

Church of the Good Shepherd
Granite Springs
Episcopal Diocese of New York



Report to the
Annual Parish Meeting
January 29, 2012
For year ending December 31, 2011

AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

1. Invocation and Call to Order – The Rector
2. Approval of Minutes: See Page 3
3. Polls open
4. Nominations
 - a. **Bruce Barber** has been nominated for Senior (Financial) Warden by the Nominating Committee of the Vestry to serve a two-year term.
 - b. **Jan Corning** has been nominated for Junior (Property) Warden by the Nominating Committee of the Vestry to serve a two-year term.
 - c. **Scott Jones, Phil Levy, and Chris Palmer** have been nominated by the Nominating Committee of the Vestry to serve on the Vestry for three-year terms.
 - d. Nominations from the floor?
 - e. Nominations are open for 1 hour after all candidates have been nominated.
 - f. Appointed officers for 2012 (These three officers do not need to be Vestry Members):
 - i. **Sally Stevens:** Treasurer
 - ii. **Bob Bubeck:** Financial Secretary
 - iii. **Amanda Slattery:** Clerk
5. Review of the Minutes of the 2010 Annual Meeting
6. Rector's Report
7. Wardens' Reports
8. Report of Organizations & Committees
9. Thanks to Glenn Hintze, Maria Kaprielian, and Pat Mulholland for service on the Vestry!
10. Election of Officers and Vestry
11. Old Business
12. New Business
13. Benediction and Adjournment – The Rector

* * * * *

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, GRANITE SPRINGS: JANUARY 23, 2011

1. The meeting was brought to order at 11:08 am by Father Matthew H. Mead.
2. The following corrections were made to the minutes of the previous meeting:

“Father Mead read the slate of proposed Vestry members which included Arleen Flury, Dorothy Light and Bob Velzy with Bruce Barber proposed as the new Property Warden. Amanda Slattery was elected to serve as Delegate to Diocesan Convention. Bob Bubeck was elected to serve as Alternate Delegate”

With these corrections, a motion to approve the minutes was proposed by Bernie Sotter and seconded by Vilma Mulholland. The motion was carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the agenda was proposed by Chris Palmer and seconded by Vilma Mulholland. The motion was carried unanimously.

3. At 11.10 am Father Mead read the slate of nominations for Vestry members for a three-year term proposed by the Nominating Committee: Amanda Slattery, Katrina Stebbins and Rick Vesperman. Nominations remained open for one hour.

The following officers were appointed for 2011:

Sally Stevens: Treasurer
Bob Bubeck: Financial Secretary
Amanda Slattery: Clerk

The following volunteered for the positions of lay and alternate delegate to the 2011 conventions: Bob Bubeck, Wilfried Haensch, Amanda Slattery, Bernie Sotter.

4. Minutes of the 2010 annual meeting were reviewed.
5. Father Matt presented the Rector's report.
6. Bruce Barber presented the Property Warden's report.
7. Sally Stevens presented the Treasurer's report.
Maria Kaprelian presented the Stewardship Committee's report.
Glenn Hintz presented the Sunday School report.
Cecelia Sparacio presented the Music Director and Organist's report.
8. Father Matt thanked Bob Bubeck, Jan Corning and Gwen Greene for their service on the vestry.
9. At 12.10 pm there had been no further nominations to the Vestry. As acting Clerk to the Vestry, Amanda Slattery cast a single vote for the proposed slate of nominations.
10. There was no old business.
11. There was no new business.
12. Father Matt adjourned the meeting with a benediction.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Slattery
Clerk of the Vestry

* * * * *

RECTOR'S REPORT

2011 was my second full year as Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd - I celebrated my second anniversary on Holy Cross Day, 2011. My wife, Nicole and our two sons, Liam and Nicholas, wish to offer thanks to all of the members and friends of Good Shepherd who have made this year so wonderful.

In particular, I would like to thank all our elected and appointed parish leaders, especially Jim Corning and Bruce Barber, our Wardens, Sally Stevens, our Treasurer, Bob Bubeck, our Financial Officer, Amanda Slattery, our Clerk, and all of our Vestry Members. They work tirelessly behind the scenes making sure that the parish runs smoothly. The work and time that they put in this past year has been essential to the life and growth of the parish, and I want them to know how much their work is appreciated.

Thanks also to the members of our staff: Anne Siemerling, our sexton, Cecilia Sparacio, our organist and music director, and Sharen McKenna, our childcare provider. The work done by the staff is fundamental to the day-to-day life at Good Shepherd. The building is clean and set up for events by Anne, beautiful music is prepared and offered at worship services and other events by Cecilia, and the nursery is always open and staffed by Sharen. It is a joy and a pleasure to be the rector at Good Shepherd where I am able to work with such devoted and hardworking people.

Many thanks to all of the volunteers who have assisted in every possible way throughout the year, there are too many to name, but I would be remiss if I did not mention a few people. Thanks to Chris Palmer who has spent most Tuesdays for the last half year helping out in the office with the parish archives, and thanks to Sally Stevens who has spent countless hours making sure bills are paid and things are running smoothly in the office. Thanks to Arleen Flury and Thelma Barlow for their tireless efforts in the Sacristy and preparing the altar. Thanks to Diane Buschel for organizing coffee hour and to all who volunteered over the year as Coffee Hour hosts. Thanks to Bill Siemerling for offering the use of his heavy machinery and equipment for our workdays. Thanks to Leslie Fulton, Maria Kaprielian, Sally Stevens, and Courtney Velzy for their work on the Stewardship Committee. Thanks to Wilfried and Nancy Haensch for organizing and leading the Outreach Committee. Thanks to Bill Greene for being the liaison for the Seniors Group. Thanks to Suzanne Bracken, Jan Corning, Fran DiBernardo, Arleen Flury, Leslie Fulton, and Glenn Hintze, and all of the Sunday School teachers for making our Sunday School thrive. Thanks to Courtney Velzy and Paul Miller for volunteering to teach the older children's Sunday School lessons for the entire 2011-2012 season. Thanks to Xe Weig, Fay Wright and Jan Corning for beginning to organize our Youth Group. Thanks to Lorne & Christine Robbins for organizing our annual awards dinner. Thanks to Arleen Flury for organizing our annual Christmas Bazaar. Thanks to Glenn Hintze for organizing our annual wine tasting. Thanks to Wilfried Haensch and Amanda Slattery for being our Delegates to Convention. There are many, many other people who have volunteered in more ways than I can count. Thank you all so much! Good Shepherd has so many volunteers who do so much: thank you all for all you do!

2011 was a great year: we dealt with all of the challenges we faced and continued to grow the parish and spread the love of God in Christ to more and more people.

Two things unique to 2011 affected me throughout the year: recovering from back surgery and working on the Committee to Elect a Bishop. My year began with back surgery on January 4, 2011 (I had a badly herniated disc that needed to be partly removed). I was completely incapacitated for

much of the winter, but as the months went by I was able to do more and more things that I wanted to. My recovery continues a year later, and I am pleased to say that I am getting closer and closer to being 100%. I was elected to the Committee to Elect a Bishop at the end of 2010. Over the course of the year, we met on average about one full day every week. In addition to our regular half day meetings every two or three weeks, we also wrote and published a Diocesan Profile and a complete Report of our activities, we met for two straight weeks in July, we organized and attended a week of "Walk-about" in October, and I went on two weekend-long trips to interview potential candidates (one of those was an international trip). I am thankful that I was able to assist the Diocese by serving on the Committee, and I learned a lot about the Church and our Diocese. I am also thankful that the work and time commitment have finally concluded with the election of Andrew Dietsche, our Bishop-elect.

2011 might be dubbed the year of weather-related challenges. 2011 was the snowiest year that I can ever remember. The snow fell constantly, but amazingly we didn't lose a single Sunday in the winter of 2011. We did lose one major Holy Day; Candlemas was cancelled due to a blizzard, and our annual chili and chowder competition was transferred to March. The snow and cold brought a number of unexpected expenses. Our snow plowing expenses were well over budget, and we had to hire a heavy loader to dig out the parking lot halfway through the winter (the lot had shrunken by almost half due to the enormous snow drifts). The cold also meant that our heating bills were significantly higher than we had anticipated. The icing on the cake (pun intended) was when the church boiler, which had struggled throughout the winter, finally died in the early spring. The snow continued to be a problem even after the weather warmed up. The rectory basement flooded badly during the spring thaw causing damage to the walls, floor, and some furniture.

Throughout the winter, going back well into 2010, we had planned to replace the roof on all of the church buildings (excluding only the rectory which was done a few years ago). None of these roofs had ever been replaced, and there was no insulation anywhere in the building. Thanks to a grant by the Bedell Fund Committee at Saint Matthew's Church, Bedford, and a grant and loans from the Diocese of New York, we were able to put a new insulated roof on every building. The results were immediate. The roofs look great and now match the rectory roof, the drainage is greatly improved, in the summer the church and hall are both significantly cooler, and thus far in the winter the church and hall have both been much warmer. We also got a new boiler (the old one was thankfully still under warranty - parts but not service), and with a loan from the Diocese we were able to install a new boiler. With insulation and a new boiler, we anticipate a significant savings in our heating expenses this winter. In 2012 we are planning to replace the windows in the church and parish office. This should be an aesthetic improvement that should greatly cut down on our energy expenses.

Our weather-related challenges returned at the end of the summer. Hurricane Irene hit on a Sunday at the end of August - it hit right in the middle of the roof replacement but amazingly there was no damage. The hurricane forced the cancellation of all services that Sunday, but thankfully we were able to have a small Saturday afternoon Eucharist before the storm hit. We were without power for almost a week, the rectory flooded again, and six large trees were knocked down by the winds. Aside from that we were blessed that the church and rectory sustained no significant damage during the storm. All services and AA groups were cancelled for the entire week due to the lack of power and plumbing (we have a well system).

The autumn brought a freak blizzard at the end of October. Well over a foot of wet snow—combined with weak trees still recovering from the hurricane and still with all of their leaves on—was disastrous. The storm hit on a Saturday night and almost immediately the power went out. On Sunday morning I discovered that entrance into the church [grounds] by automobile was impossible: downed power lines were blocking both driveway entrances into the church. Even though the roads were clear of snow, downed trees prevented many people from going out and meant that power would not be restored until the end of the week. I spent Sunday morning with the depressing task of waving away those dozens of people who were able to drive to the church but couldn't enter our lot or driveway and couldn't park anywhere. The lines were down until Wednesday. Heat and power were out until Thursday. All services were cancelled on Sunday, and our annual Halloween Party was postponed. Services and our annual slow cooked dinner were cancelled on All Saints' Day. The lines were cleaned up on All Soul's Day and we were able to have a very small service that day. In addition to the loss of services, Bright Beginnings Nursery School and AA groups were cancelled all week. We discovered when the power finally came back on that the photocopier in the church office had been destroyed from a sudden burst of electricity when the transformer in front of the church exploded during the storm. Thankfully the copier was under lease and a replacement arrived a few weeks later.

As the year ended the Vestry began looking into installing generators for the church and rectory, and we are planning to have them installed before the end of the winter. Losing power makes it impossible for us to adequately live out our mission as a place of prayer and outreach for the community to gather. We don't want to completely shut down because the power goes out in Granite Springs, and we want to ensure that outside of a natural disaster, we are able to remain open and operational for our own services and for the groups that we host. Beyond that it's good for our members to know that no matter what, their church is open with water, lights, and heat.

Much happened in 2011 that was not affected by weather. One highlight was that the Vestry went on a retreat in the late Spring. We discussed the fact that the church had essentially doubled in size in the past two years. Our focus was on finding ways to include newer members into the leadership roles of the parish and also ensuring that long-time members continued to remain involved and not feel that they were losing their church to new people. We also discussed communication. It is important as much as possible for every decision made by the Vestry or the rector that affects the life of the church or its property be made as openly as possible. Though we did not specifically come up with a strategic plan for the next five or ten years, much fruit has been borne from that retreat. The reality is that there are twice as many people actively involved in life and worship at Good Shepherd, and I think 2011 was a great start in living into that reality with the involvement and leadership of as many people as possible. I am excited that 2012 will continue both the growth in numbers that we have had and also the increase of involvement from new and old faces alike.

Speaking of growth... 2011 was another year of amazing numerical growth at Good Shepherd. Even with the loss of two Sundays and two major Holy Days due to weather, we finished with an average Sunday attendance of 102 and over 1000 total people in attendance at the various week day services that were held. Without exception, every major Holy Day that we celebrated had more people in attendance and every major fellowship event was significantly bigger in 2011 than in 2010. Easter and Christmas attendance were both also significantly higher in 2011 than 2010. Those numbers are all the more impressive knowing that 2010 itself was a fabulous year!

More people also meant that we were closer to balancing our budget. In 2011 our pledges topped \$115,000 – the first time they had ever topped \$100,000. Our 2012 stewardship campaign has already topped \$123,000 and we are within reach of our goal of \$137,000.

The last measure of growth is in actual active members. Membership in the Episcopal Church requires either a Sacrament or sacramental rite (Baptism or Confirmation) or a transfer of paperwork from one church to another. We know who had been Baptized or Confirmed at Good Shepherd, and we know who has officially transferred into the parish in the last two years, but for a variety of reasons we do not have paperwork from a large number of our regular active parishioners. This is not their fault by any means. When parishes are without a regular priest for any period of time, there is a high likelihood that the records will not be kept up perfectly. Our parish has had several significant periods of time without regular clergy including the first fifty years when the chapel was served by many vicars, most of whom had commitments at other churches. For that reason, many of our records from the first fifty years of the parish would have been kept at other local churches... if they were kept at all. Chris Palmer who has been working as our archivist for the last six months has made great strides in organizing our membership roles. Once this work is completed and the ambiguity resolved/cleared up, we will be able to quickly and easily reference our records [electronically].

I am thrilled and blessed to be the rector of a church that continues to grow and thrive. My goal for average Sunday attendance (ASA) in 2011 was 110, we fell a bit short of that number, but not by much. By the end of 2012 my goal is 120 ASA. I think our church has the perfect mix of warm hospitality, welcoming fellowship, serious yet fun worship, and active outreach and educational opportunities and programs. By focusing on the many things that we already do so well and remaining open to new ideas and new faces, I am convinced that our church will keep growing.

Our life as Christians, members, parishioners, and friends of Good Shepherd begins and ends with worship. We had a number of great Holy Days and gatherings for worship in 2011. A few highlights: The services of the Easter Triduum were wonderful, each beginning with a marvelous themed potluck. We also had a wonderful Ascension Day Sung Mass in the late spring, followed by a fabulous steak and wine dinner (there is nothing like cooking and serving rib eye for over 70 people!). Bishop Sisk visited us on Thursday, September 29, for Michaelmas, and on that night we had a hugely attended candlelit service (the power went out just before the service began) followed by our annual Oktoberfest (thanks to Wilfried Haensch for his organization of the pig roast!).

I am pleased that 2011 saw the start of a new service on Sundays. We began a short (about 20 minutes) service every Sunday at 5:00 PM. It has been as large as 16 people and as small as 3 people. In October and November we offered a Service of Light, a modified form of Evening Prayer, with prayers, silence, scripture, and hymns. In December we offered a short service of Advent Lessons and Carols. We are back to a Service of Light until Lent, when we will offer Stations of the Cross. There were two ideas behind the service. First, I enjoy and am accustomed to a full and varied day of prayer and worship on Sunday. Evening Prayer (in some form) is a wonderful way to conclude the day and acts as a wonderful complement to the morning Office and Eucharist. It was my hope that others would feel the same way and find in the candlelight and silence a place for prayer and meditation that would complement the fun and festivities of the 10:00 AM Sung Family Eucharist. Second, as a parent and as a person who lives in the 21st century I understand that people have busy personal and family lives, and frankly it isn't always possible for everyone to be at Good Shepherd every Sunday morning. The 5:00 PM service can stand on its own too, and I hoped that it would be

something on everyone's radar for those Sundays when the morning hours were filled up. Both of my hopes have proven true. It's not a big service, but every week there is a mix of people who came to church in the morning and people who are happy that the church offers a Sunday afternoon alternative. I don't think you can really appreciate something unless you allow for the seasons and months to pass. For now, it seems to be a success, and I hope that if you haven't been to the 5:00 PM service yet, you will stop in some Sunday. I am a big fan of it.

In 2012 we will continue to build off of what we are already doing. God willing and the weather consenting, we will have some great Holy Days in 2012. I hope you will come to Candlemas followed by Chili and Chowder Competition on Thursday, February 2, 2012. We will have as our guest preacher and celebrant, the Right Reverend Andrew St John. Bishop St John serves as rector of the Church of the Transfiguration in New York City. Our festivities continue [with the Eucharist/Liturgy] on the Annunciation followed by Charity Wine Tasting on Monday, March 26, 2012. We will have as our guest preacher that evening the Reverend Claire Woodley-Aitchinson, rector of Saint Mary's church in Mohegan Lake. Some of the proceeds from the Wine Tasting will go to support Saint Mary's food pantry. One of the highlights of the year is Holy Week and the Easter Triduum, April 5-7, 2012. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Eve services are fabulous at Good Shepherd. We begin with a themed dinner each night at 6:30 PM and continue with the Liturgy for each evening at 7:30 PM. These services are magnificent, and I hope you will mark your calendars now.

Our services often end with a great opportunity for fellowship, and the last year saw the creation, revival, and growth of parish social groups. The Women's Group continues to meet for their monthly reading group and planned several events during the year, like the Christmas Bazaar. The Men's Group hosted the Chili & Chowder Competition, the Father's Day BBQ, and the Oktoberfest, and also met on a number of occasions for work, food and fun. The Seniors' Group continues to meet on the first Sunday of each month, and they have gone on a number of special trips, including a tour of the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, a trip to a local Dinner Theatre, and most recently a trip to the Yorktown Museum followed by lunch. They also offered a wonderful intergenerational "show and tell" for the Parish youth. They also have begun to look for ways to do a variety of parish inreach efforts. The Fun Bunch made hot sauce, pizza and had a number of trips to local restaurants. Our Youth Group continues to grow and has organized a bowling trip and several trips to diners; they look forward to getting more involved in service in the coming year. I think that these social groups will continue to be a source of a great deal of parish growth in 2012. Everyone is looking for friends, and the church has the space and resources to make it easy for everyone to meet new people and new friends at different events through social groups.

Pastoral care is an essential part of Christian life and growth. As your priest and rector I try to visit people who are in the hospital every day, I try to visit people in nursing homes once a week, and I try to visit those who are homebound on a regular basis. Sometimes, I am able to do what I set out to do, but the reality of life sometimes gets in the way. In the summer I go on vacation, and invariably, someone gets sick while the rector is away. Due to my back surgery I was unable to make many visits for the first few months of the year. In response to this we began to train Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) who will assist by bringing Communion after services to parishioners who are homebound, in nursing homes, or in the hospital, and this year they will be licensed by the Diocese. They will not replace me, and I do not intend to lessen my own visits to parishioners in any way, but I think the LEVs will fill in when I am unable to visit someone or when I am away. Every one of us can visit our brothers and sisters in Christ. If you are hospitalized or if you want

me or any other parishioner to visit you, please let me know. There is more to pastoral care than such obvious pastoral visits. I have a cell phone (914-471-0260) at which I can be reached almost instantly. If I do not answer, leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can. I am always available for a meeting or a conversation or counseling or any sort. The Episcopal Church offers the Sacramental Rite of Confession. I have heard many confessions, I make regular confessions to a priest, and I am always available for anyone who wishes to make a Confession. I am your priest and rector. If you need me, please call me.

Related to pastoral care is outreach. Each week we collect food for the Katonah Food Pantry. We support the Keon Center for Special Needs persons and their families. We sponsor over 50 children in the Carpenter's Kids in Tanzania. Parishioners are involved in a wide variety of outreach and inreach activities. An important step in organizing all of these efforts was the formation of a formal Outreach Committee, chaired by Nancy and Wilfried Haensch. The Outreach Committee meets quarterly to plan and organize various outreach events in the hopes that all outreach done by parishioners is supported by and advertised to the rest of the parish. They also offer regular presentations on local and international outreach in order to spark interest and involvement in the parish. For more information, please refer to the Outreach report.

Christian Education and formation at Good Shepherd continues to thrive. Our Sunday School is booming. For more information, please refer to the Sunday School report. During the course of 2011 I offered classes on Tuesday evenings and Sunday mornings with a varying amount of success. No time seems to be ideal for everyone, but we always have people in every class. If you are interested in learning a little bit about your faith or asking any question at all about the church or the bible or theology, I invite you to one of these classes. Currently we offer Thinking Episcopalians on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM. In addition, a group of parishioners has expressed interest in starting an EFM group, but needs commitments from at least six people to move forward. If you are interested in joining the EFM Group please speak to me; participants study the entire sweep of Christian tradition from the earliest period to the present, covering biblical exegesis and interpretation, systematic theology, church history, ethics and liturgics. In 2012 we will have Confirmations and Receptions in March or September. We have a bishop visiting on both occasions. Please speak to me if you or your teen age child would like to be Confirmed or Received.

It has been a fantastic year at Good Shepherd. The buildings and grounds look great. There are more children in our nursery and in Sunday school. Our attendance is WAY up on Sunday. We did more events than we have in past years, and we had lots of fun together. I look forward to 2012! I think that it's going to be a fantastic year, and I hope and I pray that Good Shepherd will continue to be a growing church that is spreading the good news of the risen Lord Jesus to more and more people every day of the year.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Matthew Mead, Rector

* * * * *

FINANCIAL WARDEN'S REPORT

As my term comes to an end with this meeting, I am awestruck with the accomplishments that we have achieved as a parish. Our attendance is up and with that our pledges have reached a level that I would have considered outlandish just a few short years ago. Our Sunday School is thriving, our various groups have wonderful participation and everyone seems eager to lend a helping hand. I want to thank everyone for making my run as Warden a great experience that I will always cherish.

I would like to give some special thanks to Fr. Matt. His unwavering devotion to us and to our faith has been eye opening. Because of his vision we have all benefited in untold ways.

And the biggest thank you goes to all of you for your support of me and all the Vestry members that I have served with.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Corning

* * * * *

PROPERTY WARDEN'S REPORT

I am happy to report on the following improvements to the church building and grounds:

1. Tree removal and pruning as part of a two-year maintenance program to reduce hazardous tree conditions.
2. Removal of all existing roof shingles, flashing, trim and gutters and the installation of new 40-year roof shingles, roof insulation and flashings over the sloping sections of the church and parish hall. Flat roof section over the guild room and hallway were sealed. All new gutters, leaders and downspouts were installed.
3. Replacement of the Church and Parish Hall boiler and controls.
4. Replacement and Updating of all Exterior Lighting.
5. Painting of Guild Room, Parish Hallway, Church Hallway and Bathroom.
6. Installation of Phase II of the Memorial Garden (installation of memorial bricks).
7. Installation of Phase III of the Memorial Garden (installation of the woodland path and benches) by Alex Mattos who through his hard work will obtain his Eagle Scout award from this wonderful project.
8. Installation of the Flag Pole.
9. Installation of a new dishwasher.
10. All sorts of maintenance including shrub trimming, debris removal, gutter cleaning, painting, polishing planting and mulching (and more)!

As I look at these improvements I of course see the physical changes that they brought to the church. But more importantly, I see the people who were so very involved. I see Alex Mattos, his friends and his family, starting to clear the woods for the Memorial Garden pathway on a very hot and sticky morning, I see Arleen Flury cleaning out the attic on a hot day (and grinning all (well most of) the time), I see Bob Velzy, in the same attic with a dust mask on installing insulation, I see Pat Mulholland assembling the flag pole and I see Lorne Robbins pulling tree limbs out of the way after the terrible storms we had this past Fall, I see all the people on the Memorial Garden Committee meeting in the church on the hot summer evenings of 2010 so that the work in 2011 was properly planned and accomplished, I see Anne Siemerling who came and volunteered to help even though she was constantly at the church working anyhow, I see Father Matt in terrible back pain, using

umbrellas as “crutches” and coming down on a very stormy night to meet with us at St. Matthew’s Church in Bedford to help secure the Bedell Funding which helped pay for our roof and I see Bernie as the wonderful supervisor that made us all laugh. I recall with immense gratitude all of you who came to one, some or many (did I say many?) work days and helped when and how you could. So, in summary, as I look back on my past two years as Property Warden, I see all that we accomplished and I see all of you. Both make me smile.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Barber

* * * * *

TREASURER’S REPORT

This year brought about many challenges financially which we overcame through the hard work of our parishioners, vestry members, and rector. The year began with us heavily in the red due to the early winter snows in 2010 which left us with large heating bills and snow plowing bills to carry over into the new year. Shortly after the new year and again due to the winter we experienced increased costs in maintenance with large tree-cutting bills and more snow plowing bills. Our large heating bills continued well into a very late spring season. In addition, we experienced problems with the rectory/church water system causing us increased expenses we were not anticipating.

On a positive note in early spring, we received word that we would be awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Bedell Fund toward replacing the roof on the church and the Parish Hall as well as some temporary work on the Guild Room roof. The total cost of the roof was covered by an additional \$34,000 grant from the diocese and a loan in the amount of \$30,500.

Our next surprise came in late spring as our six year old boiler sprung a leak. We were fortunate to get the parts covered by the warranty but the labor costs came in at \$4,550.00. We applied to the diocese for an emergency loan in this amount and we should be receiving that shortly.

In addition to the great generosity seen in our pledged donations, we had enormous help from all of you running bake sales, candy sales, selling beer steins and hot sauce, our wine tasting and our new annual award dinner, our annual Christmas Bazaar, and our “into the black” campaign we were able to come close to getting caught up. As this winter begins to wind down, with less snow and warmer weather, hopefully with fewer unexpected expenses, I feel we will have turned the corner on balancing our budget and meeting our needs. Thank you all for your hard work and support.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Stevens, Treasurer

| Account Number | Account Name | Current Month | Year to Date | Monthly Budget | % of Budget Month | Budget Year to Date | % of Budget YTD |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <u>Income</u> | | | | | | | |
| 4.100.00 | Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.101.00 | Interest Income | 0.00 | 0.00 | 33.37 | 0 | 400.00 | 0 |
| 4.101.01 | Yandersitz Fund Income | 1,300.00 | 15,600.00 | 1,300.00 | 100 | 15,600.00 | 100 |
| 4.101.02 | Savings/CD Interest | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.101.03 | Koegel Fund Interest | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.102.00 | Donations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.102.01 | Pledges | 21,656.00 | 138,710.00 | 9,819.75 | 221 | 117,837.00 | 118 |
| 4.102.02 | Loose Plate | 619.00 | 4,002.66 | 250.00 | 248 | 3,000.00 | 133 |
| 4.102.03 | Easter Donations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 1,000.00 | 0 |
| 4.102.04 | Christmas Donations | 100.00 | 100.00 | 1,500.00 | 7 | 1,500.00 | 7 |
| 4.102.05 | Thanksgiving Donations | 0.00 | 240.00 | 0.00 | | 500.00 | 48 |
| 4.102.06 | Birthday/Initial Donations | 0.00 | 24.00 | 16.63 | 0 | 200.00 | 12 |
| 4.102.07 | Sunday School | 17.00 | 187.31 | 20.87 | 81 | 250.00 | 75 |
| 4.102.08 | Altar Guild | 380.00 | 1,640.00 | 208.37 | 182 | 2,500.00 | 66 |
| 4.102.10 | Inc. Due to Bishops Fund | 0.00 | 272.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.102.11 | Due to Carpenters Kid | 1,100.00 | 7,818.03 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.102.12 | Income-Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 215.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.103.00 | Donations For Use Of Space | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.103.01 | Alcoholics Anonymous | 0.00 | 2,300.00 | 250.00 | 0 | 3,000.00 | 77 |
| 4.103.02 | Bright Beginnings | 1,450.00 | 17,400.00 | 1,500.00 | 97 | 18,000.00 | 97 |
| 4.103.03 | Polling Place income | 0.00 | 350.00 | 0.00 | | 500.00 | 70 |
| 4.103.04 | Other Income-Celebrations | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.103.05 | Other Income- parish dinners | 0.00 | 250.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.104.00 | Fund Raisers | 1,689.48 | 4,158.34 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.105.01 | Income Helen Moore Fund | 375.00 | 475.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.108.00 | Income-refunds | 0.00 | 115.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.119.00 | Income Adult Education | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.120.00 | Income-Acolytes | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.200.00 | Income-Capital Improvement | 5,110.00 | 94,855.16 | 125.00 | 4088 | 1,500.00 | 6324 |
| 4.200.01 | Income-Rectory Improvement | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.300.00 | Income-Rector's Discretionary | 0.00 | 210.00 | 41.63 | 0 | 500.00 | 42 |
| 4.300.01 | Income Rector's Education Fund | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.400.00 | Income-Outreach | 395.62 | 2,755.22 | 166.63 | 237 | 2,000.00 | 138 |
| 4.500.00 | Income-Parish Support | 20.00 | 213.60 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.600.00 | Income-Memorial Garden | 0.00 | 1,864.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.700.00 | Income-Organ Fund | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.800.00 | Income-Investments | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 4.900.00 | Income-Memorial Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| | Total Income | \$34,212.10 | \$293,755.32 | \$15,232.25 | 204 | \$168,287.00 | 165 |
| <u>Expense</u> | | | | | | | |
| 5.101.00 | Advertising | 0.00 | 332.15 | 41.63 | 0 | 500.00 | 66 |
| 5.102.00 | Birthday Cards | 0.00 | 29.88 | 10.38 | 0 | 125.00 | 24 |
| 5.103.00 | Church Receptions | 0.00 | 1,694.86 | 104.13 | 0 | 1,250.00 | 136 |
| 5.104.00 | Worship Supplies | 173.36 | 2,237.72 | 83.37 | 208 | 1,000.00 | 224 |
| 5.105.00 | Diocesan Assessment | 2,084.00 | 8,335.95 | 0.00 | | 8,335.80 | 100 |
| 5.106.00 | Choir Music | 150.00 | 350.00 | 29.13 | 515 | 350.00 | 100 |
| 5.107.00 | Stewardship | 0.00 | 0.00 | 16.63 | 0 | 200.00 | 0 |
| 5.108.00 | Supply Priests/Organists | 0.00 | 1,131.76 | 208.37 | 0 | 2,500.00 | 45 |
| 5.110.00 | Office Expense | 236.37 | 6,949.73 | 500.00 | 47 | 6,000.00 | 116 |
| 5.111.00 | Payroll Expenses | 34.50 | 511.75 | 46.00 | 75 | 552.00 | 93 |
| 5.112.00 | Heat/Light/Power | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |

| Account Number | Account Name | Current Month | Year to Date | Monthly Budget | % of Budget Month | Budget Year to Date | % of Budget YTD |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 5.112.01 | Heat,Light, Power-Church | 111.23 | 16,998.87 | 833.37 | 13 | 10,000.00 | 170 |
| 5.112.02 | Heat, Light,Power-Rectory | 121.06 | 6,781.28 | 375.00 | 32 | 4,500.00 | 151 |
| 5.112.03 | Telephone-Church | 137.59 | 1,455.10 | 125.00 | 110 | 1,500.00 | 97 |
| 5.113.00 | Insurance | 0.00 | 4,615.75 | 416.63 | 0 | 5,000.00 | 92 |
| 5.114.00 | Maintenance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.114.01 | Maint. Gen. Expenses | 976.95 | 12,116.17 | 625.00 | 156 | 7,500.00 | 162 |
| 5.114.02 | Maint. Janitorial Supplies | 0.00 | 939.59 | 41.63 | 0 | 500.00 | 188 |
| 5.114.03 | Expense -Capitalized loans | 415.49 | 2,636.53 | 126.63 | 328 | 1,520.00 | 173 |
| 5.115.00 | Rector's Compensation | 4,953.63 | 11,552.06 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.115.01 | Rector's Stipend | 3,696.63 | 48,187.86 | 3,750.00 | 99 | 45,000.00 | 107 |
| 5.115.02 | Rector's FICA | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.115.03 | Housing Allowance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.115.04 | Rector's Insurance | 8,383.00 | 25,861.50 | 173.00 | 4846 | 2,076.00 | 1246 |
| 5.115.05 | Rector's Pension | 0.00 | 3,039.36 | 0.00 | | 12,717.20 | 24 |
| 5.115.06 | Rector's Telephone | 526.35 | 4,888.31 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.115.07 | Travel Allowance | 1,052.19 | 1,052.19 | 83.37 | 1262 | 1,000.00 | 105 |
| 5.115.08 | Equity Replacement Allowance | 0.00 | 0.00 | 83.37 | 0 | 1,000.00 | 0 |
| 5.115.09 | Continuing Education-Rector | 0.00 | 0.00 | 41.63 | 0 | 500.00 | 0 |
| 5.115.10 | Moving Expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.116.00 | Staff Salaries | 1,260.00 | 16,060.00 | 1,352.37 | 93 | 16,228.00 | 99 |
| 5.116.01 | Staff FICA | 42.08 | 1,174.36 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.116.02 | NYS Unemployment | 65.42 | 341.07 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.116.03 | NYS Workmen's Compensation | 12.44 | 706.38 | 45.73 | 27 | 548.32 | 129 |
| 5.116.04 | Disability Insurance Premium | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.117.00 | Auditor Expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 50.00 | 0 | 600.00 | 0 |
| 5.118.00 | Search Committee Expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.119.00 | Adult Education | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8.37 | 0 | 100.00 | 0 |
| 5.120.00 | Acolytes | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8.37 | 0 | 100.00 | 0 |
| 5.121.00 | Sunday School | 0.00 | 482.35 | 16.63 | 0 | 200.00 | 241 |
| 5.122.00 | Youth Group | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8.37 | 0 | 100.00 | 0 |
| 5.123.00 | Miscellaneous | 0.00 | 555.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.123.01 | Expense- parish dinners | 425.96 | 1,312.86 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.124.00 | Altar Guild | 212.45 | 1,674.25 | 208.37 | 102 | 2,500.00 | 67 |
| 5.125.00 | Yandersitz Memorial Flowers | 90.00 | 160.00 | 16.63 | 541 | 200.00 | 80 |
| 5.126.02 | Expense-pass thru funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.200.00 | Expense-Capital Improvement | 0.00 | 85,520.00 | 125.00 | 0 | 1,500.00 | 5701 |
| 5.200.01 | Expense-Rectory Improvement | 0.00 | 273.03 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.200.03 | Expense-Unreimb.exp.new furnac | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.300.00 | Expense-Rector's Discretionary | 755.66 | 1,283.06 | 41.63 | 1815 | 500.00 | 257 |
| 5.300.01 | Expense-Rector's Education Fun | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.400.00 | Expense-Outreach | 0.00 | 2,180.60 | 166.63 | 0 | 2,000.00 | 109 |
| 5.400.01 | Expense-Carpenter's Kids | 2,700.00 | 7,359.30 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.401.00 | Expense-Fund Raisers | 0.00 | 704.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.500.00 | Expense-Parish Support | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.600.00 | Expense-Memorial Garden | 0.00 | 1,336.50 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.700.00 | Expense-Organ Fund | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.800.00 | Expenses-Investments | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.900.00 | Expenses-Memorial Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| 5.901.01 | Expense Helen Moore Fund | 500.00 | 500.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 | |
| | Total Expense | \$29,116.36 | \$283,321.13 | \$9,762.37 | 183 | \$138,202.32 | 183 |
| | Difference | \$5,095.74 | \$10,434.19 | \$5,469.88 | | \$30,084.68 | |

The Church Of The Good Shepherd - Granite Springs NY 10527
 Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2011

01/19/12

Page 1

| Account # | Account name | Year to Date |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| <u>Assets</u> | | |
| 1.100.01 | Checking Account | 20,112.99 |
| 1.100.02 | Organ Fund CD | 5,836.58 |
| 1.101.00 | Savings Account | 196.11 |
| 1.101.01 | Organ Fund-Restricted | 302.30 |
| 1.101.07 | Adult Education-restricted | 73.28 |
| 1.200.01 | Investments-Yandersitz Fund | 255,203.47 |
| 1.300.01 | Land, Building, Equipment | 1,290,560.00 |
| 1.301.01 | Capital Imp.- Rectory roof | 2,605.34 |
| 1.301.03 | Cap. Imp. Church Roof loan | 29,369.27 |
| | Total Assets | <u>\$1,604,259.34</u> |
| <u>Liabilities and Fund Balances</u> | | |
| 2.101.02 | Loan Payable-Rectory Roof | 2,605.34 |
| 2.101.03 | Loan Payable Church Roof Loan | 29,369.27 |
| | Total Liabilities | <u>\$31,974.61</u> |
| 3.100.00 | General Operating Fund | 2,456.11 |
| 3.200.00 | Capital Improvement Fund | 9,466.56 |
| 3.201.00 | Rectory Improvement Fund | 690.49 |
| 3.300.00 | Rector's Discretionary Fund | 1,532.04 |
| 3.400.00 | Outreach | 3,142.02 |
| 3.401.00 | Adult Education Fund | 73.28 |
| 3.500.00 | Parish Support Fund | 1,395.20 |
| 3.600.00 | Memorial Garden | 1,452.50 |
| 3.700.00 | Organ Fund | 4,953.12 |
| 3.800.00 | Investment Fund | 255,203.47 |
| 3.801.00 | Land, Building, Equipment | 1,290,560.00 |
| 3.900.00 | Memorial Fund | 1,359.94 |
| | Total Fund Balance | <u>\$1,572,284.73</u> |
| | Total Liabilities and Fund Balances | <u>\$1,604,259.34</u> |

2012 Budget

Income

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----|---------|
| Interest Income | \$ | 100 |
| Pledges | | 136,707 |
| Loose Plate | | 3,000 |
| Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving | | 6,750 |
| Birthday/Initial | | 100 |
| AA | | 2,760 |
| Bright Beginnings | | 17,400 |
| Polling usage | | 1,050 |
| Capital Improvements | | 4,000* |
| Outreach | | 1,000 |

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Yandersitz Income | | 15,600 |
| Rector's Discretionary | | 1,000 |
| Sunday School | | 200 |
| Fund Raisers | | <u>4,000</u> |
| Total Income | \$ | 193,667 |

*Capital Improvement income includes approximately \$2,000 from Koegel Fund.

Expenses

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Diocesan Assessment | \$ | 11,164 |
| Roof loans | | 4,987 |
| Boiler loan | | 1,015 |
| Insurance | | 5,000 |
| Office Expenses | | 7,000 |
| Telephone – Church | | 1,500 |
| Telephone-Rector | | 1,800 |
| Rectory-phone/cable | | 2,244 |
| Rector's Stipend | | 60,943 |
| Rector's Health Ins. | | 23,150 |
| Rector's Pension | | 18,000 |
| Rector's Discretionary | | 500 |
| Rector's Travel/Ed. | | 1,200 |
| Rector's Equity | | 712 |
| Staff Salaries | | 16,100 |
| Staff Fica | | 1,252 |
| NYS unemployment | | 350 |
| NYS Workman's Comp. | | 700 |
| Auditor | | 800 |
| Supply Priests/Organists | | 2,000 |
| Choir Music | | 350 |
| Lawn Care | | 1,500 |
| Snow Removal | | 1,500 |
| Maintenance | | 6,000 |
| Adult Ed. | | 150 |
| Sunday School | | 500 |
| Heat/Electric Church | | 8,000 |
| Heat/Electric Rectory | | 5,500 |
| Acolytes | | 100 |
| Advertising | | 500 |
| Birthday Cards | | 100 |
| Church Receptions | | 1,000 |
| Miscellaneous | | 50 |
| Sr./Youth Groups | | 150 |
| Capital Projects | | 4,000 |
| Worship Supplies | | <u>2,000</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$ | 193,667 |

* * * * *

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Stewardship Committee wants to thank every member of the congregation for their generous donations of time, talent and treasure this year. It always amazes me how much everyone here contributes to the Church of the Good Shepherd and how our gifts are so diverse yet complementary. Special thanks to Father Matt for his tireless work as our rector. His enthusiasm and spiritual guidance are major factors contributing to the growth of our parish. Thank you to the Vestry and all of its officers for keeping the church running and in good repair. Thank you to all of the Committee chairs and members for providing a social framework for us to perform the work of the church. Thank you to the staff of the church for providing us with music and keeping the church clean and beautiful. Special thanks to everyone who participated in the 24 hour Prayer Vigil and Covenant Sunday pancake breakfast, especially Jim Corning, Rich Murphy, Dave Stevens and Bernie Sotter for their awesome cooking abilities. Finally, thank you to Father Matt, Leslie Fulton, Courtney Velzy, and Sally Stevens for their participation on the Stewardship Committee and helping with our mailings.

Pledges: Our church budget for the coming year calls for a total of just under \$137,000 in pledges to keep Good Shepherd in the black. As of January 22nd we have received 58 pledges totaling \$123,224 for the coming year. Thank you to all who have pledged so generously. **We're 90% of the way to our goal!** The following table shows our progress for the past 3 years. With over 80 families receiving offering envelopes we should easily be able to surpass last year's pledge number and make our goal. If you haven't made a formal pledge yet, please make one today.

| Year | # Pledges | Total Amount Pledged | Avg Pledge/Family/Yr |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2009 (for 2010) | 52 | \$104,539 | \$2010 |
| 2010 (for 2011) | 59 | \$115,342 | \$1955 |
| 2011 (for 2012) | 58 | \$123,224 | \$2125 |

Respectfully submitted
Maria Kaprielian, Stewardship Chair

* * * * *

MUSIC MINISTRY

2011 was again a year of growth for the music ministry. Our dedicated core choir, now grown by the addition of Jim Duggan, is only part of the music ministry story. The services have been enhanced by the gifts of budding young instrumentalists and singers, and intermittent guest soloists from in and out of the congregation. Choir members have used their talents to guide the children in song at Christmas with Julia Bacal's instruction and in the Spring with Gwendolyn Green's instruction. With the help of the music budget, I have purchased some new small choral works, while rediscovering gems from our extensive library (over 800 pieces). The Helen Moore Fund continues to provide us with the ability to hire professional players for Christmas and Easter. Please remember that fund when thinking about your spiritual experience during those cherished

celebrations. The organ is maintained well, and use of the portable piano for prerecorded hymns has expanded music into the extra Sunday services. Fr. Matt saw to fixing the sound system for the organ, and has been a wonderful guide and collaborator when it comes to choosing appropriate hymns and music for the services. His enthusiasm pervades every Sunday with his constant vocal presence in the hymns. As always, I am available to anyone who has suggestions, comments about the music ministry, or to anyone who would like to more deeply involve themselves or their family members in the musical end of their worship.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cecilia Sparacio, Organist & Music Director

* * * * *

OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

The Outreach Committee began meeting regularly in September. We have discussed what outreach means at Good Shepherd and how to better communicate this to others. Good Shepherd takes the body of Christ out into the world through its outreach activities! The goal of the Outreach Committee is for every parishioner, from the youngest to the oldest, to find an outreach activity that they enjoy. We have shifted our focus away from fundraising toward relationship building.

We have tried to keep the church informed of activities through an Outreach Coming Events Calendar that appears monthly in the Shepherd's Voice. New projects for 2011 included the Holiday Sharing Drive to benefit the Junior League of Northern Westchester and filling mite boxes for the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem. Parishioners also supported the Keon Center raffle/Christmas party and the annual Holiday Bazaar.

Plans for 2012 include learning about international, national, and local outreach activities. We will have guest speakers at coffee hour throughout the year to highlight different projects, from Africa to Jerusalem to our own backyard. During Lent we will again collect coins for Episcopal Charities and we will have a special Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday on March 18th! A timeline mapping out "the work of the people" for 2012 will soon take shape on the large blank wall of the guild room. Our hope is that the timeline will allow you to step back for a broader perspective so that the Spirit can guide you to **your** outreach ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy & Wilfried Haensch

* * * * *

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE: CARPENTER'S KIDS PROGRAM

2011 was another fabulous year in our ongoing involvement in the Carpenter's Kids Program. One highlight was the continued relationship building with our Carpenter's Kids Program sister church in Isava, Tanzania as members of our parish made a pilgrimage this past summer: This year's trip was our second pilgrimage and pilgrims included two members of our Youth Group: Sarah Corning and Matt Corning.

Five years ago, we, as a church community, agreed to support 50 children in Tanzania for five years, and we are currently supporting 54 children in Isava, Tanzania. Thanks so much to all of our members and friends for their continued support of this wonderful program! We had another wonderful year, and we are grateful for your generosity and personal involvement with the Carpenter's Kids.

A great blessing this year is that we have been given the chance to begin another five-year commitment with the Carpenter's Kids Program – our current commitment ends in late 2012. To ensure a smooth transition we hope to officially sign on again for a second five year commitment by May 1, 2012. As this year begins, we want to ask you to prayerfully consider signing on for five years. If you signed up five years ago, we ask for your continued support. If you are “new” to the parish or to the program and weren't able to sign on five years ago, we hope you will sign up for this wonderful program in whatever way you are able. The cost of support is \$80 per child per year, for a total of \$400 over the course of five years. You can support one child, more than one, or less than one (we can pool together our resources). More information will be coming as the winter progresses, and a signup sheet is posted for those who are ready to (re)commit today! If you have any questions, please ask!

Respectfully Submitted,
Leslie Fulton & Jan Corning, Carpenter's Kids Program

* * * * *

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The Sunday School experienced another productive--and growing--year in 2011. Several new families joined the church, happily resulting in more children joining our program. We now have more than 25 children attending Sunday School on a regular basis. Most of them are third grade or younger, and are wonderful to work with.

No example of that is better than the just-presented Christmas pageant, which was held January 7, in conjunction with our sixth annual "Twelfth Night" celebration. We presented a new pageant, "Twas the Night Before Christmas," in which a busy mouse learns the true meaning of Christmas from some famous characters. Some children were in their first pageant while other veterans performed like professional thespians, and they all did a marvelous job acting, singing and telling the story of Jesus' birth. We again had "live" animals and a "live" Baby Jesus (thank you, Maximus Hohwald!)

The 12th Night celebration that followed, also organized by the Sunday School, was again an evening of food, fellowship and festivity, with the Magi (Emily Vesperman, Tom Rubino and Amanda Slattery) bringing gifts for everyone. Father Matt opened and closed with prayers. Thanks to everyone for their generous donations of food and gifts, and to the organizing committee, especially Arleen Flury and Leslie Fulton, for making it happen.

Gwen Greene and Cecilia Sparacio once again worked with the children to present a marvelous spring concert of songs, and Mella Donofrio worked with them to perform a wonderful sign language version of The Lord's Prayer.

And once again we had several "Family Sundays" where the children perform most of the duties at the 10 am service. They love doing this and the congregation seems to respond well.

Sunday School is in its sixth year of a "lectionary-based" curriculum, which means the children are learning the same lessons (at their level) that the rest of us are learning in church. Each Sunday starts with a worship service, followed by a lesson and activity/craft before they come into church for communion. The children continue to respond well to this format and we are told that some good family discussions have occurred after church on lessons learned that day. The lectionary curriculum seems to be working well on many levels.

Of course we are always looking for more teachers, especially for the last session of the year (after Easter) and looking ahead, to the fall session (September-October). Please prayerfully consider sharing your talents with the children. They are bright, fun and easy to work with. We have five sessions during the year. Each lasts approximately six weeks. Each teacher is paired with at least one other, receives relevant materials and has the support of the Sunday School Committee. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has answered the call to teach. You have made a real difference and hopefully have felt rewarded by your experience.

We are blessed to have a "bumper crop" of young children in the program. They are our greatest asset and with your continuing support, we pray that with a solid Christian education, they will be better equipped to face the world they are quickly growing up in!

Many thanks from the Sunday School Committee (which by the way welcomes new members anytime!)

Respectfully submitted,
Glenn Hintze for Jan Corning, Fran DiBernardo, Arleen Flury, Leslie Fulton, Suzanne Bracken,
Father Matt Mead

* * * * *

YOUTH GROUP

Last year the Youth Group helped with the wine tasting by serving food and helping to clean up. After participating in the Stewardship Prayer Vigil six teens and two adults went to the diner for breakfast and discussed planning future activities. We want to participate in fun activities and help serve the church. Our next activity is Midnight Disco Bowling. There are currently six members and we would like more. Anyone 12 years or older is invited to join us. Contact Jan Corning, Sarah Corning, Fay Wright or Xe Weig for more information.

Respectfully Submitted,
Xe Weig

* * * * *

THE SENIOR GROUP

MISSION:

The Senior Group was formed to engage the church's older members in social, recreational, educational and spiritual activities of particular significance to senior citizens. We meet once a month.

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS:

Since inception we have an average of 12 active participants, and often as many as 19 members on our various trips and excursions. So far we have participated in trips to The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in Manhattan and The Broadway Theater in Elmsford (in addition to sharing our resources and experiences with the Sunday School). This month we visited the Yorktown Museum and later enjoyed a luncheon at Murphy's Restaurant.

Our members have shared information on using computers, tablets, texting, email, Skype and other forms of communication necessary in the digital age.

Future activities will focus on church "in reach", to include and identify congregants who may find themselves isolated or lonely due to death of a loved one, or suffer an infirmity or other circumstances that are barriers to full participation in church services.

We also plan to develop a Speakers Series to promote information on social security, retirement, federal entitlements programs and topics of mutual interest such as health, fitness, wellness education and estate planning. Federal, state, county and local community agency resources will be utilized.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Greene

* * * * *

PARISH ARCHIVES

A little history

In April 2010, Fr. Matt asked if anyone would be interested in helping to transcribe the records of the sacraments performed at Church of the Good Shepherd. Cate Hohwald, Eric Parsons, Phil Pinkney, and I answered the call and got the ball rolling: we each took a sacrament and proceeded to pore over the parish records, dating back to 1901. For me, it has been an amazing gift to have been given the chance to help preserve these precious records of our parish's history. The recording of these names and events gives testimony to all of these lives. These people lived, right here in our community, and chose to have us bear witness to some of their most profound, life-changing moments. We are the keepers of this precious information, and it is an honor to continue to preserve it in digital form.

Are YOU a member of Good Shepherd?

Once the baptism, confirmation, marriage and burial records were transcribed, we added all of the records of transfers in and out of the parish, and began to develop a list of Members of Good Shepherd. This list is used primarily for the annual parochial report, which provides general demographic information about our parish to the Diocese of New York. It is also tremendously

useful for us internally; however, crafting this list is not as straightforward as you might think! Officially, a “Member” of the congregation is someone that 1) was baptized here, 2) was confirmed here, or 3) transferred his or her membership here from another parish. But many of our most active or longstanding parishioners may not fit those criteria, and may not realize they are not officially considered “Members” for purposes of the parochial report. The project is further complicated because, most unfortunately, there are several years for which our written records are incomplete or no records were kept.

Please tell us your story!

For the next phase of this project, we will need your help. As we move toward a Member List that is accurate, up to date and easily maintained, you may be asked to confirm your records or help to decipher older information. One of the things I love about Good Shepherd is the amazing collective memory this active congregation shares. We will be reaching out to you so you can share your experiences and ensure that what you have lived here as part of this parish is preserved for future generations. This is not limited to information about church records, crucial though that is. What you know about where we’ve been helps all of us understand who we are as a community and where we are going.

Here’s to a wonderful 2012!

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Palmer

* * * * *

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild at Good Shepherd is a group of dedicated women who are responsible for preparing the altar for the worship service and assisting the clergy before and after the services each week. Throughout the year we are responsible for the care of the altar linens, priest’s vestments, brass, silver, candles and flowers.

We prepare the altar for regular Sunday worship services and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. We also prepare the church for all special services such as Lent, Easter, Harvest Festival, Christmas, Baptisms, weddings and funerals. It is our privilege to help to make worship as meaningful as possible for our congregation and visitors to Good Shepherd.

Currently we have four full-time members. If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild, or have questions about how you can participate, I would be happy to talk to you. We would love to have you.

Respectfully submitted,
Arleen Flury
Altar Guild Directress

* * * * *

BIRTHDAY CARD COMMITTEE

It has been a tradition to celebrate parishioners' birthdays with a greeting card from the congregation. 181 parishioners received a birthday greeting card in 2011. If you are not currently receiving a personal greeting card and wish to, contact the office or Nancy Anderson. We appreciate contributions of postage and cards to help with the budgeted expense.

Volunteers sign up for a month each year, they are provided with an updated list, postage, return address labels, cards and sample messages. Each volunteer is encouraged to develop their own message and/or choose a Bible verse.

Many thanks to the nine volunteers who gave generously of their time, thoughts and creativity. New volunteers are always welcome.

An idea: spouses, children, families or friends working together for a meaningful project.

A simple but special ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Anderson

* * * * *

DIOCESAN CONVENTION TO ELECT A BISHOP REPORT

Adapted From the Diocese of New York website:

At a little after 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 19, 2011, at a special election convention held at Manhattan's Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, the Rev. Canon Andrew M.L. Dietsche was declared the bishop coadjutor-elect of the Episcopal Diocese of New York - a position that gives him automatic right of succession to the current Diocesan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Mark S. Sisk, when he retires.

Dietsche, a Poughkeepsie, NY resident who is currently on the diocesan staff as Canon for Pastoral Care, was elected on the third round of balloting by a majority of the active clergy (176 of a total 262) of the diocese and of delegates from all of its congregations (131 out of a 233).

Canon Dietsche was one of two candidates nominated "from the floor" in addition to the five who were put forward at the end of August by a special Committee to Elect a Bishop, which began work following Bishop Sisk's call for an election at the diocese's 2010 annual convention last November.

The bishop coadjutor-elect must now receive the consent of a majority both of the other diocesan bishops of the Episcopal Church and of the standing committees of the Church's dioceses, before being consecrated in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine on Saturday, March 10, 2012. He will then work alongside Bishop Sisk with, in Bishop Sisk's words, "responsibility for all those who enter the ordination process, as well as the search process for all congregations who begin their search for new clerical leadership, as of the date when the bishop coadjutor elect assumes his or her duties. Over time," Bishop Sisk continued, "and following consultation with the bishop coadjutor, additional duties and areas of jurisdiction will be assigned," Dietsche will become the new Diocesan

Bishop on Bishop Sisk's retirement, which must take place on or before his 72nd birthday in August 2014.

Canon Dietsche issued the following statement on the announcement of his election:

"I am deeply honored and humbled by my election today as Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of New York, a diocese I have long ago come to know and love so deeply as Canon for Pastoral Care. I look forward to continuing to serve this community in the years to come in this new role to which I have been called. It has also been a particular pleasure to come to know the other candidates in this election, and I have been blessed to be included in their company. It is a poignant and powerful thing to find that one is the bearer of the hopes of others, and each of us who accepted nomination for this election has had that learning, been lifted up by the love and prayers of many, and felt the weight of that responsibility. I am thankful for each of the candidates with whom I made this journey, and for the faith, courage and grace with which they have adorned our diocese and our election. May God continue to shower them with every blessing.

"I believe that it is especially a privilege to be the church in uncertain times. It is the greatest gift to face challenges which surpass our ability and understanding, for it is only then that we learn what it really means to trust God. We are in a season in which so much of our common life, the life and health of so many churches, and the resources on which our ministries and our mission have depended, can no longer be taken for granted. The particular challenges with which we will contend in this next chapter of our life will test us, but I am certain that, God being our helper, we will prevail over fear and doubt and by the witness of a courageous faith give glory to God. I thank the clergy and people of New York for inviting me to lead them into that wonderful future, and I ask God's blessing on this, our great Diocese of New York."

Mrs. Amanda Slattery was lay delegate from the Church of the Good Shepherd. Mr. Wilfried Haensch was alternate delegate from the Church of the Good Shepherd. The Reverend Matthew Mead, rector, was the clergy delegate from the Church of the Good Shepherd. Father Mead served on the Committee To Elect A Bishop. All three were present for the election and participated in pre-election "walk abouts". The Convention was originally scheduled for October 29, but was delayed due to a snow storm. We are blessed to have Canon Dietsche as our Bishop Coadjutor and we look forward to his Episcopacy! Bishop Dietsche will be with us to celebrate Michaelmas & Oktoberfest on September 29, 2012. Please mark your calendars!

* * * * *

235th DIOCESAN CONVENTION REPORT

On Saturday, January 14, 2012, I attended our annual Diocesan Convention at the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine. The Convention was postponed from its original November 19, 2011, date due to a snow storm in October which forced the postponement of both the Convention to Elect a Bishop and the Diocesan Convention. Due to the rescheduling (January 14 was also part of a holiday weekend), attendance at Convention was a bit lighter than usual. Our lay delegate, Amanda Slattery, was out of the country on a previously scheduled trip, and our alternate lay delegate, Wilfried Haensch, was unable to attend due to illness. I was lucky enough to travel to and from Convention with Deacon Norman Fulton, a friend and long time member of Good Shepherd, who now serves at Trinity Church in Ossining.

Convention began, as it always does, with a celebration of the Eucharist. Bishop Sisk was the primary celebrant and Bishop Smith, Assisting Bishop in the Diocese of New York, was the preacher. Following the service the Convention was called to order by Bishop Sisk, who then offered the Bishop's Address to Convention. After the Bishop's Address concluded, resolutions from the floor (the content of which must stem from the Bishop's Address) were submitted. One resolution was submitted and the content of it generally supported the Occupy Wall Street Protests (The Bishop had mentioned ongoing protests in his Address). This resolution and the several resolutions submitted prior to Convention would be voted on later in the day. The business of Convention continued until about 4 PM. That business included the annual presentations of the Bishop's Cross, an "award" given by the Bishop to a few people in the Diocese each year, the election over three ballots of nominees running for a variety of Diocesan positions, a number of presentations from different committees and organizations, and the passing of several resolutions.

The first resolution passed was the 2012 Budget which was nearly identical to the 2011 Budget: presumably at the 236th Diocesan Convention on November 2-3, 2012, the priorities of a new Bishop will mean that the 2013 Budget will be a bit different. The next resolution appointed this year's class of Diocesan Trustees. The third resolution gave the Diocesan Bishop explicit permission to appoint a Priest In Charge after six months of a parish or mission failing to do so on their own. The fourth resolution modified the Diocesan Canons (or rules) concerning the Election of a Bishop: the change specified how petition candidates were to be added to the slate. The next resolution consisted of several statements in support of same sex marriage in the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of New York. The last resolution which had been made from the floor earlier in the day consisted of several statements supporting the rights and motives of recent protests, in particular the Occupy Wall Street protests. All of the resolutions were approved by Convention. The third resolution passed with a simple majority and since it was a change to the canons, will be deemed passed, but must pass at next year's Convention to take effect. The fourth resolution passed with 2/3 majority in both houses and took effect immediately. Please see the Diocesan website (<http://dioceseny.org/pages/421-the-235th-diocesan-convention>) for complete texts of all resolutions and convention business.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Matthew Hossie Mead, Clergy Delegate for the Church of the Good Shepherd

* * * * *

SERVICE NUMBERS & ATTENDANCE FOR 2011

Total Sunday Attendance for 2011: 5304
Total Weekday Attendance for 2011: 1105
Total Sunday Holy Eucharist services for 2011: 102
Total Sunday Daily Office services for 2011: 55
Total Weekday Holy Eucharist services for 2011: 15
Total Weekday Daily Office services for 2011: 104
Total Private Communion/Reserved Sacrament: 55
Burials in 2011: 2 Marriages in 2011: 2

ASA AND C&E FOR 2009, 2010 & 2011

Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) for 2009: 64
Christmas & Easter for 2009: 329
Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) for 2010: 94
Christmas & Easter for 2010: 412
Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) for 2011: 102
Christmas & Easter for 2011: 459

2011 Clergy & Staff

Rector: The Reverend Matthew Mead
Choir Director & Organist: Cecilia Sparacio
Sexton: Anne Siemerling
Child Care Provider: Sharen McKenna

2011 Vestry

Rector:

The Reverend Matthew Mead

Wardens:

Jim Corning (term ending in 2012)

Bruce Barber (term ending in 2012)

Clerk (appointed):

Amanda Slattery

Treasurer (appointed):

Sally Stevens

Financial Secretary (appointed):

Bob Bubeck

Class of term ending in 2012

Maria Kaprielian

Glenn Hintze

Pat Mulholland

Class of term ending in 2013

Arleen Flury

Dorothy Light

Bob Velzy

Class of term ending in 2014

Amanda Slattery

Katrina Stebbins

Rick Vesperman