



### Schedule for Ash Wednesday

- 8am Said Mass
- 9am Morning Prayer
- 12pm Said Mass
- 6pm Said Mass

The Church is open all day for prayer.

**Sundays in Lent**  
7:40am Morning Prayer  
8:00am Said Mass  
10:00am Sung Mass

**Saturdays in Lent**  
5:00pm Stations of the Cross  
6:00 PM Movie Nights

## 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 Nihad and Dayna for safety in childbirth, for Adrien, Alex, Aliesha, Anne, Barbara, Bill, Cara, Carrie, Cheryl, Christian, David, Diane, Douglas, Eileen, Eric, Grace, Harry, Jackie, Jay, Jessica, Jim, Joseph, Kathleen, Kay, Keith, Kerry, Kevin, Lee, Lester, Maggie, Margery, Maria, Mark, Mary, Megan, Melissa, Michelle, Michael, Mike, Nick, Nina, Pablo, Pat, Patricia, Paul, Rick, Ron, Ryan, Steve, Sue, Sybil, Terry, Tony, Vic, and Victoria. And we give thanks for the birth of Charlotte.

## “Why I Love Good Shepherd”

By the Rector

Throughout 2014, we will run a series of articles in the Shepherd's Voice entitled: "Why I Love Good Shepherd". I think they are very helpful in putting actual faces and personal stories behind our pledge drive. After all, it is not about dollars or doors, it is about people. This issue features such two pieces: the first is by Phil Levy, the second is a poem by Scott Jones.

I have asked each of the Vestry members to write one at some point this year, and I'd like to extend that invitation to everyone in our congregation. Whether or not you have written one before doesn't matter. They can be as long or as short as you please. They can be in prose or poetry. Feel free to email your submission to me, and it will run in an upcoming newsletter.

I do think it puts our stewardship - as vestry members and members of Good Shepherd - into the proper light. We are here and we take care of our church because we cherish and love each other.

Thanks!

# 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.

## Looking ahead to Lent

By the Rector

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 5, 2014. We will offer services on Ash Wednesday at 8AM, 12PM, and 6PM. Each service will be the Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes. On Saturday Evenings throughout Lent we will offer Stations of the Cross at 5PM followed by dinner and a movie. More information on Stations of the Cross and Movie Night is below.

Several changes to our liturgy occur throughout Lent. At the 8:00 AM Said Mass every Sunday in Lent, the Great Litany is offered. At the 10:00 AM Sung Mass the Gloria ("Glory to God in the highest") is replaced by the Kyrie ("Lord have mercy"), alleluias are suppressed for the entire season until Easter, we will again use a version of the Millennium Development Goals for our Prayers of the People, and we will use Prayer D throughout Lent (and also throughout Easter).

I would like to highlight two tangible and easy outreach opportunities that everyone can take part in throughout Lent. Donations to the coin jug at the back of the church go to the Outreach Fund. Food donations to the Community Center of Northern Westchester continue all year long. As we did last year, sustainable shopping bags with shopping lists on them will be available. See the CCNW Outreach Update article on page 6 for more information.

\* \* \* \* \*

# Movie Nights & Stations of the Cross

By the Rector

On Saturday Evenings throughout Lent we will offer Stations of the Cross at 5PM followed by dinner and a movie. Stations of the Cross is a devotional service, traditionally offered in Lent. It marks the way that Jesus bore the cross from Pilate to Calvary. It concludes with the tomb of Jesus, and looks ahead to his resurrection. I have found that following the Way of the Cross each week in Lent helps to prepare me for Holy Week and Easter. The service is full of scripture from the Old and New Testament and prayers about Jesus' Passion. These texts, prayers, and songs heard, said, and sung each week in Lent have become part of my regular routine, and I invite you to come at least once this year. Then stay for one of the wonderful movies we are showing.

**Saturday, March 8:**

**Raiders of the Lost Ark**

**(1981, Rated PG, Adventure)**

Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford) and his feisty ex-flame Marion Ravenwood (Karen Allen) dodge booby-traps, fight Nazis and stare down snakes in their incredible worldwide quest for the mystical Ark of the Covenant. Experience one exciting cliffhanger after another when you discover adventure with the one and only Indiana Jones. (Summary from iTunes)

**Saturday, March 15:**

**The Fellowship of the Ring**

**(2002, Rated PG13, Adventure)**

In the first part of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic masterpiece, The Lord of the Rings, a shy

*"Great news everybody: Amanda Slattery has been appointed Outreach Coordinator!" - Fr. Matt*

## OUTREACH NEWS

**Outreach meeting**

**Sunday, March 16 at 11:15AM**

We have many wonderful people in our church who want to reach out and help others who are less fortunate than ourselves.

In the past few years we have supported the Community Center of Northern Westchester (CCNW); Relay For Life (Somers); Support Connection; the Junior League Christmas Drive; Episcopal Charities; the Carpenters Kids program in Tanzania, the work of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.

Each of these activities is run by committed leaders and we try to schedule requests for participation and donations for each project at a different time during the year in order to use our resources effectively.

We would like to continue to support these important causes and possibly identify other ideas. To that end we will be holding a meeting for all who are interested in running or supporting the different areas of our Outreach Program. Please join us in the Guild Room on Sunday, March 16 at 11:15AM, after the 10:00AM service and bring your ideas and your timetable.

We hope to see you there,

Amanda Slattery  
Outreach Coordinator.

# Confirmation Class

Bishop Dietsche will be with us on  
Sunday, June 29, 2014 for Confirmation.

Please note that schedule below for the Confirmation Class.

**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 DIETSCH**  
*All Parish BBQ celebration will conclude the event.*

young hobbit named Frodo Baggins inherits a simple gold ring. He knows the ring has power, but not that he alone holds the secret to the survival -- or enslavement -- of the entire world. Now Frodo, accompanied by a wizard, an elf, a dwarf, two men and three loyal hobbit friends, must become the greatest hero the world has ever known to save the land and the people he loves. (Summary from iTunes). NOTE: The Youth Group is meeting this night - all are invited.

**Saturday, March 22:**

**The Two Towers**

**(2003, Rated PG13, Adventure)**

In the second part of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic masterpiece, The Lord of the Rings, Frodo Baggins and the other members of the Fellowship continue on their sacred quest to destroy the One Ring -- but on separate paths. Their destinies lie at two towers -- Orthanc Tower in Isengard, where the corrupt wizard Saruman awaits, and Sauron's fortress at Barad-dur, deep within the dark lands of Mordor. (Summary from iTunes)

**Saturday, March 29:**

**The Return of the King**

**(2004, Rated PG13, Adventure)**

In the conclusion of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic masterpiece, The Lord of the Rings, as armies mass for a final battle that will decide the fate of the world -- and powerful, ancient forces of Light and Dark compete to determine the outcome -- one member of the Fellowship of the Ring is revealed as the noble heir to the throne of the Kings of Men. Yet, the sole hope for triumph over evil lies with a brave hobbit, Frodo

## Annunciation & Chowderfest!

**On Tuesday, March 25 we take a break from Lent and begin the Christmas cycle! It is the Feast of the Annunciation by the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary. We will celebrate Sung Mass at 6PM. The Sung Mass is followed by our annual Chowderfest Competition. All Chowders and soups (except chili - NO CHILI) are welcome. A signup sheet is in the breezeway.**

Baggins, who, accompanied only by his loyal friend Sam and the hideous, wretched Gollum, ventures deep into the very dark heart of Mordor on his seemingly impossible quest to destroy the Ring of Power. (Summary from iTunes)

**Saturday, April 5:**

**Indiana Jones & The Last Crusade  
(1989, Rated PG13, Adventure)**

There's nothing more exciting than trying to keep up with the Joneses in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade. Indy's Nazi enemies are back and have kidnapped his father, Professor Henry Jones Sr. (Sean Connery), in their effort to locate the sacred Holy Grail. Following a trail from America to Venice to the deserts of the Middle East, it's up to Indy (Harrison Ford) to save his father, save the Grail and save the day in this non-stop, action-packed adventure the whole family will treasure. (Summary from iTunes) NOTE: Father Matt is away for Indaba this week, we need a volunteer to run movie night and officiate at Stations of the Cross this evening.

**Friday, April 12:**

**Monty Python's The Life of Brian  
(1979, Rated R, Comedy)**

Be warned that this movie contains is Rated R and contains nudity and language. On a Midnight Clear 2000 years ago, three wise men enter a manger where a babe is wrapped in swaddling clothes. It is an infant called Brian...and the three wise men are in the wrong manger. For the rest of his life, Brian (Graham Chapman) finds himself regarded as something of a Messiah yet he's always in the shadow of this Other

## E-Pledging

What is easy, practical and time saving? What helps the church's cash flow and evens out donation distributions? E-pledging, that's what! It is simple to enroll. By completing and signing a form the Controller's office of the Diocese of New York will debit donations from your bank account and credit them to the church's account.

The debits and credits will occur on the 5th and/or the 20th of each month. So, you can pledge twice a month or once a month. As long as you give the diocesan office 15 days' notice, you can increase, decrease, change or discontinue the electronic debit at any time. In this way you are not locked into a specific amount once you have signed up.

It is so easy, practical and time saving, Lorraine and I signed up this year. No more writing a weekly or monthly checks or wondering if we are current with our pledge. E Pledge takes the worry from us and the church benefits by us always being current with our pledge.

If you wish to get started there are forms at the back of the church for your use. You may give the completed form to our Financial Secretary, Bob Bubeck, mail it in to the church or put it in the collection plate on Sunday morning. You may also speak to me if you have any questions.

Paul Miller, Treasurer

## Stewardship Update

**We have 61 pledges for \$142,204. If you have not yet made a pledge for 2014, please help us get to our goal of \$150,000.**

# CCNW OUTREACH UPDATE

## Community Center of Northern Westchester

Our Lenten **food collection** for CCNW will soon be underway. You may remember that we collected over 1,000 pounds of food during Lent, 2013, so the bar is set very high! We will again provide re-usable shopping bags with shopping lists of most-needed items attached. Parishioners are encouraged to take a bag, fill it up, and return it to church at any time during Lent. You can fill one per family member, one per week, or one per season...anything is appreciated. The Community Center is looking forward to the extra supply of their most needed items and is very happy to be able to give their clients re-usable shopping bags, as well.

Thank you to the parishioners who have delivered our food pantry collection to CCNW every month. Without your help, we wouldn't be able to continue this important outreach activity of Good Shepherd! Please check out the sign-up sheet in the breezeway to see if you might be able to help out for one month this year. Thanks!

Nancy Haensch

## Malawi Mission Trip-2014

Plans are underway for my next trip to Kwithu Community Center in May. Just a friendly reminder that I carry as many first-aid supplies as my suitcases and weight limit will allow. Donations of bandaids, antibiotic ointment, burn cream, pain relievers, anti-fungal cream, cold medicines, ace wraps, thermometers, and children's' vitamins are very gratefully accepted! Thank you!

Nancy Haensch

Guy from Galilee. Brian is witness to the Sermon of the Mount, but his seat is in such a bad location that he can't hear any of it ("Blessed are the cheesemakers?"). Ultimately he is brought before Pontius Pilate and sentenced to crucifixion, which takes place at that crowded, non-exclusive execution site a few blocks shy of Calvary. Rather than utter the Last Six Words, Brian leads his fellow crucifixeers in a spirited rendition of a British music hall cheer-up song "Always Look On The Bright Side of Life." The whole Monty Python gang (Chapman, John Cleese, Michael Palin, Eric Idle, and Terry Gilliam) are on hand in multiple roles, playing such sacred characters as Stan Called Loretta, Deadly Dirk, Casts the First Stone, and Intensely Dull Youth; also showing up are Goon Show veteran Spike Milligan and a Liverpool musician named George Harrison. (Summary from iTunes)

### A few notes about these Saturday events in Lent:

- A sign-up sheet is available in the hall for dinners.
- All of these Saturday Movie Nights will be DRY (no alcohol of any sort).
- The Youth Group will meet on March 15. That said, everyone in the congregation is invited to attend the entire evening.
- Be warned that The Life of Brian is Rated R and contains nudity and foul language (in English and Latin).
- All of the PG13 movies contain graphic violence.
- Father Matt is away for Indaba on April 5 so we need a volunteer to run

movie night and officiate at Stations of the Cross this evening.

- If you wish to help out with setup and food, please speak to Father Matt. Any help is greatly appreciated.
- If you would like to officiate at Stations of the Cross, please speak to Father Matt

\* \* \* \* \*

## **“WHY I LOVE GOOD SHEPHERD”**

*This article is the first in a series presented by the 2014 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 begin the series with a note from Phil Levy:*

Why this church....It can't be that I have been going here since I was 5 years old. Not to give my age away but that's 60 years. Some of that time to took off about 10 years out of High school. But I came back. To me it has been a place where I can be part of the family activities. I think soon after we joined I was an acolyte, sang with the choir, have 12 years of Sunday school attendance pins. We use to get pins every year from going to Sunday school. Active in the youth group and my father was the sexton for a while I helped him with that. This was all before 18 years old.

When I came back in 1982 after Kimberly was born I was elected to the vestry. A place where I was able to suggest things to help with growth or just the everyday stuff and people listened to me. We even tried some and some were good ideas and others not so good but I stayed on the vestry for a lot of years.

The Good Shepherd as a lot of areas that one can get involved. You have something you would like to see going on here suggest it. We have

# **SAVE THE DATE**

## **Vacation Bible Camp**

August 19-21 9:00-12:00  
Church of the Good Shepherd

## **Bring a Friend to Good Shepherd in Lent**

If you are looking for a “Holy Virtue” to take up during Lent, try this one: Bring a friend to an event in Lent. Ash Wednesday services are always popular (for some reason, everyone loves ashes and hearing “you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” We offer our normal Sunday services in Lent. Father Matt is teaching a class on March 9. We have Stations of the Cross and Movie Nights every Saturday in Lent. We have the one and only Annunciation Chowderfest. Bring a friend to Good Shepherd this Lent!

## **Are you called to the diaconate or the priesthood?**

As I have mentioned before, I serve the church on the Commission on Ministry of the Diocese of New York. We assist and guide people who feel called to ordained ministry in the church. If you feel called to either the diaconate or the priesthood, please speak to me. If you have any questions about the priesthood or the diaconate, please speak to me.

- Fr. Matt

# Buildings & Grounds UPDATE

**Our water system has undergone two major repairs since 2014 began.** In early January our well line burst. This was an emergency repair. An unrelated problem was also discovered in early 2014. The well system UV filter was not functioning properly and we were required by the county to post signs advising that the water was not potable until the UV filter was repaired. You may have seen signs in the church noting "Do not drink the water". The signs are gone, and the UV filter has been repaired. The water is now officially drinkable (it was unofficially drinkable prior to the repair). The total cost for these repairs will likely be just shy of \$4,000. Thanks to Rick Vesperman and Jan Corning for coordinating these repairs, and working with Beale & Sons Well Repair. Thanks also to the people at Beale for their expertise. Donations to the Capital Improvement Fund can help us pay for these necessary repairs.

**At the end of February the Rectory underwent a major improvement.** Healthy Home Energy & Consulting Inc. (located in Somers) did an energy audit on the rectory in the Autumn of 2013. It was determined that the energy efficiency at the Rectory was lacking the insulation was rotten and had long before fallen down in the rafters, and there were numerous holes in the house large enough to see outside (to summarize the audit - we had the equivalent of a three foot square window open at all times). The audit recommended numerous upgrades to the insulation and throughout the house. At the end of February the first parts of the recommended improvements were implemented. I'm happy to say that the Rectory is cozy for the first time since I've lived

new things going on now. The Book reading club, the poetry club, Just to name a few.

I have been through some health issues the last few years and I had a place to go when I needed help with my life activates. I am not as active as I once was but there are things going on that when I want to get more active again I can.

I could go on but this is why I love The Church of The Good Shepherd.

Phil Levy

## SAWMILL CLERICUS Christian Education

**Being the Church:  
Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow  
Religion, Spirituality, &  
American Culture Since 1945**

*A Lenten study sponsored by the Sawmill Clericus Episcopal churches at two locations. Lead speaker: the Rev. William A. Doubleday*

**Sunday Afternoons:** Tea and class at 4:00pm @ St. Luke's Episcopal Church Sanctuary, 331 New York 100, Somers

**Wednesday Evenings:** Soup at 7; class at 7:30; closing prayers at 8:50 pm @ St. Mark's Episcopal Church Parish Library, 85 E. Main Street, Mt. Kisco

**The Post World War II Era:** Sun., March 9 (Somers) and Wed., Mar. 12 (Mt. Kisco)

The Protestant Golden Age: Myth or Reality?

**The 1960's:** Sunday, March 16 (Somers) and Wednesday, March 19 (Mt. Kisco)

An Era of Radical Social Change and Its Impact on the Church

**The 1970's:** Sunday, March 23 (Somers) and Wednesday, March 26 (Mt. Kisco)

An Era of Change in the Church: Remarriage after Divorce; Liberation Theologies; Women's Ordination; Prayer Book Revision, and the Rise of Human Sexuality Issues

**The 1980's and 1990's:** Sunday, March 30 (Somers) and April 2 (Mt. Kisco)

"Sheilatism"; Self-Help Movements; Rapid Technological Change; Two Career Households; Struggles Over Inclusivity, and the Ascendancy of the Religious Right

**The 21<sup>st</sup> Century:** Sunday, April 6 (Somers) and April 9 (Mt. Kisco)

Changing Demographics; Graying Congregations; Emergent Christianity; Spiritual, but Not Religious; The Nones; Where Do We Go from Here? Glimpses and Hunches about the Future of Faith, the Shape of Mission, and the Nature of the Church both Locally and Globally

*The Rev. William A. Doubleday has been the Priest in Charge at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Mt. Kisco, NY since November 2012. He taught Pastoral Theology, Episcopal Church History and Polity, and Church and Society for twenty five years, at The General Theological Seminary in New York City (1986-2005) and at Bexley Hall Episcopal Seminary in Columbus, Ohio (2005-2011), where he also served as Dean. He is a graduate of Amherst College and the Episcopal Divinity School.*

\* \* \* \* \*

here. The total cost of the improvements and work was \$14,000 (paid for anonymously by a member of our congregation). The estimated energy savings for the rectory are about \$2,000 per year. Thanks to Jan Corning for coordinating these repairs, and working with Healthy Home Energy & Consulting Inc. Thanks also to the people at Healthy Home Energy & Consulting Inc. for their expertise. Extra special thanks to our anonymous donor!!!

**The Boiler in the Rectory sprung a leak yesterday (February 26).** This is unfortunate for a variety of reasons. First, the boiler is only 9½ years old. Second, the leak is beginning to flood the rectory basement and needs to be addressed immediately. Third, its February and it is very cold out, so a functional boiler is necessary. A technician from Burke Heat has visited and confirmed that the leak is coming through a crack in the side of the boiler. We will need either a full replacement or (if the boiler is still under warranty) a nearly replaced boiler. The sales tech is coming today (February 27) to give us an estimate. I am working with our wardens and former wardens and vestry members to make sure we get the right replacement or repair done as soon as possible. Donations to the Capital Improvement Fund can help us pay for this necessary repair.

**The Parish Office has a new photo copier.** Our copier lease covers all repairs and service. The copier folds, staples, and prints all of our mailings, bulletins, signs, and other printed material. The copier costs about \$600 per month. In addition to that, we use about \$50 in paper every month.

## 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.

**I PUBLISH THE BANNS OF MARRIAGE between Allison Garcia and Nelson Rojas. If any of you know just cause why they may not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, you are bidden to declare it. This is the first time of asking.**

## AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH: Dilemmas and Recognition

By Bill Greene

"It is easier to love humanity than to love one's neighbor." - Eric Hoffer

Black History Month, or as I prefer, African American History Month, is the periodic reminder of the contributions that Americans of African ancestry have made to American society. It is no different than the recognition of Americans of other racial or ethnic groups, with the exception that those of us with African ancestry were brought to America *in chains as slaves*. It was not a voluntary venture. We were not seeking to escape the prejudices and social and religious oppression endured by immigrants from Europe.

### America Not Yet A Melting Pot of Ethnicities

The uniqueness of African Americans experiences in this nation raises questions of what is the meaning of Christianity and religion, in general, as it relates to mans' inhumanity of man, something at the heart of the religious experience. A slavery legacy has haunted African Americans—and our nation—since its inception. The recent movie "*Twelve Years A Slave*" is based on the true story of an African American free man in New York who was kidnapped, and simply because of his skin color, forced into slavery and the brutal conditions of plantation labor in the South. This was a common occurrence and one we must never forget.

## Slavery that “Peculiar Institution”

African slaves had no rights and considered chattel property. In the initial U. S. constitution they were considered less than human and, in census population, counted as 3/5 of a white man as a compromise to the slave states, which were seeking parity with the non-slave states. Slaves were denied both civil and human rights, and only after the Civil War were ex-slaves, in theory, constitutionally allowed their freedom and citizenship.<sup>1</sup> In between from slavery to freedom their human and civil rights were trampled upon in extraordinary ways. They were locked in a society where *white-skin privilege* dominated. In justifying slavery and trying to avoid using the term, John C. Calhoun, the seventh Vice President of the United States and notorious segregationist from South Carolina, referred to slavery euphemistically as “that peculiar institution”.

<sup>1</sup> In 1865 Congress ratifies the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to abolish slavery in the U.S. and in 1866 the Civil Rights Act granted African Americans full U.S. citizenship. However it was the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment *that constitutionally enforced* the Civil Rights Act of 1866. But only in 1964, under the leadership of President Lyndon Baines Johnson, but 98 years later, it was necessary to pass another Civil Rights Act banning discrimination in education, employment, and public accommodations.

## American Christians Response To Slavery

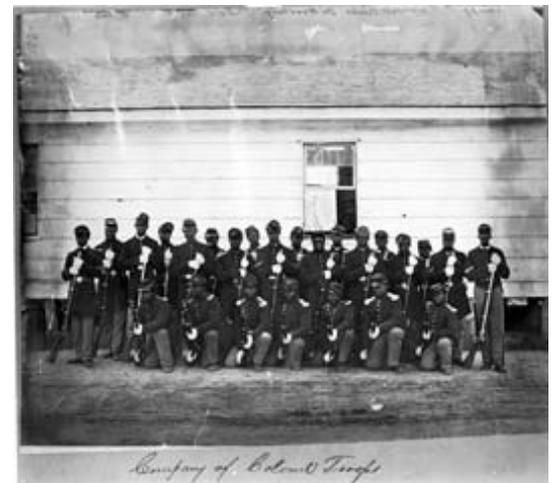
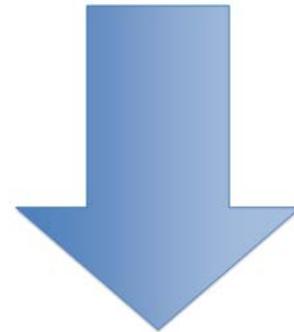
Sadly, historical research has indicated that, the issue of Christianity and slavery is one that has seen intense conflict. Both the Old Testament and the New Testament sanction, and endorse, slavery. This presented a difficult challenge for Christians opposed to slavery as they tried to argue against it. Both pro-slavery advocates and slavery abolitionists to support their respective views have historically used passages in the Bible.

African Americans, in general, have always held strongly to their religious beliefs, and tend to embody these beliefs with everyday existence. By and large we’re Christians; and there appears to be a special bond between spirituality and victims of oppression. Perhaps because a religious belief system helps us survive human injustices. That said, religion can be a double-edged sword and used as a tool of oppression. Dr. Martin Luther King said, *“It is appalling that the most*



***“Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced.”***

**James Baldwin**



**During the Civil War ex-slaves in the Union army fought against the Confederates.**

# Various Requests

## **Brass at Easter**

We plan to have brass instrumentalists at Easter this year. Please consider supporting the Helen Moore Music Fund. Write a check to "The Church of the Good Shepherd", with "Helen Moore" in the memo line.

## **The Rectory Needs Bookshelves**

I am receiving many hundreds of theology and church books from my dad who is retiring in June. If you have any bookshelves that you don't need or don't use, please let me know. If you are the type of person who can build bookshelves, please let me know. Thanks in advance! – Fr. Matt

## **Do you need a FREE Queen Size Bed?**

There is a Queen Sized bed (mattress, box spring, and frame) available in the rectory. It is available to anyone (parishioners get first dibs) who wants to come and pick it up. The bed is in very good condition. The mattress is VERY firm. For more info please contact Fr. Matt.

## **Do you have Photos? Do you take Photos?**

We have a wonderful online photo gallery. If you have digital or scanned photos from old events, we can put them online. Also, you are welcome to take photos at services or church events - just don't make a scene if you are taking a photo in church (and don't use the flash!). Please speak to Father Matt or Chris Palmer or Amanda Slattery if you have any questions.

<https://goodshepherdny.shutterfly.com/pictures>

*segregated hour of Christian America is eleven o'clock on Sunday morning."*

There is no need to spell out the horrific results of religion gone mad. Newspaper headline document, in chilling detail, in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia countless maiming's, bombings and oppression in the name of religion.

## **The Modern Civilized World Denounces Slavery But It Still Exists**

However in the modern Western World, slavery is considered an abomination and a violation of human and civil rights, whether that is based on gender, conditions of servitude or national origin.

*According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) 20.9 million men, women and children around the world are in slavery. In the 21st century people are still sold like objects, forced to work for little or no pay and at the complete mercy of their 'employers'.*

*There are many different characteristics that distinguish slavery from other human rights violations, however only one needs to be present for slavery to exist. Someone is in slavery if they are:*

- *forced to work - through mental or physical threat;*
- *owned or controlled by an 'employer', usually through mental or physical abuse or the threat of abuse;*
- *dehumanised, treated as a commodity or bought and sold as 'property';*
- *physically constrained or has restrictions placed on his/her freedom of movement.*

*Contemporary slavery takes various forms and affects people of all ages, gender and race.*

([http://www.antislavery.org/english/slavery\\_today/what\\_is\\_modern\\_slavery.aspx](http://www.antislavery.org/english/slavery_today/what_is_modern_slavery.aspx))

So its very clear there is something in human nature, a disease perhaps, that impels us to—unless we're very careful—seek domination over others that must vigorously fought against, unless we fall to our more base instincts. Traditionally, Christian ethnics were called upon to counter these impulses with the Golden Rule to “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” (Luke 6:31). Unfortunately it has been watered down to mean, *Do unto others before they do unto you.*

### **African American Accomplishments**

African Americans have made phenomenal accomplishments; culminating with the 2009 election of a man of African ancestry, Barack Hussein Obama, with over 65 million votes became President of the United States of America. The groundwork for this historic occasion came after decades of difficult civil rights struggles, replete with lynching and murder, discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations. The pride in the accomplishments of President Obama are reflected not just in the African American community but shared by all people of good will.

### **African American Revolutionary War Heroes Died In Yorktown**

“During the American Revolution, Yorktown, New York was of strategic importance, with the Pines Bridge crossing guarded by a regiment of Rhode Island troops made up *mostly of African Americans* who were massacred at the Davenport House in Croton Heights. A memorial to them is at the Presbyterian Church in Crompond. Major John André, a British officer who communicated with Benedict Arnold, ate his final breakfast at the

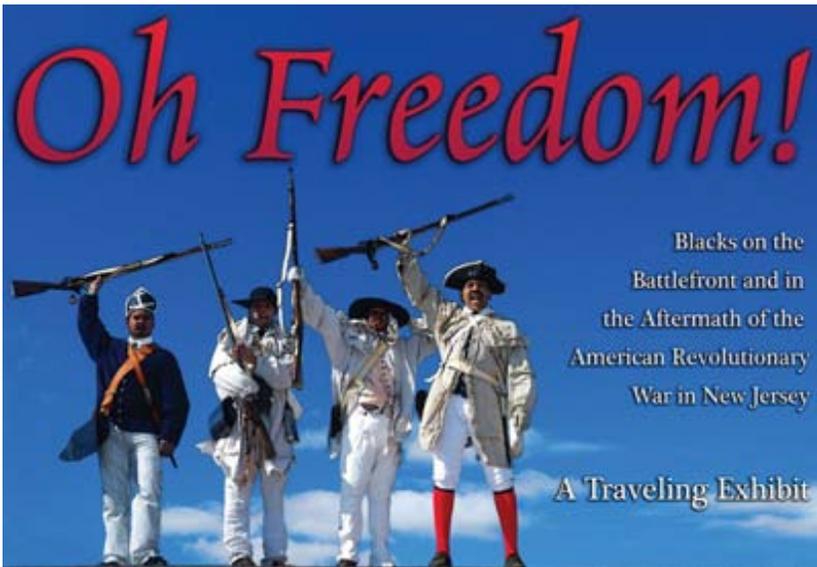
# Youth Group!

In February the Youth Group had a great discussion with Bill Green. We discussed the civil rights movement and our role as Christians to support the rights and dignity of all humans. This includes being aware of our personal prejudices about what people wear, music they like and how they look. We discussed getting to know people who are different from us as people not by their exterior.

As part of our service to our church family, we will be helping at the wine tasting by passing appetizers and organizing the kitchen. (Remember to come dressed in black tops and pants/skirts.) We will provide coffee hour on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Relay for life is on May 30<sup>th</sup>- we are leading the Church of Good Shepherd Team and would like as many parishioners to join us as possible. We will have luminaires to decorate and are planning a fundraiser to support our team- so watch for more news! Sign up on –line to join and walk with us! [http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY14EA?pg=entry&fr\\_id=57357](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY14EA?pg=entry&fr_id=57357)

We meet every week after church at the black table in the breezeway. Any one in grades 7 through 12 is welcome to join us!



Underhill House on Hanover Street just before his capture and eventual hanging as a spy.” (Westchester Historical Society)

**Barbara Jordan** —the first African-American congresswoman to come from the deep South and the first woman ever elected to the Texas Senate (1966).

**Dr. W.E.B. DuBois** – “One ever feels his 'twoness'—an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder.” Dr. DuBois was the first African American to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard University (1895).

**Barack Hussein Obama** – First African American to be President of the United States. He went to Harvard Law School, where he was elected the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review. After graduating, President Obama went on to lead one of the most successful voter registration drives in state history, and continued his legal work as a civil rights lawyer and a professor teaching constitutional law at the University of Chicago.

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** - was an American pastor, activist, humanitarian, and leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement. He is best known for his role in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience based on his Christian beliefs.

\* \* \* \* \*



*Clockwise from top left: Barbara Jordan, Congresswoman;*

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Civil Rights Activist and Minister;*

*President Barack H. Obama, President of the U.S.A.;*

*Dr. W.E.B. DuBois, Scholar, Activist;*

## Christian Education Sunday March 9:

### Introduction to the Letter to the Hebrews

After the 10AM service on Sunday, March 9, Father Matt will offer a class on the Letter to the Hebrews. You don't need to read the letter in advance, but if you do, it might be helpful. All are invited, coffee and snacks from coffee hour will be served.

# Sunday School:

## A Busy Few Months Planned

Thanks and congratulations to all the children who participated in our Family Sunday on February 23. Everyone did a wonderful job, whether reading, ushering, or handling the offering and elements. We're especially proud of our PreK-Grade 2 class, who learned all about communion during the last session (thank you Megan Whalen!).

Our fourth session is now underway with the children learning all about the Lenten and Easter seasons and will culminate in another Family Sunday on April 6. After Easter on April 20, we will begin our final session of the year, which will be highlighted by the annual Spring Concert on May 18 and Graduation Sunday on June 8. It will all be here before we know it!

Sunday School continues through the summer in the form of Craft Sundays each week. Please consider signing up for one or more Sundays, starting June 15. You can teach a craft (we can provide them) or share a favorite talent or hobby with the children--they will love it! This is also a great way to meet our kids in an informal way....which may lead you to want to teach lessons/crafts in the fall when we ask you to! Answer this calling....the rewards will be many. There will be a signup sheet posted in the breezeway. 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)

\* \* \* \* \*

## Prayer Group

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.

## ***“WHY I LOVE GOOD SHEPHERD”***

*This article is the second in a series presented by the 2014 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 begin the series with a note from Scott Jones:*

### You Cannot But Love The Church of Good Shepherd

The front doors open in a warm embrace  
As the bell gives voice to the flagpole  
The ushers beam with heartfelt smiles  
The Acolytes ready for their role

One Body of Christ we shuffle forth  
We take our seats in human fellowship  
Father Matt sings from the top of his lungs  
Bringing insight and fun to the worship

His sermon pauses while we all absorb  
And the answers lay all around us  
We relish our Peace as if the first time  
The connection so simple, so joyous

Communion reigns as we wait our turn  
Our gratitude, our love, our respect  
Sobering and yet triumphant thoughts  
A brand new day, a brand new reflect

The coffee hour begins in festive mood  
Meetings and plans and news  
Pent up emotions and thoughts and prayers  
The things we couldn't utter in the pews

Renewed in our faith, and our love for others  
We go forth with our spirits lifted  
So many reasons, as many as our number  
Why you cannot but love....  
The Church of Good Shepherd

Scott Jones, February 2014

# Coming Events

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

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

**March 5, Ash Wednesday** – 8AM, 12Noon, 6PM Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

**Saturday, March 8:** 5PM Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 8:** 6PM Movie Night: Raiders of the Lost Ark

**Saturday, March 15:** 5PM Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 15:** 6PM Movie Night: The Fellowship of the Ring

**Saturday, March 22:** 5PM Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 22:** 6PM Movie Night: The Two Towers

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

**Saturday, March 29:** 5PM Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 29:** 6PM Movie Night: The Return of the King

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

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

**Saturday, April 5:** 5PM Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, April 5:** 6PM Movie Night: Indiana Jones & The Last Crusade

**Friday, April 12:** 5PM Stations of the Cross

**Friday, April 12:** 6PM Movie Night: Monty Python's The Life of Brian

**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 with Guest Preacher the Reverend Bill Doubleday, Priest-In Charge, Saint Mark's Mount Kisco & 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



# THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

P.O. BOX 350

39 GRANITE SPRINGS ROAD

GRANITE SPRINGS, NEW YORK 10527

914-248-5631 (Office Phone) | 914-471-0260 (Father Matt's Cell Phone)

## SERVER, READER & ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

### MARCH 2

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL  
ACOLYTES: CHRISTIAN TRINIDAD  
DENEL ROSSO  
DELILAH ROSSO  
READERS: ERIC PARSONS  
SALLY STEVENS  
PRAYERS: ARLEEN FLURY  
USHERS: BERNIE SOTTER  
SALLY STEVENS

### MARCH 9

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

### MARCH 16

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

### MARCH 23

CHALICE: PHIL LEVY  
ACOLYTES: EMILY VESPERMAN  
SYDNEY ROSSO  
MELODY RUBINO  
READERS: CHRIS PALMER  
FAY WRIGHT  
PRAYERS: BOB BUBECK  
USHERS: BOB VELZY  
ARLEEN FLURY

### MARCH 25 Feast of the Annunciation

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL  
READERS: SALLY STEVENS  
CHRIS PALMER  
PRAYERS: FAY WRIGHT  
USHERS: BERNIE SOTTER  
SALLY STEVENS

### MARCH 30

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