



The Shepherd's Voice

MAY

2010

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Our prayers are asked for Margaret, Cindy, Harry, Debbie, Phil, Mary Lou, Donald, Jackie, Janice, Andy, Sonya, Angel and Shamyra; and the children of the Carpenter's Kids program in Tanzania; we pray for an end to all war and armed conflict and for our service men and women on active duty, especially William, Tanya and Brandon. Your prayers are asked for Maggie for safety in childbirth and for Rachel for safety in childbirth.

ASCENSION DAY & STEAK DINNER...

Ascension Day is always forty days after Easter Sunday: the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated on Ascension Day at 6:00 PM, Thursday, May 13, 2010. Following the service a steak and wine dinner – sides, appetizers and desserts are pot luck – will be offered for all in thanksgiving for the work done by everyone who helped make the rector's Institution & Induction on April 16 possible.

BISHOP'S VISITATION...

We are thrilled to have Bishop Sisk visit Good Shepherd (for a second time in 2010) on Sunday, June 20, 2010. Confirmation will be administered on this day. A *REAL BBQ* lunch will follow. Please mark your calendars!



FROM THE RECTOR: GROWING THE CHURCH

The Reverend Matthew Mead

It is a pleasure and honor to be rector at a church that is growing – and growing rapidly! Total attendance for Easter services was 213. Average Sunday attendance for 2010 is 93 people. My goal for 2010 is an average Sunday attendance of over 100. We are almost there! Our pledge drive for 2010 has surpassed \$100,000. Our goal for stewardship is \$120,000. Again, we are almost there! These are obvious outward signs of church growth that have happened, and it is growth that, God willing, will continue this year. Other signs of growth might not be as obvious, but they are equally important.

The food basket at the back of the church has been regularly filled to capacity about every six weeks. When it is full, the donations are brought to the Katonah Food Pantry. The outreach efforts of the church grow when more people – new or old – are in church each Sunday, and for that reason the basket has been filling up faster and faster in recent months. My goal is a full basket every month. If you are interested in offering a donation, there are take-home refrigerator magnets next to the

“WHY I LOVE GOOD SHEPHERD”

This article is the sixth in a series presented by the 2010 Stewardship Committee. If you are interested in submitting an article for the series, please contact Father Matt, we'd love to print your submission! This month we continue the series with a note from Jackie Ringer:

When Father Matt asked me to write about why I love Good Shepherd I have to admit my first, tongue-in-cheek response was “you mean more than because ‘it’s right next door to my house?’” But, of course, Good Shepherd, the church, and faith are far more meaningful in my life than simple location – just convenience wouldn’t have kept me an active member for more than 34 years.

Faith makes a difference in my life in so many ways. I find so much comfort in knowing I have a community of friends who are praying for me in good times and bad. I find Good Shepherd a calming sanctuary – a quiet, comforting place – to meditate and pray about my family and my life. I come to celebrate and be thankful when things are going well and to seek guidance and comfort when troubles arise. It is the steadiness of Good Shepherd and it’s stewardship that has always made me feel at home.

I am inspired by Good Shepherd and its continual outreach efforts, which are always on the forefront: the work with Carpenters Kids, our community work with the food pantries, and our involvement with community groups like the Boy Scouts and Alcoholics Anonymous. I believe our influence is felt on a broader level than just within our walls, and I am proud to be a part of it.

And yes, I love Good Shepherd because I live next door. There, I’ve said it. I love hearing the church bell calling everyone to worship on Sunday morning and as a reminder that God is present in my life. I love being able to see the glorious stained glass window, virtually each and every day as I pass by on my way to and from the activities in my life, feeling that God is watching over us. Good Shepherd is my constant, and my peace, and I’m thankful to have it, the wonderful parishioners and now, Father Matt, in my life.

basket indicating what supplies are needed. Thanks so much to all who have contributed to this effort!

Weekday services are not counted with Sunday attendance, but over the last few months they have grown to become part of the worship and fellowship life of the church. Morning Prayer is offered at 7:40 AM every day that I am officially at the church (Tuesday-Friday and Sunday). I have found the daily office to be a great way to keep up my own daily prayer life, learn the Psalter that is read over the course of each month, and encounter the Word of God in the Scriptures that are read each day. My knowledge of Scripture and my prayer life have grown immensely after six years of saying the daily office. I believe it will make a difference in your prayer life too. All are welcome to say the office at Good Shepherd.

In addition to the regular morning services offered each week, some of the greater festivals and feast days of the church year are celebrated during the week. It has been thrilling to see so many people in the church for these services. The services of the Triduum, celebrated in Holy Week on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday were attended by an average of over thirty people. Special services on Candlemas and Annunciation, celebrated on a Tuesday and on a Thursday, respectively, each were attended by nearly forty people. At my Institution & Induction, celebrated on a Friday night, the church was full to capacity, chairs were setup in back, people were standing in the foyer, and the official count was “over 200”! There is nothing like an active and full church on a week night to promote a feeling that “this place is really alive”. It says a great deal about how active and lively a parish is when parishioners are having a great time in church on a random weeknight! On Thursday, May 13, 2010,

we will celebrate Ascension Day. The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 6:00 PM. The service will be followed by a steak and wine dinner – a sign for potluck sides, salads, appetizers, and deserts is up in the hallway. Mark your calendars and tell your friends. It should be a fantastic night and a wonderful celebration; I hope you can be here!

The most obvious time that the church grows is when there is a baptism – a new Christian is born of water and the Holy Spirit! On Sunday May 23, the Easter Season concludes with the Day of Pentecost (fifty days after Easter Day). There will probably be many visitors in church on Pentecost this year since we are likely to have three infants baptized! If you haven't been to a Baptism at Good Shepherd since I arrived as rector, fear not: I keep the service short and sweet! Pentecost is always a joyous day, but this year we will all get to be a part of growing the church – not only Good Shepherd, but the adding in new members to the Body of Christ in the world! Please mark your calendars for this great celebration!

Finally, the growth of the church is often seen in individuals. Our Confirmation Class this year studied the Gospel passion narratives in depth. It is very difficult to grow as a Christian if you do not understand your faith, and I am confident that those who participated in the class learned a great deal about who



First wine tasting is festive, raises money for charities

Thanks to everyone who supported our first wine COGS wine tasting, held on Thursday, March 25. The event, designed to promote community visibility and serve as a stewardship fundraiser, began with an Annunciation service in the church and then adjourned to the parish hall, where a collection of wines from around the world were sampled, thanks to the experts at Somers Discount Wines & Spirits. A delicious array of appetizers and desserts was also consumed--thanks to everyone who brought them! More than 60 parishioners and their family and friends took part, and, between admissions fees and wine purchased, approximately \$1,000 was raised, which will be divided evenly among the Keon Center, the Community Center of Northern Westchester (both of which provide food, clothing, medical supplies and other critical services to those in need) and COGS. We're looking forward to making the wine tasting an annual, traditional event! - Glenn Hintze



Jesus is and what the four evangelists wrote about his death and resurrection. On Sunday, June 20, 2010, Bishop Sisk will return to Good Shepherd to confirm the young people of the Confirmation Class and make his official visitation for 2010. June 20 is also Father's Day. In celebration of the Confirmations, the Visitation, and Father's Day, the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew (the men's group) is planning to serve *REAL BBQ* – we hope to have a Wood Smoker with Pork Shoulder cooking in front of the church when the Bishop arrives! Many people will probably have plans for lunch with their families on this special day, but not everyone will. Whether you have plans later in the day or not, please save some time and some room in your stomach for the reception after church.

The Church grows when you and I tell the people around us that we love our church and what it is doing. Sunday morning is an obvious place to start when we want to begin telling our own stories of why we love Good Shepherd, but that often is only the beginning of the story. Telling people about the outreach efforts – including but not limited to the food basket – helps them see that the church practices both active love of God in worship and love of neighbor through charity. Telling people about the regular worship of the church that occurs outside of Sunday helps them understand that having faith is a something that Christians have and cherish every day at every moment, and that faith isn't a switch that gets turned on Sunday mornings and

MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Vestry has authorized the formation of a committee to create a new memorial garden. If interested in serving on the committee, please contact Bruce Barber (914-299-5293).

SUNDAY & HOLY DAY ATTENDANCE IN APRIL

Annunciation, Thursday, March 25, 2010: 36
Palm/Passion Sunday, March 28, 2010: 124
Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2010: 37
Good Friday, April 2, 2010: 43
Easter Vigil & Day, April 3-4, 2010: 213
Easter 2, April 11, 2010: 86
Institution & Induction, April 16, 2010: 200+
Easter 3, April 18, 2010: 74
Total Sunday Attendance for 2010: 1487
Average Sunday attendance for 2010: 92.9

SUNDAY SCHOOL: ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Glenn Hintze for the Sunday School Committee

It's hard to believe that another Sunday School year is coming to an end so quickly. But the end of May is traditionally when we adjourn our formal "lectionary-based" curriculum program for the summer. Certainly it has been a very busy and successful year---we've had 32 teaching Sundays, five teaching "sessions," three "Family Sundays" where the children have served during the 10am service, and of course, a new and very well-received Christmas pageant tied in with our Twelfth Night celebration!

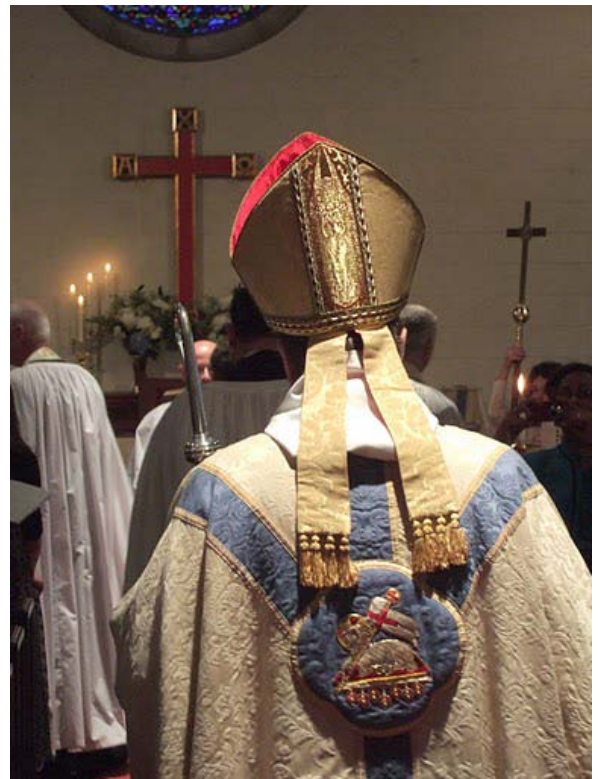
We're not done yet, though. On Sunday, May 23, the children will perform a spring concert at the 10am service under the direction of Gwen Greene. They are working very hard right now to present us a wonderful musical program. May 23 will also be "Graduation Sunday"--when during the 10am service we will award a certificate and gift for every child on the successful completion of another year of Sunday School. It's always a treat to see their excited faces on this special day.

Once again, we will offer informal crafts and activities on June Sundays (there are four). This is where we invite parishioners to share a craft or hobby with the children . Please see anyone on the Sunday School Committee if you are interested.

Many thanks to those who served as teachers and teaching assistants this year, including Diane Buschel, Fran DiBernardo, Laura Gannon, Sara Gannon, Jean Barber, Emily Barber, Jan Corning, Susan Hintze, Gretchen Hintze, Julia Bacal, Jayne Preiser, Lauren Batten, Glenn Hintze, Arleen Flury, Vernon Alexander, Yolanda Alexander, Suzanne Bracken, Mella Donofrio and Gwen Greene.

turned off a few hour late. Telling people about the fun festive events (be honest – what other church do you is having a steak and wine dinner to celebrate Ascension Day or plans to welcome the Bishop of New York with a cloud of BBQ smoke!) that are happening at Good Shepherd helps them appreciate that church can be a blast. In my experience the church grows when **CHURCH=OUTREACH&WORSHIP&FUN.**

Saint John the Evangelist concludes his Gospel with one of my favorite passages: "There are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written." I love this passage because it reminds me that everyone has a wonderful story to tell about Jesus Christ and the church. I have listed a few things going on at Good Shepherd because I am really excited about what we are doing and what is happening here this spring. You might say it's my story about why I love Good Shepherd. Lots of people want to hear the story that you have to tell too!



Another Spring

By Louise Ryder

Louise was a former parishioner and long-time Altar Guild member. She passed away several years ago, after having moved to Pennsylvania to be near her daughter.

Spring, beautiful Spring: a new awakening for every living thing.

The first shy crocus through the earth does peek
after winter's long cold sleep,
The song of the birds so sweet to the ear
as they warble joyfully,
Another Spring is here!

The Weeping Willow tree lets down her long tresses,
As Mother Nature the dreary world dresses
In various shades of green.
The trees overnight sprout leaves so bright.
We stare in wonder at the sight.
Our hearts are filled with delight.

The Spring flowers in bloom, the world all in tune.
Only God's loving hand could spread such beauty
across the land,
As these miracles do appear,
we feel God's presence ever near.
The church bells ring, the choir sweetly sings.
Another Spring is here!

MANY THANKS

Thanks so much to Thelma Barlow, Diane Buschel, Jan Corning, Jim Corning, Leslie Fulton, Adriane Glass, Nancy Haensch, Wilfried Haensch, Brhet Hohwald, David, Kaprielian, John Kaprelian, Maria Kaprelian, Phil Levy, Nicole Mead, Pat Mulholland, Bill Siemerling, Amanda Slattery, Sally Stevens, Bob Velzy and Courtney Velzy. We are especially grateful to Bruce Barber and Arleen Flury who organized the outdoor and indoor teams. Special thanks to Bria Carting for donating dumpster.

Thanks to all who assisted at the Institution & Induction of the Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, especially Sarah Corning, Gretchen Hintze and Alex Mattos who assisted in the Kitchen and Bruce Barber, Diane Buschel, Jan Corning, Arleen Flury, Adriane Glass, Glenn Hintze, Pat Mulholland, Hugo Pizutti, Rick Slattery, Stephen Slattery and Cecilia Sparacio. Special Thanks to Amanda Slattery for co-chairing the committee and to Dorie Light for being the evening's official photographer.

Thanks to Arleen Flury for her tireless work preparing flowers for so many events, including, but not limited to the Annunciation, Maundy Thursday, Easter Vigil and Day, Children's Easter Flowers and the Celebration of New Ministry!



Contact information for the Reverend Matthew Mead

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Email: mead@goodshepherdny.org

Photo credits: Page 1: Service of Institution & Induction of the Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, April 16, 2010. Photo by Dorie Light. Page 3: March 27, 2010, Cleanup Day and fun time afterwards at the Mead BBQ Smoker: Photos by Amanda Slattery and Matthew Mead. Page 4: Palm Sunday Procession, May 28, 2010, April 16, 2010. Photo by Amanda Slattery. Page 5: Service of Institution & Induction of the Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, April 16, 2010. Photo by Steve Potanovic. Page 6: Service of Institution & Induction of the Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, April 16, 2010. Photo by Dorie Light. Page 6: Scout Sunday, February 7, 2010. Photo courtesy of Troop 376. Page 8: Reception following Institution & Induction of the Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, April 16, 2010. Photo by Dorie Light.

May server, reader and usher schedule.

Please contact Fr. Mead if you cannot serve, read, or usher as scheduled. Thanks!

Easter 5, May 2, 2010

Chalice	Diane Bushel
Acolytes	Abby Vesperman Emily Vesperman Melody Rubino
ACTS Reader	Gretchen Hintze
NT Reader	Emily Barber
Prayers	Bob Bubeck
Ushers	Arleen Flury Bernie Sotter Bob Velzy

Easter 6, May 9, 2010

Chalice	Phil Levy
Acolytes	Jesse Lewis Liam Kenny Melody Rubino
ACTS Reader	Sarah Corning
NT Reader	Joe Corcione
Prayers	John Kaprielian
Ushers	Sally Stevens Bernie Sotter Glenn Hintze

Ascension Day, Thursday, May 13, 2010

Chalice	Fr. Montgomery
Acolytes	Abby Vesperman Emily Vesperman
OT Reader	Jim Corning
NT Reader	Arleen Flury
Prayers	Maria Kaprielian
Ushers	Rick Vesperman Bob Velzy

Easter 7, May 16, 2010

Chalice	Dorothy Baeder
Acolytes	Sarah Corning Gretchen Hintze Emily Barber
ACTS Reader	Alex Mattos
NT Reader	Amanda Bracken
Prayers	Suzanne Bracken
Ushers	Alex Mattos Bob Velzy Rick Vesperman

Pentecost, May 23, 2010

Chalice	Phil Levy
Acolytes	Jesse Lewis Abby Vesperman Emily Vesperman
ACTS Reader	Marshall Kidder
NT Reader	Amanda Corcione
Prayers	Bruce Barber
Ushers	Arleen Flury Mike Hiller Alreen Flury Rick Vesperman

Trinity Sunday, May 30, 2010

Chalice	Diane Bushel
Acolytes	Liam Kenny Melody Rubino Jesse Lewis
OT Reader	Fran DiBernardo
NT Reader	Jim Corning
Prayers	Rick Slattery
Ushers	Bernie Sotter Mike Hiller Bob Velzy

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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STAFF

The Reverend Matthew Mead, *Rector*; Cindy Sotter, *Secretary*;
Cecilia Sparacio, *Organist*; Anne Siemerling, *Sexton*.

VESTRY & PARISH OFFICERS

Jim Corning, *Warden*; Bruce Barber, *Warden*; Jan Corning, *Clerk*; Bob Bubeck, *Financial Officer*; Sally Stevens, *Treasurer*; Arleen Flury; Glenn Hintze;
Gwendolyn Greene; Maria Kaprielian; Dorothy Light; Pat Mulholland; Bob Velzy.