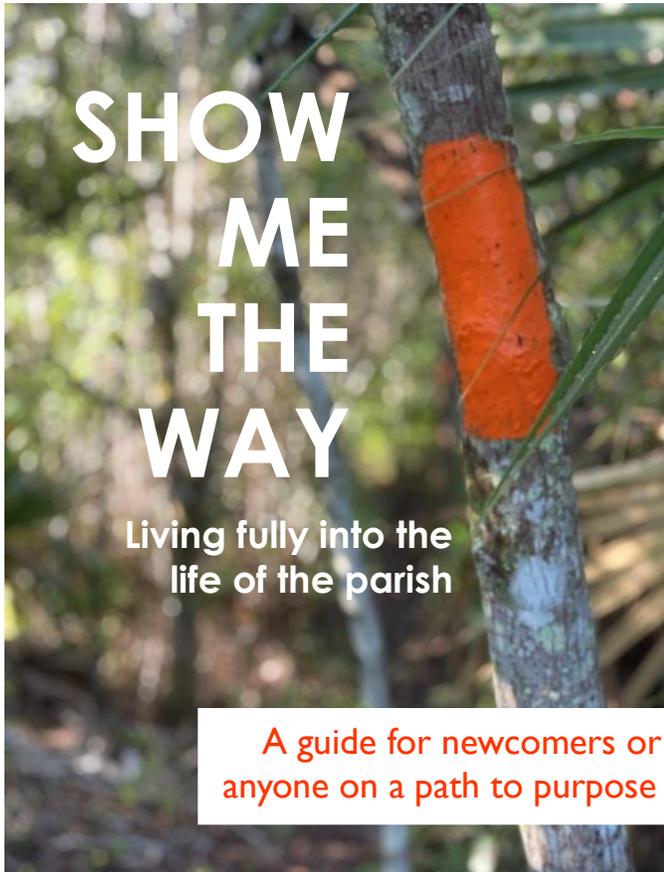
Wondering what the Food Pantry needs? You can shop the list on the home page of our website: GoodShepVirtual.org

Click on the link in the **Food Pantry** section to see what our most urgent needs are, what we are on the verge of running out of,

and what we have plenty of at the moment. This list is updated twice weekly. When there are shortages of items, we rely on your kind financial donations to purchase the needed items. If you have the page bookmarked, be sure to refresh to get the most updated info!

Hit the button on your browser before you shop!

- Cereal
- Rice
- Pasta
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Mac & Cheese / SpaghettiOs
- Canned Beans / Diced Tomatoes
- Soup
- Canned Veggies
- Canned Fruit
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Crackers
- Canned Tuna
- Canned Chicken or Ham
- Chili / Corned Beef Hash



SHOW ME THE WAY

Living fully into the
life of the parish

A guide for newcomers or
anyone on a path to purpose

By Merike Seely

Almost one year into the pandemic we are still learning as we go. While there have been noticeable changes in how we **worship, connect, grow,** and **serve,** many aspects of parish life, including the welcoming of newcomers and participation in ministry have been obscured by a lack of face-to-face contact. Certainly, metrics tell us something, but ministry greatly relies on anecdotal and experiential information.

If you've ever wondered why we ask you to let us know you're watching a livestream service by clicking on the speech bubble on our website, it's because *we don't know you're there unless you tell us.* We can count IP addresses if we do a deep dive into the data, but it won't tell us how many pairs of eyes are watching on the living room TV at each one. When staff catches up with parishioners on the phone, we always ask if they've been watching any of our services and with great regularity they say, "I haven't missed a single one." That's remarkable, considering the tiny percentage of people who didn't miss a service all year long in the pre-pandemic time. For this we can thank technology for allowing us to choose our time for worship — but at the cost of in-person connection.

If you're new to Good Shepherd, normally, that connection begins when you walk up to the doors of the

church. The greeters are your first contact and there are others in the Narthex who engage with a welcoming smile or information. Joining us in this time of restricted gathering and masks, that obviously cannot happen. So, we are introducing this four-part series to highlight suggestions and encouragement for taking your interests to the next level.

Even while we are not fully gathering, there are many ways to get to know us, so that we may get to know you. Whether you're new here, or you have been worshipping at Good Shepherd for a while and are ready to take the next step, we hope to demystify the path to finding your purpose in this community of faith. Here are some things you can do today to begin.

1. **Contact us.** We know this may seem too obvious, but you would be surprised to learn how often not reaching out delays any meaningful connection. Our staff and volunteers are very glad to greet you over the phone or by email to answer questions, give you information and set up introductions. Our Director of Hospitality, Jo Wood, can offer a wealth of suggestions that align with your interests. Just call! That's why we're here.
2. **Visit us.** While the campus is restricted in numbers of group gathering, we still keep regular office hours Tuesday through Friday, from 10AM—2PM. Feel free to stop in and introduce yourself or ask to speak to staff or clergy about an interest, suggestion, prayer request, information, concern, or just to say, "hi." If you've joined us online from a far away land, this may not be a feasible option, so revisit #1. There are still things that can be done from wherever you are.
3. **Let us know what interests you.** Each person's experience and enthusiasm makes us better. We love to hear about what is motivating you to serve Jesus, and pair that with a ministry that will make a real difference in the real lives that we touch every day in this ministry of care and concern for others.
4. **Volunteer.** Do you have one hour per week? Then, we can usually find something in an area you're interested in. While we observe restricted gathering, the number of in-person opportunities is a bit limited, but currently we are still recruiting for our Thrift Shop and we can always use some assistance with our ever-growing Food Pantry. Ask us about remote volunteer options and we can figure it out.

The next three issues of Tidings will offer practical steps for engagement in online ministry, generosity, special events, education, and spiritual formation in service to God. We're on a path to purpose!



Good Shepherd School Notes

By Dr. Rosemary Marshall
Head of School



This time in history will become one that is remembered for generations. There will be talk of mask wearing, long lines for COVID testing and aggravated attempts with technology to use the internet with the hopes of gaining a spot for the vaccine. For the students, teachers and parents learning from home created a whole new way of life and brought about a new vocabulary of words, “zoom,” “distance learning” etc. We at Good Shepherd Episcopal School will remember this year because it brought about a new way of looking at education and for so many of us, it changed the direction of our lives, forming a new **bridge** to a different tomorrow.

Build Relationships-The School became a more vibrant mission as it opened its doors to new families from the North and the Midwest. As families uprooted and moved to Florida in an attempt to flee from dealing with COVID during a cold, long winter, Good Shepherd Episcopal School provided the needed stability for many. Area families, uneasy about the predictability of the public school calendar also came. Although most came knowing their time with us would be temporary, a **bridge** from past schooling to long-lasting friendships has been built.

Reevaluate Priorities-As a School, education is a primary focus, but this year it took second place. COVID-19 once again stole the show. Every aspect of the School was influenced by the Pandemic. From planning to scheduling to budgeting, priorities were reevaluated and we made our decisions based on health and safety. These safety and health protocols served as a **bridge** taking the students from the distance learning approach of last spring to the on-campus format which has been the most successful of all the north county schools. As of this writing, no student, faculty, or staff member has had COVID this school year.

Imagine Change-With the elimination of visitors and events at the School, the available time was put to good use. In preparation for the next school year the curriculum has been completely updated with a more current format including essential questions, increased rigor, and greater depth of study. This year a **bridge** was formed from the old curriculum to the new, allowing the teachers to recognize and attend to student gaps in skill mastery.

Develop Disciples-Our music teachers, Linda and Jeff Shepherd, created a song especially for our students and staff. The staff created a video, singing the song in unison. The lyrics created for us a feeling of hope and reminded us of God’s love. Through our bible readings and our weekly chapel visits, all of us recognize the awesomeness of God and we choose to follow his word taking the **bridge** that will lead us back to our lives without fear and filled with love.

Grow Leaders-Personally, COVID made me look at life through a different lens. After much prayer and thought, I decided to retire at the end of the school year and use this time to form a **bridge** from this Administration to the next. Heather Vaughn will move into the Head of School position and I am excited to walk alongside her this year as she prepares for the next school year.

Engage Community-A consistent goal has been bringing the Church and School together as one Community. During this time of need for so many people in our community, the School recognized an even greater purpose to work with the Outreach Mission of the Church. Through both a Food Drive and a Toy Drive, we worked together and built another **bridge**. Joining forces between the School and the Church, we stood strong in providing a brighter present and future for many.

ENROLLMENT IS OPEN

If you are looking for an education solution for fall, please consider applying to Good Shepherd Episcopal School! We still have a few openings in Early Learning through 5th Grade. All classes are currently being delivered in-person and follow a full -week schedule. Please call Heather Vaughn for information about all education options, or to schedule a tour of our School. 561-746-5507

CONNECT

Exciting School News!

Mrs. Heather Vaughn has been appointed as Acting Head of School for the next academic year. Mrs. Vaughn has served as our Director of Admissions, and more recently as our Assistant Head of School, for over 15 years. Before joining the administrative staff at Good Shepherd, Mrs. Vaughn was a member of the Board of Trustees and is also the parent of three Good Shepherd alumni.



Heather Vaughn will serve as Acting Head of School beginning the 2021/22 academic year.

We are thrilled that Mrs. Vaughn has accepted this position and believe she is uniquely qualified to lead our school through this time of transition and planning for the future. Over the course of the next few months, the Transition Committee and Board of Trustees will be working with Mrs. Vaughn to ensure a smooth and successful transition.

We are grateful to our Board of Trustees for their leadership and dedication to the mission of our school. And we are grateful to each one of you for your continued support as we move forward together.

Save the Date

Good Shepherd School
Spring Fundraiser

Caddyshack
at Drive Shack, WPB

Friday, May 7, 2021
6 PM

Details coming soon! For info,
email the Parent Association at
PA@GoodShepSchool.com

Seafarers' Ministry

Each year, through the combined effort of our parishioners and local community groups of knitters, we are able to provide hundreds of handmade items to mariners who come through the Port of Palm Beach on their way to cold climates. Organized at Good Shepherd by Marion Downing, once again we were able to contribute to this effort. The following is a letter received by the program coordinator, Deacon Clay Waddell.

Dear Marion and People of the Church of the Good Shepherd,

I am writing to thank you and the people of Good Shepherd for the knitted items for the mariners at the port during this Christmas season. With your help we were able to provide 423 mariners with traditional knitted caps, scarves, and buffs which were included in the ship gift boxes which were distributed to the ships calling at the port from December 8 until today, January 1.

Each crew person was able to receive a cap or scarf through your efforts and please know that these homemade offerings are the most treasured gifts a mariner can receive in any port.

Thank you again for this year-long project of knitting for the mariners as this skill is now rare and yet is a 180 old tradition at the worldwide Mission to Seafarers ministry. You may want to check out their website www.missiontoseafarers.org to see what world wide mission you have served.

The knitters and friends of Good Shepherd have been the largest contributors of knitted items over the past few years and the blessing of the knitting at your services are a testimony of the outreach ministry of the Diocese of Southeast Florida. I know that your ministry is changing to provide others in need with handmade items, but we want to thank you for all you have done for the mariners over the years. Thanks to your ministry and countless hours of knitting, along with the support of Father Doug, the mariners have received the blessing of being loved by those they have never met in the name of the Lord who first called fishermen to follow Him.

New Year's Blessings to All,

Deacon Clay Waddell

*The Church of Bethesda by the Sea, Palm Beach
Port of Palm Beach Seafarers Center*



If you knit or crochet and would like to help us with this ministry, please call the office (561-746-4674)! We provide the yarn. You provide the love.



Outreach & Missions: *Something That Connects*

By Marilyn Lawrence, Outreach & Missions Committee Chair

Webster's dictionary defines a bridge as "something that connects." "Connecting" is what Outreach is all about! But when the COVID pandemic hit us a year ago, we had to imagine a whole new way of connecting. We did. And it's working.

When we could no longer send a team every month to cook a meal for the homeless at **St. George's Mission** in Riviera Beach, we switched to preparing **Manna Bags** instead. Today, we are packing 500 ziploc bags a month, filled with soup, fruit cups, granola bars, and treats; the staff at St. George's adds a sandwich, and they have a 'meal to go.' When other sponsors have had to curtail their efforts, we have actually increased our support.

When the church office closed in March of 2020, and needy families could no longer come there for emergency food assistance, we opened the **Food Pantry** two afternoons a week, staffed by volunteers, and provided families with pre-packed bags of groceries. Today, instead of serving 15-20 people a month, we are feeding over 200 people per WEEK.

When COVID imposed strict age and numerical limits on those who could glean with **CROS Ministries**, we switched from organizing teams from Good Shepherd to glean once or twice a year, to sending individual members – sometimes on a weekly basis. We have not only built closer ties with CROS, and increased the number of hours our volunteers spend gleaning – we have also acquired some fresh produce for our own Food Pantry.



Fresh produce, like these peppers, is a great addition to the non-perishable food that is distributed weekly. These were gleaned and delivered to Good Shepherd by Denise Preston.

We learned to hold Zoom meetings, which resulted in better attendance and participation! And ordering from Amazon when we couldn't go shopping brought in more supplies than ever! We brought new ministries under our Outreach umbrella, most recently, thanks to Rob Steiner, adding a **Backpack Ministry** for the homeless to our repertoire.

Perhaps our most creative venture has involved our annual **Food Packing for Haiti**, which is currently underway. There was no way we could bring 300 people into the Parish Hall to pack individual meals! Instead, the team came up with an innovative 'virtual' **Food Pairing** proposal: ask 300 people

to each sponsor one child for a year. Then, partnering again with **Food for the Poor**, the rice and beans will be shipped in bulk and assembled on site in Bondeau, Haiti.

But bridges never run one way; they are two-way streets. Which is why this year's Food Pairing for Haiti has a second component: instead of just packing a meal and sending it, participants are encouraged to write a note to a child, and perhaps begin a personal connection.

Our Lenten project this year builds on this Food Pairing program. Due to a scheduling fluke, our shipments of food to the school children in Bondeau are always a few months

Love Thy Neighbor

How one couple's verdant venture is nurturing community

By Merike Seely

behind, which means there is a period of time when the children go hungry. What is more, a general worsening of the economy in Haiti means that many of their families are also often without food. Our Lenten goal this year is to fill that gap. We have set a goal of \$15,000 to send a container of food to Bondeau. **South Florida Haiti Project** has a twin goal underway for the diocese. Together we can feed children and families who are literally starving.

Outreach has always had an ambitious agenda, but never more so than this year, when the need has been its greatest. And never have we been more aware, or more appreciative of the fact, that our bridges truly do run both ways. In these times, when so many of us are isolated, our Outreach activities provide a way for us to help one another. People who can't go out to shop can order school supplies, or toiletries, or groceries on line – and know that they are helping a child or a family in need. The Food Pantry and our St. George's Mission could not survive without the generous support that we receive. And increasingly, that support comes not just from our Good Shepherd community, but from the community at large! We have neighbors who come in off the street to make a donation of cash or canned goods. We have businesses, and senior living facilities, that take up collections for us. We even have a family in Jupiter Farms that started a hydroponic growing project, and regularly brings us boxes of fresh produce! And let's not forget our Food Pantry recipients, who contribute much to our lives: through their music, their stories, and even their family recipes! Here at Good Shepherd, we always say, "We Have a Place for You." This year has taught us that our saying has a corollary: "You Have a Gift for Us." It's a two-way street. We give heartfelt thanks.

For information about the Outreach & Missions Committee at Good Shepherd, please contact Marilyn Lawrence at marilaw@msn.com



Jane Pirelli



Jane and Tom Pirelli

In April 2020, as the pandemic was beginning its strangle-hold on local jobs and the economy, Tom and Jane Pirelli found themselves at home with nowhere to go. The Jupiter Farms couple had been experimenting with hydroponic gardening and inventing efficient soil-free systems for growing plants. As their passion grew, so did hundreds of heads of lettuce. Knowing they could pair their bounty with people who were becoming increasingly food-insecure by the day, Jane did a

quick Google search to find a small-scale food pantry that would appreciate some fresh greens. Now, with each harvest, the Pirellis donate not only lettuces, but any veggies they have on hand, to the delight of our weekly Good Shepherd Food Pantry visitors.

Hydroponic gardening is a method of cultivating plants with only the essentials: water, nutrients, and light. By taking soil out of the equation, the plants don't need to expend energy to send out roots in search of food. The root system floats in a bath of necessary vitamins and minerals. Tom changes the nutrients for the plant's stage of development and adds water as needed. Because lettuce has such a high water content (almost 95 percent) it can't be preserved well and must be eaten fresh. Fruits and vegetables are foods that are especially appreciated at the Food Pantry as a nutritious complement to the mostly processed, non-perishable staple items we provide each week.

The Pirellis are an example of how the pandemic has created unexpected connections in our changing world. They have truly embraced the 'Love Thy Neighbor' ethos and we are so pleased to partner with them in helping our community.

Photos, from top: Baby Bibb lettuces sprout without soil. 72 cauliflowers growing in about nine square feet. The Great Wall of Salad—140 lettuces. The Pirellis have a more conventional drip-irrigation garden, too.

GROW YOUTH and FAMILY

By David Dixon, Youth and Family Minister



David Dixon



David Dixon

Above: Youth Group went on a hike outing at Jonathan Dickinson State Park in late January. The group has been meeting on site with diocesan permission, masked with distancing restrictions.

Something New for Sunday School!

We're meeting outside during a segment of the outdoor service on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. The service starts at 5:00. Bring your own chairs and your whole family! Kids will meet with a Sunday School leader in the outdoor chapel for a brief period during the service.

Youth and Family Ministries
[GoodShepVirtual.org /Youth & Families](https://www.goodshepvirtual.org/youth-families)

[YouTube.com/Good Shepherd Youth and Family Ministries](https://www.youtube.com/GoodShepherdYouthandFamilyMinistries)

Years ago, as a young parent of my then 10-year-old son, I was experiencing a time of existential crisis. I thought I had my life all planned out and knew exactly where I was going and how to get there. On one occasion I had a meltdown in front of my son. Even though he did not know all the details of the crisis, he was intuitive enough to realize that through my complaining I really needed a word of encouragement. With the biggest grin on his face, and in a kind of sassy way, he looked at me and said, "Dad, just build a bridge and get over it."

I can't tell you how many times I have leaned on those words. We all face times of conflict and crisis in life. Some of us feel as if we experience those times more frequent than others. The community of faith is no different. The Church since its inception has had its share of conflict and crisis. In fact, very often in those times the people of God were able to build a bridge and get over it. Or, at least get through it. The outcome was more often than not a time of flourishing for the Church.

The past year has been a year marked by polarization, competing concerns and just plain fatigue from it all. In the midst of polarity and chaos we often need to refocus. This is the gift the past year has given us, the opportunity to refocus, to reexamine our lives and fine tune our relationships. To hear more clearly God's voice in the midst of perhaps one of the greatest existential crisis our nation has ever faced.

I'm sure you've heard this while on a family road trip before, "Are we there yet?" The questions I am hearing are of

the same nature: "Is it over yet?" or, "When will things get back to normal?" We need to build a BRIDGE and get over it and that is exactly what we will be doing as we push through 2021. Over the next several weeks and months the Youth and Family Ministries will work toward building this bridge. We will focus on creating new ways to connect with one another, as well as creating and designing new ways to reengage our children, youth and families. We will remain open to trying new ways and methods to reach out to our surrounding community and reach in to our parish community.

Change is never easy. Often when God puts something new on our heart, it requires us to move beyond our comfort zone. When leaping into the unknown, the experience of fear, uncertainty, pain and discomfort become real. Although,

"In the midst of polarity and chaos we often need to refocus. This is the gift the past year has given us."

the message of the Church does not change, the methods used do change. To grow is to change. To be in relationship with others is to change. To walk in faith is to change. "And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed [changed] into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit." 2 Corinthians 3:18 NRSV



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

Youth and Family Events

Feb. 28 GS Youth Riverbend Scavenger Hunt 12PM-2:15PM Bring bagged lunch. Parents drop off and pick up at Riverbend

Feb. 28 Sunday Night Outdoor Youth and Family Worship Service 5:00PM with outdoor Sunday School

Mar. 3, 10, 24, 31 Wednesday Night Youth Group 6:30PM-8:00PM

Mar. 14 Sunday Night Outdoor Youth and Family Worship Service 5:00PM

Mar. 17 No Wednesday Night GS Youth Group (Spring Break)

Mar. 21 GS Youth Group Monthly Activity
Time and Activity TBD

Mar. 28 Palm Sunday Sunday Night Outdoor Youth and Family Worship Service 5:00PM with outdoor Sunday School

Apr. 7, 14, 21, 28 Wednesday Night Youth Group 6:30PM-8:00PM

Apr. 11 GS Youth Group Monthly Activity Time and Activity TBD
Sunday Night Outdoor Youth and Family Worship Service 5:00PM-6:00PM with outdoor Sunday School

Outdoor Youth Group is back on Campus!
Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 PM
Outside — Masks required — Social Distanced

Snapshot Journal



Ian Anderson

Left: Confirmation class and their sponsors take a photo break. The class has been meeting regularly, online or in-person since last year.

Below: One of the protocols for communion during a pandemic is individual paper cups for each wafer.



Below: Ashes imposed on Ash Wednesday were made from the blessed palm fronds of Palm Sunday last year.



Right: Jo Wood delivers bulletins for Sunday services by bicycle to our friends at Mangrove Bay and the Waterford.



Jo Wood



Left: Debbie White and Ian Anderson provide music for services from behind clear shields as a part of our pandemic safety modifications.

SERVE

Pennies For Heaven News: *Inspired Connections*

By Beth Long, Pennies For Heaven Shop Manager

Relationships are one of the most important things at Pennies for Heaven. We build relationships with our customers so they have a good experience and keep coming back to shop. We build relationships with those who donate so they know they are taken care of and have a place to take all of their items. We also build relationships with our volunteers so they have a fun, safe place to go to volunteer each week and give back to their community.

With the start of the new year, we stood back to review our business model at Pennies to see how, what, and where we could improve. During COVID last year, we actually thrived as we built relationships with customers one on one as they set appointments and came to the shop to purchase items. This year we are open with limited hours, but are trying to imagine change by slowly expanding our hours to open the last Saturday of each month. We also can imagine how the store would change if we are open longer hours on a daily basis, but that will depend on our volunteer availability, and safety protocols defined by our Reentry Committee.

It's an exciting time at our little thrift shop, we are always looking for those who would like to join our volunteer team. If you like working with people, like to organize, love to do something different every day, we have a place for you! You do not need prior experience as we will train you with all the skills you need and we'll help direct your skill set toward what you really like to do. We really do have something for everyone!

Moving forward, our **BRIDGE** theme for the year could not be more spot-on for Pennies. The sky is the limit for us, but in order to grow, we need volunteers to support our thriving thrift shop. More volunteers bring on new ideas and the



Beth Long



Beth Long

ability to explore new things like ebay and Offer Up, our online internet shops. Looking ahead, we will be focusing on the community and how we can help more people find our little gem of a place. Will you consider joining our ministry and take the first step in building a new relationship for yourself and others? Contact Beth Long at 561-262-8032.

Above, top: Jessie Spinnenweber reminds customers to sanitize hands when entering the shop. **Below:** Denise Parson inspects donated prints and prepares them to be sold.

THRIFT SHOP HOURS
Tuesday—Friday
11-3
Social distancing required
Please wear a mask
Donations accepted when the shop is open
or call us to make arrangements
561-406-2923
Thank you!

Can't make it during the shop hours? You can now shop 24/7 on our ebay Store Pennies For Heaven Thrift



Pennies For Heaven Thrift

SERVE

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT:

Altar Guild



By Merike Seely

Many ministries of the church are outward, public endeavors. They operate *to be seen* as manifestations of Christ's call to serve God and each other. The Altar Guild, on the other hand, conducts its duties in a very behind-the-scenes, low profile manner. While the call is still very much there, the work of caring for the altar and its traditions and elements is, for many, a bit of an enigma.

Good Shepherd's Altar Guild has been around as long as we've had an altar. Over the decades, the membership has grown and changed, but at its core, the Rector leads the group in setting the protocols and interpretations of the worship service. We have about 20 current Altar Guild members, but presently, with the decrease in services due to the pandemic, fewer are scheduled.

These dependable and committed volunteers can be seen sweeping in after the final hymn to clear the altar and prepare it for the next service. They routinely troubleshoot everything from wine stains on fair linen to droopy delphinium. They decorate for the color of the liturgical season and interpret a lexicon of the ages — ciborium, levavo bowl, missal, paten, purificator, thurible.

Since we started in-person worship again in October, the Altar Guild has had to adapt to another set of protocols from our diocese and other agencies defining best practices for safer corporate worship. Bread alone, in a little paper cup is how we are currently preparing for communion. Hand sanitizer is another new feature behind the altar. And if wheat allergies are an issue for you, we can offer a gluten free wafer. Just ask!

Altar Guild duties aren't easy, but they are incredibly rewarding, as any member will tell you. Ann Ballard, one of Good Shepherd's long-time coordinators put it this way, "One of the biggest challenges to this ministry is making sure you did everything right. But the greatest reward is the knowledge and meaning that it brings to focus for your personal participation in worship."

Altar Guild welcomes new members year-round. If you are interested in greater understanding of the Episcopal tradition, the meaning of sacred elements and their relationship with worship; if you like working with textiles, metal, stone, glass, and fire; if you wish to serve Jesus Christ in an inward, quiet, and reflective way, please consider Altar Guild.

Contact Merike Seely at mseely@goodsheponline.org.

Above left: The "stack" — the vested sacred vessels—is carefully arranged before any Eucharist.

Right: Denise Preston prepares the lectern with the readings before a service.

Below: The St. Martin's Chapel is one of two altar areas in our sanctuary cared for by the altar guild.



By the NUMBERS

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

6

Categories of our strategic BRIDGE plan for the next 12-18 months

200

People served by our Food Pantry each week

\$5,000

Grant award for new Backpack Ministry for the homeless

198

Jars of pancake mix sold for the Youth Shrove Tuesday Fundraiser

90

Containers of Ashes To Go distributed on Ash Wednesday

41

Air filters replaced on campus in January

\$70,467.33

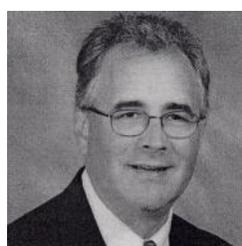
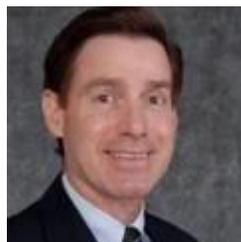
Pennies net income in 2020 when we were closed for 6 months!

349

Days since we closed the campus at the beginning of the pandemic

Newly Elected Vestry Members for 2021-24 Term

We welcome (l-r, top row) Beverley Cunningham, Beth Bohnsack, Mike Hanseter, and Mike Howard. Mike Howard served last year to fill a seat vacated by Irina Cole, who moved out of state.



Thanks to the outgoing Vestry members for their service to our vestry for the past 3 Years:

(l-r) Denise Preston, Bill Unger, and Kevin Johnson, who served as Senior Warden.

Officers for the new term are: Heather Graham, Senior Warden; Mike Howard, Junior Warden; Mark Chittum, Clerk; Mike Greene, Treasurer. We look forward to this year and how God is calling us to use our time and talents in discovery of new ways for adaptive change. **NEW!** Vestry Highlights are posted on the News page of our website.

2020 Annual Meeting was virtual this year

The 2020 annual business meeting of Good Shepherd was held on Tuesday, January 26, at 6:00 PM, in a webinar format. We are canonically required to hold such a meeting each year before February 1. At the meeting, new Vestry members were voted in by 74 qualified electors (assuming each IP address had at least one person) through a polling feature on Zoom. Fr. Doug introduced our BRIDGE strategy for the coming 12-18 months, and Treasurer, Mike Greene presented the financial outcome of 2020. The meeting also included a Good

2021 Annual Meeting



Shepherd School report by Dr. Rosemary Marshall, a Questions and Discussion segment, and a year-in-review video. All of the meeting materials, including financial summary, are available on our website GoodShepVirtual.org on the News page.

Communications Update

Since the pandemic closed our campus, we have developed other ways to be the church for our parishioners and community. Livestream services, video conferencing, and a website dedicated to virtual content have all been integral to our ministry. In the coming months we expect to begin returning to more in-person activity, but we realize that much of our video and livestream content is here to stay. As such, we have started working on a new combined format website that will serve all of these audiences. Stay tuned!

Financials 2020 (January—December 2020)

	Actual	Annual Budget
Operating Revenues	943,162	960,120
Operating Expenses	935,169	984,614
Net Total	7,993	(24,494)

Considering that we began 2020 with a projected operating deficit, we ended the year on a very positive note thanks to faithful pledge gifts and thoughtful stewardship of our resources.

Inspired Giving 2021 Campaign Update



In October we began to ask our parish to consider why we are inspired to give to our church. The responses were earnest and deeply personal for many, and the practical expression of those sentiments was demonstrated in the generous estimates of giving for 2021. In a year of uncertainty this parish overwhelmingly declared faith, hope, and love as a clear and positive step forward. We are grateful for every pledge card received. Here are some statistics on giving from our campaign: as of February 16:

- 173 Estimates of giving have been submitted for 2021 totaling \$559,793
- 220 pledges were received in 2020
- 59 pledges increased; 16 decreased; 76 remained the same
- 22 new pledges for 2021
- \$62,232 of Prepaid pledges were made for 2021 (Thank you!)

If you haven't turned in an Estimate of Giving for 2021, it's not too late! Visit the giving page on GoodShepVirtual.org. Our ministry planning depends on these estimates.

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.

Text to Give

Yes, you can now text goodsheponline to 77977 and receive a link to give any amount to Good Shepherd. You will have the option to designate the gift as pledge, undesignated, or type in what you would like to give toward. Setting up your first gift takes about a minute and after that, it truly only takes 10 seconds to express your generosity with a financial gift.

Checks and Credit Cards

We continue to process checks even though there is no plate offering at this time. 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.

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



GOOD SHEPHERD

EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

400 Seabrook Road
Tequesta, FL 33469

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
West Palm Beach, FL
Permit No. 1930

Current resident or

**Register For
In-Person Worship at
GoodShepVirtual.org**

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SERVICE

LIVESTREAM AT

GOODSHEPVIRTUAL.ORG

FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE

AT 10:00 AM ON SUNDAYS

MORNING PRAYER

WEEKDAYS AT 9:00 AM

ON FACE BOOK AND ZOOM

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY – FRIDAY

Tuesday – Friday

10–2

mail@goodsheponline.org or
leave a message at 561-746-4674

THRIFT SHOP HOURS

TUESDAY – FRIDAY

11–3

Donations accepted when the
shop is open
561-406-2923

HOLY WEEK & EASTER



PALM SUNDAY

March 28

10:00 AM

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Indoor Service only (no courtyard)

Registration Required

5:00 PM

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Outdoor Service

No Registration Required



MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 1

7:00 PM

Holy Eucharist Rite II

Indoor Service only (no courtyard)

Livestream

Registration required



GOOD FRIDAY

April 2

12:00 PM

Outdoor Stations of the Cross

Online Virtual Stations of the Cross

7:00 PM

Taize Liturgy

Indoor Service

Livestream

Registration required



EASTER

April 4

800 AM

10:00 AM

Outdoor Holy Eucharist Rite II

Indoor Service

Livestream

Registration required

www.GoodShepVirtual.org