



## *Prayer List*

We pray for the churches and clergy of the Diocese of New York and our own Sawmill Clericus, for our Indaba partner churches, SS. Matthew & Timothy in Manhattan, and St. Paul's in Poughkeepsie, for the Community Center of Northern Westchester, for Somers Boy Scout Troop 376, for the children of the Carpenter's Kids program, for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem, for our service men and women on active duty especially Adam, Brendan, Carlos, and Noah, and for Jaclyn and Dayna for safety in childbirth, for Adrien, Aliesha, Anne, Barbara, Bill, Carrie, Cheryl, Christian, David, Diane, Douglas, Eric, Jackie, Jay, Jessica, Jim, Joseph, Kathleen, Keith, Kerry, Kevin, Lee, Lester, Maggie, Margery, Mark, Megan, Melissa, Michelle, Mike, Nick, Pablo, Pat, Patricia, Paul, Rick, Steve, Sue, Sybil, Terry, Tony, Vic, and Victoria.

## **Evensong & Candlemas**

**By the Rector**

Good Shepherd has been offering a regular evening worship service on Saturdays since the summer. Before that we offered a Sunday evening service for several years. An evening service is nothing new – I know that Father Tom offered a Eucharist on Saturday evenings, many of our sister churches (Episcopalian, Roman Catholic, etc.) offer services on Sunday or Saturday night. Since I have been rector, that service has taken on a variety of forms: the Eucharist, said Evening Prayer in the Memorial Garden, Stations of the Cross, a candlelit service, and traditional Evensong. Currently we are offering traditional Evensong – a service that combines Evening Prayer with several evening hymns and songs.

Last Saturday evening our Confirmation class met. We made pizza, we discussed the Episcopal Church and other denominations, and we sang Evensong together. None of the young people could recall taking part in that service before. Three weeks before, our Indaba group also sang Evensong. I believe everyone in the group had experienced Evensong before, but it was clear that it was not part of the regular routine at the other churches. More than one

# THE FELLOWSHIP FUND

It is known throughout the world that Good Shepherd has the best church Holy Day celebrations!

These events are different from our regular Coffee Hour. Coffee Hour is hosted each week by a family or a team of families or individuals. Each week a basket is put out which funds supplies and coffee for weekly Coffee Hour. Our planning and funding for Coffee hour is separate from our planning and funding for Holy Day receptions. When a major Holy Day reception falls on a Sunday (like Father's Day) we plan for and fund it as a Holy Day reception rather than as part of Coffee Hour.

Holy Day receptions are open to the wider parish community without asking for a "cover charge" from everyone at the event. Some of these events are potluck, some are partly potluck. Either way, certain supplies, entrees, and mainstays are provided and paid for by any number of donors who "adopt" whole or parts of these events.

An easy way to support an event is by offering a donation to the "FELLOWSHIP FUND". Money donated to this fund will be noted by the church as a donation separately from your regular pledge or given amount. When a donation basket is placed out at these events, any donations that are put into the basket will go towards the Fellowship Fund. Another way to sponsor an event is simply to look at the list below and find an item that you want to donate. If, for example, you want to donate the champagne on Christmas Day, just tell the rector, and he will be grateful and we will not have to buy champagne.

If you want to sponsor that or any event, please let Father Matt know. We will need several sponsors for our Holy Week feasts in April, for the Ascension Day Steak Dinner at the end of May, and for our BBQs in June for Father's Day and when the Bishop visits of June 29.

person in our Indaba group remarked that Evensong was one of the highlights of the weekend.

One of the real gems of our Anglican/Episcopal heritage is Evensong. Since the 1970s, the Eucharist has officially been the primary service for Episcopalians, but for hundreds of years Episcopalians (and all Anglicans) regularly offered Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer (these two services are often referred to as the Daily Office since they are designed to be offered every day, including Sunday) as the main services. For much of our denomination's history Holy Communion was offered monthly or quarterly, and the regular Sunday services were Sung Morning Prayer and its companion Evensong.

Evensong is still offered in many congregations. It stands alone as a wonderful service, but it also serves as a companion to the Eucharist – different readings, different hymns, different prayers, and a whole different vibe. Three words that spring to my mind when I think of Evensong are: Peaceful, Intentional, and Beautiful. It is peaceful because there is quiet and silence. It is intentional because it focuses on the Scripture; At Evensong we hear far longer selections of the Psalter, Old Testament, and New Testament than at the Eucharist. It is beautiful because the hymn tunes often sound more like lullabies and the darkness is lit by candlelight. Evensong is best summed up by the words of Psalm 96, "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." Evensong is offered every Saturday at 5:00 PM.

On Saturday, February 1, we will celebrate the Eve of Candlemas. That night, Evensong with the Blessing of Candles will be offered at 5:00 PM. The service will be followed by our annual Chili Contest. On Sunday, February, 2, Morning

Prayer and Said Mass will be celebrated as usual at 7:40 AM and 8:00 AM, and Sung Mass with the Blessing of Candles will be celebrated at 10:00 AM. Also, this Sunday is Scout Sunday, and we are thrilled to welcome the scouts and family members of Somers Boy Scout Troop 376. This is a fun day each year, when the scouts assist at the service ushering, reading, and providing after service refreshments. The Youth Group and Seniors Groups will be meeting, separately, after the 10:00 AM service.

Candlemas is officially referred to as the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, and it is the 40th Day after Christmas and the last holy day of the annual Christmas cycle – I've been holding off taking down the Christmas lights outside the church and rectory until Candlemas is over. The theme of light comes from the lessons for the Holy Day, and for this reason a blessing of candles and a candlelight procession is traditional on this day (it is from these that the title Candlemas is derived). The services of Candlemas are among of my favorites of the year. This year I am very happy that we will be able to offer both Evensong and the Holy Eucharist. Also, I am hoping to regain the chili champion crown that I lost several years ago!

I hope you will be able to come to at least one of the Candlemas services. Beyond that, I cordially invite you to come to Evensong some Saturday night (or even make it part of your full weekend worship). The service is only about 25 minutes long, but it truly is an opportunity to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

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## WINETASTING



## BEERTASTING



FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014

Good Shepherd's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine & Beer Tasting will be held on May 2. Invite your friends for an evening of great food, a silent auction, and tastes of amazing wines and beers.

## HOSTING COFFEE HOUR

Coffee hour after 10AM church service is one of the ways we welcome visitors and new comers to the Church of the Good Shepherd. It is a great time for parishioners and visitors to meet and for visitors to ask any questions regarding our Church and the various activities and programs. It is also an important part of fellowship for all parishioners and many look forward to this time of getting together after service.

We really appreciate all who have contributed to coffee hour!

We would like to invite other committees or groups (i.e., Outreach, Sunday School, WOCOGS, Youth Group, Brotherhood, Poetry, etc.) as well as individuals and families to volunteer to host a coffee hour. In addition, donations to the Coffee Hour kitty are greatly appreciated and go toward purchasing coffee and other supplies.

February's theme is Valentine's Day so sign up now and have fun with that!!

Thank you so much!

Diane Buschel & Bernie Sotter

*If you have any questions about hosting Coffee Hour, please speak to Diane or Bernie!*



## Seeking volunteers for the Pastoral Care Team

The purpose of the Pastoral Care team is to help care for parishioners in need and to support and enhance the loving and compassionate community of Good Shepherd. Currently, we are focused on visiting/contacting the sick and homebound; prayer; and working with the rector to respond in times of crisis. Recently, when we were asked to prepare and deliver meals for a parishioner who was ill, the response was overwhelming. Good Shepherd is awesome!

We would like to create a bank of volunteers that are willing to be contacted in times of need, for any number of things. Are you willing to help prepare meals, run errands, walk the dog, stop at the store, offer rides, or send a friendly note to someone in need? Maybe you can visit someone in the hospital? Please consider how you might share your gifts with your parish family. We're all in this together!

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about the Pastoral Care Team, please contact Phil Levy, Chris Palmer or Father Matt.

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## Prayer Group forming

As part of our newly-formed Pastoral Care Ministry, we are starting a prayer group at Good Shepherd. Currently, the parish prayer list is read at each Morning Prayer service, but anyone can do it, from anywhere, and all are invited! The Prayer Group provides the opportunity for you to lift the prayer list on behalf of your parish family, on your own schedule.



- This can be done at any time during the day that is convenient for you, from your home, work, (parked!) car, at Good Shepherd, or from anywhere.
- Depending on the format you choose to use, it can take 5-20 minutes.
- You pick the day that works for you, and we will add you to the schedule.
- Then, each week on your chosen day, we will know that you are praying for us all, on behalf of the parish.
- Our intention is to have each day assigned to at least one person, so that our prayers are being lifted throughout the week, even when no one is physically in the church.

Please consider joining our group so that our prayer network continues to grow and flourish. If you are interested, please contact Chris Palmer or Father Matt.

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## Malawi mission trip-2014

By Nancy Haensch

I will be spending the month of May with my friends in

Mzuzu again this year. As you probably recall, Mzuzu is a city in the north of Malawi, which is a tiny country in southeastern Africa. It is among the poorest on the continent and the world. The country's nickname, "the warm heart of Africa", couldn't be more fitting. The people I have gotten to know over the years are unbelievably grateful for even the smallest act of generosity or compassion. This will be my 5<sup>th</sup> trip to Malawi to work with the women and orphans of Kwithu Community Based Organization\*. The project has grown tremendously since my first trip, from a thatched-roof structure made of reeds to a large brick building with indoor plumbing...though unreliable! During this time, the number of registered children has grown from 40 to 307. The dedicated women

## Mite Box Collection Christmas 2013

By Amanda Slattery

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Mite Box collection this Christmas. We received 17 filled Mite Boxes containing a total of \$180. This money will be sent to the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem for school supplies for the schools run by the diocese. The children in Jerusalem will be grateful.



Saturday, February 1, 2014

**5th Annual Candlemas Chili Cookoff**

**Evensong at 5PM**

**Chili Competition at 6PM**



Church of the Good Shepherd  
Granite Springs, New York

## Teachers Wanted! A Special Calling....

Our third Sunday School session of the school year is well underway with three classes and nearly 30 smiling students. Thanks to Megan Whalen, Suzanne Bracken, Paul Miller and Courtney Velzy for teaching!

The session will end with a "Family Sunday" on February 23, when the children will perform most of the duties at the 10am service. And the children in Megan's class (preK --2nd grade), who are learning all about what Holy Communion is, as well as the altar (and its many items), and even Father Matt's vestments, will be taking Holy Communion, some for the first time!

As we have stated, we are looking for teachers for the preK-2nd grade and 3rd-5th grade classes for the March-April and May-June sessions. Each session lasts five weeks. You will never be alone--someone will teach with you! And you will have the full support of the Sunday School Committee and Father Matt! There is a wealth of material to plan lessons and crafts and the children are wonderful to work with. Please prayerfully consider this calling....the rewards will be many. Trust me on that! Please see Father Matt, Glenn Hintze or any committee member if interested!

--Glenn Hintze, for the Sunday School Committee (Suzanne Bracken, Jan Corning, Fran DiBernardo, Arleen Flury, Megan Whalen and Father Matt)

continue to devote their time and energy to the children orphaned by HIV/AIDS and have also gotten a small tomato canning business off the ground. Their community outreach programs have grown, including HIV testing services at the center and a support group for HIV+ youth.

I am a nurse practitioner and find my skills as a health educator and clinician invaluable during my visits. For people growing up without the luxury of more than rudimentary healthcare, their curiosity about how the body works and common ailments is limitless. You can't imagine the discussions, demonstrations, and laughter we have shared! I suspect some things might get a little convoluted through translation!

An ongoing project of mine at Kwithu is preparing the women to provide first-aid to the children at the center, to their families, and to each other. I review first-aid topics with them and restock their medical supplies each time I go. As you can imagine, supplies are often unavailable...and are always unaffordable. I take as much as I can carry but always with the knowledge that it won't be enough to last until my next visit. Until then, I can only hold them in my thoughts every day and trust that God is watching over them. The loving relationships that have formed over these years are a precious reflection of God's movement among His people. I am so fortunate to have this opportunity to experience a whole new perspective of the body of Christ in the world! ***If you would like to help out, I will gladly accept donations of bandaids, antibiotic ointment, burn cream, pain relievers, anti-fungal cream, cold medicines, ace wraps, thermometers, and children's' vitamins.***

***\*Kwithu Women's Group*** is comprised of 20 hardworking, loving women who have dedicated their lives to helping vulnerable children and women in Malawi. Kwithu operates a feeding program for vulnerable children as well as a number of after school learning and recreational activities. The group also actively provides HIV/AIDS educational initiatives within the local community.

# SERVER, READER & ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

## FEBRUARY 1: EVE OF CANDLEMAS

CHALICE: PHIL LEVY  
READER: RICK VESPERMAN  
USHERS: BERNIE SOTTER

## FEBRUARY 2

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL  
ACOLYTES: CHRISTIAN TRINIDAD  
DENEL ROSSO  
DELILAH ROSSO  
READERS: BOY SCOUTS  
PRAYERS: BOY SCOUTS  
USHERS: BOY SCOUTS

## FEBRUARY 9

CHALICE: GWEN GREENE  
ACOLYTES: EMILY VESPERMAN  
LYNETTE MORALES  
WILLIAM ROSSO  
READERS: FAY WRIGHT  
GWEN GREENE  
PRAYERS: BOB BUBECK  
USHERS: BOB VELZY  
GLENN HINTZE

## FEBRUARY 16

CHALICE: PHIL LEVY  
ACOLYTES: CLAIRE HINTZE  
SYNDEY ROSSO  
MELODY RUBINO  
READERS: ERIC PARSONS  
WILFRIED HAENSCH  
PRAYERS: BERNIE SOTTER  
USHERS: BERNIE SOTTER  
SALLY STEVENS

## FEBRUARY 23

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL  
ACOLYTES: CHRISTIAN TRINIDAD  
JOSEPH MORALES  
DENEL ROSSO  
READERS: FAMILY SUNDAY  
PRAYERS: FAMILY SUNDAY  
USHERS: FAMILY SUNDAY

# Confirmation Class

By the Rector

Bishop Dietsche will be with us on Sunday, June 29, 2014 for Confirmation. Please note that schedule below for the Confirmation Class.

**Session 5 - Sunday, February 23  
11AM, CHRISTIAN ETHICS FOR HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENTS**

**Session 6 - Sunday, March 30  
11AM, PAIN & DEATH**

**Session 7a - Saturday, April 19  
3PM Make Pizza for the entire Church for Easter Eve  
Pizzafest  
Pizzafest begins at 6PM  
The Easter Vigil is at 7:30PM**

**Session 7 - Saturday, April 26  
4PM, WHY AM I A CHRISTIAN?**  
*Dinner for Confirmands (we are making roast chicken,) will be included.*

**Session 8 - Saturday, May 31  
4PM, DIFFICULT TEXTS IN THE BIBLE**  
*Dinner for Confirmands (we are making pizza!) will be included.*

**Session 9a BBQ Preparation - Saturday, June 28  
9AM – 5PM SLOW COOK BBQ WITH THE RECTOR**  
*Confirmands are asked to sign up in 2 hour shifts.*

**Session 9 & Confirmation - Sunday, June 29  
9AM CHRISTIANS IN THE REAL WORLD  
10AM CONFIRMATION BY BISHOP DIETSCHÉ**  
*All Parish BBQ celebration will conclude the event.*



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# Coming Events

**February 1, Saturday, EVE OF CANDLEMAS – 5PM Evensong & Chili Competition**

**February 2, Sunday, Candlemas – Youth Group**

**February 2, Sun., Candlemas – Senior's Group**

**February 3, Monday – Poetry Group 7PM**

**February 14, Friday - 7:30PM WOCOCS Book Group**

**February 23, Sun. – 11AM Confirmation Class**

**March 2, Sunday – Youth Group Meeting**

**March 2, Sunday – Senior's Group Meeting**

**March 25, Tuesday – 6PM Annunciation Sung Mass & Chowderfest**

**March 30, Sunday – 11AM Confirmation Class**

**April 5-6, Saturday & Sunday - INDABA**

**April 6, Sunday – Youth Group Meeting**

**April 6, Sunday – Senior's Group Meeting**

**April 13 – PALM SUNDAY**

**April 17 – MAUNDY THURSDAY – 6PM Agape Dinner & 7:30PM Maundy Thursday Liturgy**

**APRIL 18 – GOOD FRIDAY – 6PM Soup Dinner & 7:30PM Good Friday Liturgy**

**APRIL 19- EASTER EVE – 6PM Pizzafest & 7:30PM Easter Vigil**

**April 20 – EASTER SUNDAY**

**April 26, Saturday – 4PM Confirmation Class**

**May 2, Friday – Charity Wine Tasting**

**May 4, Sunday – Youth Group Meeting**

**May 4, Sunday – Senior's Group Meeting**

**May 30, Friday – Relay For Life SOMERS**

**May 29, Thursday – 6PM Ascension Day Sung Mass & Steak Dinner**

**May 30, Friday – Relay for Life**

**May 31, Saturday – 4PM Confirmation Class**

**June 28, Saturday – BBQ Prep for Bishop Visit**

**June 29, Sunday – BISHOP'S VISIT**