

The Shepherd's Voice

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Church of the Good Shepherd

MARCH – MAY

2016



SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Welcome to the first Quarterly Report of The Church of the Good Shepherd for 2016. The coming year promises to be a very active one, with many activities planned for Advent and beyond. Reverend Gwyneth continues to lead us spiritually towards Easter with her Wednesday Advent Bible Study classes. Holy Week is filled with services

celebrating the Last Supper, Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord. Sunday School continues to educate our young students about the works of Jesus and His Church. Our older pupils steadily make their way toward Confirmation. As we work toward spring we are reminded of renewal and God's everlasting love in our lives.

Good Shepherd would be nothing without the generous gifts given by its wonderful parishioners. Last fall, an anonymous donor gave \$3,000.00 towards a new floor for the Parish Hall. In response, the Vestry has approved the additional money to install a Luxury Vinyl Plank floor that will give the hall a much needed face-lift. This flooring will be 100% waterproof, stain resistant and has a commercial warranty for wear. It will look like real wood but be much more durable. Imagine hosting your next party here at the church!

We have a new Fundraising Committee! Thanks to Norm Fulton, Fran DiBernardo, Glenn Hintze, Amanda Slattery, and Megan Whalen, several opportunities for fundraising have been planned for the coming year. Look ahead to a Cinema Movie Night, Antiques "Roadshow" type event and a combined food and wine tasting in the months ahead. Please support these endeavors in any way you can. The more people who advertise and attend these events, the more the church benefits, both monetarily and from good press in the community.

Finally, the Search for a permanent Rector is on track and in good hands. The Search Committee spent many, many hours compiling our Parish Profile and it is quite spectacular (visit the church's website to see for yourselves). Please pray for Fay and the members of the Search Committee as they continue their hard work to find the right person for our parish. Also remember that this is a confidential process and we must now give the committee the time and space they need to complete it.

With love in Christ,
Maria Kaprielian, Financial Warden

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NOTE FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR



“The past is history; the future is mystery; the present is a gift from God. That is why it is called present.” This simple saying captures the essence of Presence. To be and live in the present is to be fully alive, open to ourselves, all creation and God.

I write on a cold, sunny, windy day. Most years, this would not be unusual in late February. But this year we have had strange and unexpected weather. It is as if Mother Earth could not decide whether to have Winter. The “unseasonable” warmth is both good and bad news. We all saved on heating and plowing bills, which means folks who make their living by plowing had less income. Those who looked forward to snowmen, sledding, skiing and snowshoeing were disappointed, while those who cannot get out in snowy weather were not. Then there is the issue of how this weather affects water tables, population of deer ticks, spring planting and autumn harvest ... but I digress.

On this wintry day, the promise of Spring is a matter of faith rather than fact. When it was over sixty degrees two days ago, little faith was required. So too, there are times in our lives when the promise of Resurrection – joy, healing, new life – is a matter of faith. There is a paradox here. We are meant to live fully in the present. Yet sometimes the present is so painful or challenging, frustrating or just boring, that we need the memory of the past and the hope for the future to get us through. Yet we must truly experience the pain, challenge, frustration or boredom. It is through this experience that we come to Resurrection.

It is easy to get so caught up in plans that we miss what is happening now. As a practical matter, parish staff and volunteers are making plans for Easter and even Pentecost. While we can and need to make these plans, we are still living in Lent. If we miss Lent because we are busy planning Easter, then we don't experience Easter.

During Holy Week, we journey with Jesus as his friends and followers did ... the triumphant entry into Jerusalem, time together, Last Supper, arrest, trial, crucifixion, burial. Then (in the words of Marist Brother Don Bisson): "The Tomb Becomes a Womb." Out of this womb comes the new life of Resurrection, Easter. But the story doesn't end here. Brother Don teaches that just as there are Stations of the Cross, there are also Stations of the Resurrection. We are invited to continue to live this story forever.

Wishing you the special graces of Lent, Holy Week and Easter; may we each know that we are sustained and strengthened by our common life in prayer and community,

Reverend Gwyneth / Rev G

A NOTE ABOUT HOLY THURSDAY

On Thursday in Holy Week (Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday) we gather as Jesus and the Disciples did: to celebrate a meal. (They were celebrating the Passover Seder.) When Jesus sat at table with friends and followers, there was prayer, conversation, sharing of bread and wine. We'll do the same. At a Passover Seder they would have read and reflected on Scripture. We'll do the same. At the Last Supper, Jesus taught us by example how we are to treat one another – He got down on his knees and washed others' feet. We'll do the same. (Only those who wish to do so.) All of this will take place in the Parish Hall, to give us a sense of what it might have been like to have the prayers and conversation and foot washing in the dining room. Then, we'll go into the Sanctuary for our celebration of Communion, as was done at the Last Supper, followed by the Stripping of the Altar.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (A/K/A CONFESSION OR PENANCE)

Although many Episcopalians don't realize it, we do have the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The rite is in the Book of Common Prayer at pages 446-452. In some Christian denominations, people are required to receive this Sacrament a certain number of times each year in order to receive Communion and to be considered a member in good standing. In the Episcopal Church, the guideline is "All may; none must; some should." It is entirely up to an individual.

You sit and talk with the priest in private. The “Seal of the Confessional” means what is said is held in absolute confidence by the priest. While Reverend Gwyneth is always available to hear Confession, on Good Friday, she will be available from 1:30 to 4:00 in the Sanctuary. Rev G is available to answer questions about this (or anything else, for that matter).

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SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

Our full-time Rector position was posted on January 15th. The Search Committee is in the process of receiving names from our posting. According to Diocesan policy this is the time when we can’t say more than “we are receiving names” because of the confidential nature of people applying for the position. We need your prayers now for our ongoing work. Please pray for God’s guidance for potential candidates to apply and for the Search Committee’s prayerful discernment of the candidates.

We will begin interviewing candidates after Easter. First interviews will be held by Skype, no matter where the candidates are from, so there is an equal method of interviewing the candidates no matter how close or far they currently live. After the first interviews, the Search Committee will determine who we are going to visit and interview at their current church. We will then move to invite candidates here for further interviews. We believe we are on track to provide the vestry with candidates to call by the end of June. Please contact any member of the Search Committee if you have any questions.

Peace,
Fay, for the Search Committee

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TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT MARCH 2016

As I communicated to all of you who attended the January 31st Annual Meeting, it takes \$211,452 just to operate the church. Our Income at this time is projected to be \$178,252 leaving us with a \$33,200 deficit to overcome in 2016.

Our church Operating Expenses are primarily all fixed expenses, meaning we are unable to cut our costs. This is a bare bones budget. As such, it allows us to keep our doors open. However, we are unable to expand our Outreach and current Church Programming for our youth, Sunday School and adult education just to name a few programs.

Just to add another caveat, our 2016 budget is based on 100% of the pledges being fulfilled in 2016. This caveat makes it important for all of us to do the best we can to fulfill our pledge.

All of this results in us needing to raise additional Operating Income as opposed to reducing expense. There are different ways this can be accomplished but it requires everyone to be involved as they can. One way is to continue doing our current fundraisers and look for new ways to improve on them or entertain new fundraisers from our Events Committee. Other ways include special congregational appeals, new rental income sources and / or pledging growth either through new families or currently within Good Shepherd.

As we go through this transition in 2016, your vestry and myself will be monitoring our 2016 Income and Expenses very closely and appraising you quarterly of where we are financially.

Please refer to the 2016 Annual Report for more detail on last year's Income and Expense and our 2016 church Budget.

If you would like any further detail information or have any other questions, please feel free to approach me at church, email me or call me at home anytime. My home number is 914-962-7048, my email is LM_PHM@Earthlink.net.

Sincerely,
Paul H. Miller
Treasurer

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NOTE FROM THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE INTERIM EDITOR

The best part about writing the newsletter this quarter is getting excited for spring and Easter. Our church offers so many wonderful experiences leading up to Easter. I never knew how much time, energy and effort went into this special week. We are so lucky here at Good Shepherd. Also, with the snow melting and the sun shining – I am very much looking forward to the visit from the Easter Bunny and the celebration of Pentecost. Before we know it school will be out and summer will be upon us!

The next issue of the Shepherd's Voice will be published on June 1, 2016. If you have any feedback or ideas please feel free to share with me in person or via email. I would love to hear your thoughts. Also please be sure to pass on any photos as it is always fun to spice up the issue with visuals! Future issues will be published on September 1, 2016, and November 15, 2016. I wish everyone a very Happy Easter and a wonderful spring!

Sincerely,
Megan Whalen

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OUTREACH NEWS

CCNW

There are families right here in Westchester who do not have enough to eat. At the suggestion of the Youth Group we have decided to aim to collect a ton (2,000 lbs) of food this year. To this end we have increased our monthly food collection goal to 167 lbs. In order to achieve this we will provide shopping bags with a list of requested products attached. You will shortly find these in the narthex. Please take a bag with you when you go shopping, fill it, and return it to the church. Let's make a difference in the lives of these hungry families.

VEGETABLE GARDEN

Plans are in the works for the vegetable garden to be planted, tended and harvested this summer season. Vegetables grown will be donated to the Community Center of Northern Westchester. If you would like to help, please speak to Diane Buschel or Jan Corning.

AFEDJ

A big thank you to everyone who took a gift tag from the Giving Tree. The American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem received a total of \$475 in donations from

our parishioners! Also thank you to all who took and filled Mite Boxes this Christmas Season. We raised over \$80. These monies will help fund the education of children in the schools run by the church.

WOMENS RESOURCE CENTER

Good Shepherd is now supporting the Women's Resource Center of Putnam and Northern Westchester. The Center provides advocacy, education and services to the community in order to create a safe, supportive environment that eliminates violence against women and children and promotes gender equality. The baby supplies which we collected at the Twelfth Night celebration were delivered to this center. They were very pleased to receive these gifts.

RELAY FOR LIFE:

The Good Shepherd team has been registered for the walk, which will take place June 17/18.

SUPPORT CONNECTION

The Good Shepherd team will be walking in the annual walk on October 2. Watch for more announcements during the spring and summer.

The following distributions are being made from the Outreach fund: CCNW - \$100 for shopping bags; \$100 for garden supplies; AFEDJ –Mite Box collection increased to \$500; Women's Resource Center of Northern Westchester - \$500; Support Connection team - \$300.

HEAD START EASTER BASKETS

Again this year the Sunday school children and their families will make Easter baskets for the children from the Head Start Program in New Rochelle.

Amanda Slattery
Outreach Coordinator

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SUNDAY SCHOOL: Pageant, 12th Night: New Session Begins



What a wonderful Christmas Season for the COGS Sunday School Program. We began in December with a visit from St. Nicholas on the 6th. Everyone loved receiving mite boxes and finding a sweet treat in their shoes! Then, for the first time in 7 years, the Christmas Pageant was held during Advent. Thankfully Mother Nature cooperated with us. The children performed a simple narrative of Jesus' birth on December 13th in lieu of the homily for the 10am Service. They all did a marvelous job reading, singing and telling the story of Jesus' birth. The pageant was followed by a festive coffee hour hosted by the Sunday School Committee.



Twelfth Night celebration, also organized by the Sunday School Committee, was held on January 9, 2016. This was our first 12th Night Prayer Service, Potluck Dinner and BINGO Night. Many laughs, "B7s" and "Bingos" were heard echoing through the Parish Hall. It was an evening of food, fellowship and festivity. The "Magi" brought gifts for the children, the adults brought charitable donations for the Women's Shelter and the children's Saint Nicholas Mite Boxes were collected. We are so grateful to those who helped in both of these festive events and especially appreciate everyone's generous donations.



In January, our three levels of Sunday school resumed and continued until February 28, when Family Sunday was held. During that 10am service, the children performed most of the duties in the church. We thank Megan Whalen, Teresa Larson, Amy Baisley, and Fran DiBernardo for working with Grades PreK-2, Suzanne Bracken, Charlotte Jones, and Maritza Rosso for working with Grades 3-5, and Glenn Hintze, Rick Vesperman, Yolanda Alexander, Vernon Alexander, and Scott Jones for working with Grades 6-8 in Sessions 2 and 3. Please note there will be regular Sunday School through March. On Palm Sunday kids will participate in the Palm Procession and then go to Sunday School. Easter Sunday there will be no Sunday School but the 10am Service will be followed by our Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

It might be cold, icy and white but we are looking ahead to spring. The Sunday School Committee is excited to announce our Spring Eucharist Study, which will commence after Easter on April 3. Children in grades PreK-8 will learn, at their own level, more about Holy Communion, Prayer and our Church. Sunday School families should have received an email explaining the curriculum, but some of the highlights include: The Eucharist as a Family Meal; Jesus as a Storyteller; a tour of the church, sacristy, and the priest's vestments; Praying together through The Liturgy of the Word and Holy

Communion; and Manners and Customs of Prayer. The study will culminate with a Eucharist Celebration on Pentecost, May 15. During the 10am service children will not only perform their typical Family Sunday roles, but also participate in the Holy Eucharist with Rev G in some very unique and special ways.

Finally, we are planning to hold our 3rd Annual Summer Bible Camp August 23-25 from 9am-12 noon each day. All Sunday School parents will receive an email about it. The flyer is in this newsletter! We'll have lessons, crafts, games, activities and tons of fun. Open to children 3-12 years old. Counseling opportunities for teens 13-18 years old! We hope to invite children from many Episcopal Churches in our area so feel free to share the flyer with your friends. There will be more to come in the June newsletter. Please see us with any questions!

--Megan Whalen, for the Sunday School Committee (Suzanne Bracken, Arleen Flury, Glenn Hintze, Charlotte Jones, Maritza Rosso, Kerry Irwin, Fran DiBernardo, Cathy Trinidad and Reverend Gwyneth)

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YOUTH GROUP: FUN AND PREPRATION



ROCKIN' JUMP OUTING

The Youth Group had an amazing time at Rockin' Jump! 20 people jumped and played and had a great time! See the pictures of our mighty dodge ball games! Our youth have great gymnastic abilities and were very supportive of my lack of balance on the trampolines.

THE YOUTH GROUP PREPARES FOR HOLY WEEK

On Saturday, March 19th, the Youth Group will meet at church at 5:00pm for Stations of the Cross. We will prepare our dinner (burgers, homemade fries, salad, crepes for dessert) and watch "Godspell" and another movie to be determined. After the movies, we will spend time in church reflecting on Holy Week, spend the night at church – bring air mattresses, sleeping bags , pillows, toothbrushes, etc. We will go to breakfast at the Olympic Diner and then to Palm Sunday Service at 10am. Please send money for breakfast. Please confirm attendance with Fay (fwphdrn@gmail.com or 914-672-4231). All youth in our parish family are welcome to participate – stay for all or part of the event! Call with any questions. Please complete the permission form and bring it with you that night, thanks.

Peace,
Fay Wright and Vernon Alexander

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Confirmation at Good Shepherd 2016



TEEN CONFIRMATION CLASS

Our Confirmation Class continues to meet about once a month. Six teens, guided by Fay Wright and Rev G, gather to explore what it means to be Christian in everyday life, how our faith can guide and support us to be the beautiful creatures God created us to be. The class learns about the Bible, The Book of Common Prayer, the mission and ministry of the parish, and then discusses what it means to them. Fay and Rev G are continually amazed by the depth and insight of the teens' comments and questions. The class has become a community – a subset of the larger Youth Group community. They cook, eat, and clean up together. They share their stories – hopes and dreams, disappointments and concerns. They laugh, they listen. Thus, as they learn about our faith, they are living it.

On Saturday, March 19, the entire Youth Group will gather in late afternoon to make dinner, watch a movie, spend time in silence in the Sanctuary, and have an overnight in preparation for Palm Sunday.

Suffragan Bishop Allen Shin will confirm the teens when he visits the parish on Sunday, June 19. We hope everyone will come to support our teens, welcome Bishop Shin and celebrate Fathers Day at the 10am service, and then at a FUN picnic and BBQ.

CALLING ALL ADULTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN COFIRMATION, RECEPTION, OR REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS (SUNDAY, JUNE 19th, WHEN BISHOP SHIN VISITS GOOD SHEPHERD)

If you are considering being Confirmed, or being Received into the Episcopal Church if you were confirmed in another denomination, please speak with Rev G (in person, or RevGwyneth@gmail.com). We'll have a class at a mutually convenient time. Taking the class is not a commitment to being Confirmed or Received. Some folks find that the class helps them to make a decision. If you have been Confirmed and Received, you might consider Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows, which is for individuals who have come to a new depth of faith, or returned to faith. Again, taking the class may help you decide.

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THE SENIOR GROUP



Our group consisted of: Flo Barber, Laura Traynor, Robert E. Wright, Bernie Sotter, Jim Dungey, Josephine Dungey, Pat Hess, Thelma Barlow, Connie Holzer, Kathy Martin, and Carol Stebbins. Of course we welcome several non senior congregants who have joined us in activities.

We kicked off the Christmas holiday season with our annual dinner and entertainment schedule and were joined by our Interim Pastor, Rev. Gwyneth MacKenzie Murphy. Lunch was prepared at the Division Street Grill in Peekskill where we enjoyed a wonderful meal and conversation. Then we proceeded to the Paramount Theater that is now called the Paramount Hudson Valley Theater. The theater opened in the 1930s and was a subsidiary of Paramount Pictures. There were Vaudeville shows and the Paramount also doubled as a movie theater, featuring all the great movies of the era. Instead of having to go to New York City, Northern Westchester residents would come to the Paramount. It was convenient and affordable entertainment. In 2010 there were clouds on the horizon. Attendance reached all time lows and friction mounted among the owners of the venue. In 2012 it closed its doors due to financial instability and funding disputes with local lawmakers. However in 2013 it re-opened under new management and visions of the glory days.

Peekskill is now a revitalized city with wonderful restaurants, a coffee house, Jazz clubs and a variety of cultural events. There also has been an influx of artists, musicians, actors and graphic designers. Many great entertainers over the years have performed at the Paramount, including John Lee Hooker, Judy Collins, Sinbad, the comedian and others too many to mention.

There was wonderful concert by Daisy Joplin who is an incredible violinist and musician with energy beyond comparison. The concert included various choruses within Northern Westchester communities, including Peekskill, Yorktown and Mahopac. The performances were dazzling. We also had a special treat experiencing the performances of children ranging in age from elementary years to high school youth.



THE ODD COUPLE

This past January we went to see our fellow congregant Scott Jones appearing in the Comedy as the character Speed in "The Odd Couple" at the Shrub Oak Methodist Church. Diane Buschel and Mike Markumus joined the Senior Group for the performance.

Not only is Scott the leader of our Writers Group but also an attorney, actor, musician and song writer. He has previously appeared in "Doubt", a drama by John Patrick Shanley.

The Senior Group meets the first Sunday every month after Sunday services, usually about 11:15 am. For any further information contact Bill or Gwen Greene.

Sincerely,
Bill and Gwen Greene

RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

The world is in an uproar and our presidential candidates slug it out, slinging dirt and profanity into sound bites in an effort to demonstrate how "tough" they are in combating terrorism, as if toughness can replace common sense. This of course feeds the 24-hour news cycle that feeds off controversy by fanning the flames of fear with outrageous promises and accusations, blaming all Muslims as a terrorist threat to our nation. What is misunderstood about Islam is Islam, Judaism and Christianity are all Abrahamic religions. They trace their roots back to a common source: Abraham, and thus bound by the laws of the Ten Commandments, even though the Commandments may not be listed as such.

The hypocrisy is our children are watching these adults engage in behavior if emulated at home, their parents would punish them. How can politicians solve world problems when they are unable to resolve differences among themselves?

The issues facing America: Are we as a nation willing to give up our human and civil right to seek out terrorists, presumed to be Muslims? Certainly that wasn't true when Christians Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nicholas blew up an entire building in Oklahoma killing 168 people and injuring 680, including 19 children in a Day Care Center, damaging 324 other buildings and burned 86 cars.

Terror is a method used by religious fanatics to manipulate religion to in order to justify their greed and quest for religious and political power

Anti-Muslim hysteria has reached such proportions that Professor Florecita Elaine Hawkins from Wheaton College, a Christian liberal arts college, has been suspended from teaching because she said we all believe in the same God. "I stand in religious solidarity with Muslims. They, like me a Christian, are people of the Book." She also quoted Pope Francis who said all monotheistic Gods are the same.

All religions, including Christianity, have fanatics in their midst; and religious zealots historically have engaged in terrorism to meet their twisted manufactured interpretation of their scared books.

ARE WE OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER?

This can be a troubling world for Christians. When the Pharisees asked Jesus what was the greatest commandment? He answered and said, "Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And Love Your Neighbor as yourself. "

How clear can that be? In order to do this one must live vicariously. Put yourself in some one else's shoes. That's what "as yourself" means. It is the attempt to abolish tribalism, racism and sexism – all the things that separate people from their humanity, which could be love of nation and love of country over our humanity, once we give preference to others because of their differences, and give them special privileges because of skin color, sexual orientation preferences or national or ethnic origin, we are not treating others as humans. This is what slavery was all about: treating African slaves as sub-humans not fit to be equal with white Americans and giving them a special cast. And the sad aspect of this debacle was it was often done in the name of Christianity.

Humility

Being a Christian is tough. Love thy neighbor is not popular today. For some, that phrase is as bad as "turn the other cheek". If the headlines or television pundits are any indication of the public sentiment, being "strong" is equated with aggressiveness and not backing down from your point of view when espousing an opinion. In this scenario humility is "weakness" and a sign of lack of self confidence. But the reality is humility is often strength in disguise. On the other hand, brashness is often insolence, a sure sign of weakness. Therefore we mustn't forget Jesus was the strongest man in the world, yet humble.

Sincerely,
Bill Greene

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FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE FORMED, PLANNING EVENTS

The recently formed Fundraising Committee has been hard at work this winter. The objective of the committee is to raise funds to support Good Shepherd's mission and ministry.

Currently there are three proposed fundraising events for 2016. The first is a Movie Day at an area Movie Theater on Sunday, May 15th. We are hoping to show the new Jungle Book movie. More details to follow in email blasts. The second event is an Antiques Roadshow on Saturday, September 17th at the church, where participants will be able to bring in their antiques for a professional appraisal. This event may be combined with the annual Arts Jam to make it even more fun! Finally, the Taste of Somers is scheduled for November 4th at the church. This event will take the place of both the former Spring Wine Tasting and the Fall Annual Dinner and will include samples of specialty cheeses, apples and other foods, as well as wines and non-alcoholic beverages. There will be a 50/50 cash raffle and Silent Auction as well. Wines will be available for purchase.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help plan these events, please see a member of the Committee – Fran DiBernardo, Glenn Hintze, Deacon Norman Fulton, Amanda Slattery, or Megan Whalen.

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HOLY WEEK HOLY WEEK HOLY WEEK



PALM SUNDAY

8:00AM Service

10:00AM Procession of Palms & Service



Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

6:30PM Evening Prayer



MAUNDY THURSDAY

At 6:30PM we celebrate Holy Thursday as Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with his Disciples. We will share a Mediterranean Style (potluck) Agape Supper with Prayers, Scripture and Foot Washing in the Parish Hall, followed by Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar in the Sanctuary. (Childcare provided)

GOOD FRIDAY

12:00PM Stations of the Cross

Sacrament of Reconciliation (1:30PM-4:00PM)

6:30PM Light Soup and Salad Dinner

7:30PM Good Friday Service

(Childcare provided)



HOLY SATURDAY

6:30PM Pizza Fest

7:30PM Easter Vigil

(Childcare provided)



EASTER SUNDAY

8:00AM Service

10:00AM Service, Festive Coffee Hour
and Amazing Easter Egg Hunt



ANNUNCIATION

Monday April 4, 2016



Please join us to celebrate this Holy Day. There will be a 6:00PM Service followed by a Stews and Chowders potluck dinner. A sign up sheet will be posted in the breezeway. Questions see Reverend Gwyneth, Chris Palmer, or Diane Buschel.

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ASCENSION DAY

Thursday May 5, 2016



Please join us to celebrate this Holy Day. There will be a 6:00PM Service followed by a festive dinner. A sign up sheet will be posted in the breezeway. More information to come as the day gets closer.

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PENTECOST SUNDAY
FAMILY EUCHARIST CELEBRATION
Sunday May 15, 2016 10:00AM Service



Please join us to celebrate the birthday of the church and the conclusion of the Sunday School Eucharist Study. The 10:00AM Service will be a Family Sunday with children performing many of the church duties. In addition, there will be special music performed by the children. Reverend Gwyneth will also include the children in the Eucharist in very special ways. Wear **RED** – Let's celebrate the Spirit! Questions, speak to Megan Whalen or Reverend Gwyneth.

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Relay For Life of Somers

Friday June 17th 7:00pm-11:30pm

Somers Middle School (250 Route 202)

Team Good Shepherd Needs YOU!

Walk with us! Sign up now!

We are signed up as a team BUT we need a team captain to help coordinate our participation.

Go to Team Good Shepherd's web address and join

http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY16EA?pg=entry&fr_id=73603

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Church of the Good Shepherd, Granite Springs

Vacation Bible Camp

August 23-25, 9:00am-12:00pm

What will the Children learn at VBC?

- August 23: Jesus calls us to be kind to all of God creatures, especially the animals.
- August 24: Jesus taught us to be thankful for nature and the harvest
- August 25: Jesus shared meals with his friends

Who:

- Campers Age 3-12
- Counselors Age 13-18
- Teachers: Reverend Gwyneth, Megan Whalen, Suzanne Bracken, Glenn Hintze, and Bruce Barber

How Much:

- \$30 per child
- Sibling discount \$10 each additional child

Our days will include...

- Daily Scripture Lessons
- Healthy Snack Provided
- Pirate Boat Races
- Nature Hike
- Scavenger Hunt
- Trip to Stuarts Farm
- Trip to Muscoot Farm
- Cooking in the kitchen
- Trip to Hanover Farm
- Crafts and Games
- Family Celebration Feast on Thursday



Church of the Good Shepherd Youth Group

Overnight Permission Form

This form is **REQUIRED**

Thank you

I grant permission for my child _____ to participate in the Youth Group overnight prayer and movie event Saturday March 19th – Sunday March 20th. In consideration of my child's participation, I agree to indemnify the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Diocese of New York from any claims of law suits brought against the Church of the Good Shepherd and/or the Diocese of New York by myself, my child or others, that arises of any behavior by my child at the event/activity described above. I also agree to pay reasonable attorney's fees or expenses incurred by the Church of the Good Shepherd and/or the Diocese of New York

My child had the following food allergies: _____

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT: In the event of an emergency, I give permission to transport my child to a hospital for emergency medical treatment. I wish to be advised prior to any further treatment by a doctor or hospital and can be reached at:

Cell Phone

Home phone

As Parent/Guardian, I agree to all of the above stated considerations and conditions.

_____, March 19, 2016
Signature

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

ROBERT BUBECK
CHARLOTTE JONES
VICTORIA MATTOS
MAGGIE PARSONS
JESSIE LEWIS
JEFF WEIG
AMANDA CORCIONE
LARA JONES
VILMA MULHOLLAND
SUSIE MARTIN
EVAN WEIG
BRITTANY ALEXANDER
THELMA BARLOW
EMMA MARTIN
KATHARINE MARTIN
MICHAEL HARRIS JR
DAWN SCiarabba
ASHLEY ALEXANDER

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

ISABELLA PATRIARCA
HAYLEY LARSON
DAVID STEVENS
GWENDOLYN GREEN
JACLYN STEBBINS
NORMAN FULTON
COURNTEY VELZY
SUSAN HINTZE
AVERY GEORGE
JOHN FEAVER
MAEGAN WILSON
TIM MARTIN
DANIEL BACAL
CYNTHIA RUBINO
NOAH STEBBINS

MAY BIRTHDAYS

MADELINE BRONZO
BEVERLY STRANG
JAMES GARDINEER
COURNTEY BARNETT
JAY BACAL
TAD SIEMERLING
KIMBERLY LEVY
LONNIE CIALLELA
LUCAS HOHWALD
PHILLIP LEVY
LINDA STRUBBE
RICK VESPERMAN
SANDRA PARKS
CARRIE WILSON
GLENN HINTZE
DAVID STRUBBE
JOHN DONNELLY

SERVER, READER & ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

March

MARCH 6:

CHALICE: JIM CORNING

ACOLYTES: CLAIRE HINTZE
WILLIE ROSSO
DELILAH ROSSO

READERS: JANICE VESPERMAN
MICHAEL MARKUMAS

PRAYERS: JAN CORNING

USHERS: BERNIE SOTTER
SALLY STEVENS

COUNTER: VILMA MULHOLLAND

MARCH 20:

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL

ACOLYTES: SINDEY ROSSO
WILLIE ROSSO
DELILAH ROSSO

READERS: CHRIS PALMER
RICK VESPERMAN

PRAYERS: JAN CORNING

USHERS: RICK VESPERMAN
BERNIE SOTTER

COUNTER: RICK VESPERMAN

MARCH 13:

CHALICE: GWEN GREENE

ACOLYTES: EMILY VESPERMAN
JONATHAN TRINIDAD
JULIA WHALEN

READERS: FAY WRIGHT
GWEN GREENE

PRAYERS: BOB BUBECK

USHERS: GLENN HINTZE
BOB VELZY

COUNTER: MEGAN WHALEN

MARCH 27 (EASTER SUNDAY):

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL; GWEN GREENE

ACOLYTES: EMILY VESPERMAN
ASHLEY ALEXANDER
JOEY MORALES

READERS: WILFRIED HAENSCH
ZACK PALMER

PRAYERS: BOB BUBECK

USHERS: RICK VESPERMAN, BERNIE SOTTER
GLENN HINTZE, ARLEEN FLURY

COUNTER: NONE

SERVER, READER & ACOLYTE SCHEDULE (Cont.)**

Holy Week

MARCH 24 (MAUNDY THURSDAY):

CHALICE: GWEN GREENE

ACOLYTES: CLAIRE HINTZE

READERS:

PRAYERS:

USHERS: GLENN HINTZE

MARCH 25 (GOOD FRIDAY) :

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL

ACOLYTES:

READERS:

PRAYERS:

USHERS: BERNIE SOTTER

MARCH 26 (EASTER VIGIL) :

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL

ACOLYTES:

READERS:

PRAYERS:

USHERS:

**** UNASSIGNED SPOTS DURING HOLY WEEK WILL BE FILLED ON A VOLUNTEER BASIS AND AS NEEDED BASED ON ATTENDANCE.**

SERVER, READER & ACOLYTE SCHEDULE (Cont.)*

April

APRIL 3:

CHALICE: PHIL LEVY

ACOLYTES: LYNETTE MORALES
WILLIE ROSSO
DELILAH ROSSO

READERS: FAY WRIGHT
MICHAEL MARKUMAS

PRAYERS: JANICE VESPERMAN

USHERS: BOB VELZY
BERNIE SOTTER

COUNTER: LUIS DELAHOLZ

APRIL 10:

CHALICE: GWEN GREENE

ACOLYTES: CHRISTIAN TRINIDAD
JOEY MORALES
JONATHAN TRINIDAD

READERS: ZACK PALMER
GWEN GREENE

PRAYERS: BOB BUBECK

USHERS: GLENN HINTZE
RICK VESPERMAN

COUNTER: VERNON ALEXANDER

APRIL 17:

CHALICE: DIANE BUSCHEL

ACOLYTES: CLAIRE HINTZE
ASHLEY ALEXANDER
JULIA WHALEN

READERS: WILFRIED HAENSCH
JANICE VESPERMAN

PRAYERS: SALLY STEVENS

USHERS: BERNIE SOTTER
SALLY STEVENS

COUNTER: DIANE BUSCHEL

APRIL 24:

CHALICE: PHIL LEVY

ACOLYTES: EMILY VESPERMAN
WILLIE ROSSO
DELILAH ROSSO

READERS: CHRIS PALMER
RICK VESPERMAN

PRAYERS: ARLEEN FLURY

USHERS: RICK VESPERMAN
GLENN HINTZE

COUNTER: PHILL PINKNEY

***THE SCHEDULE FOR MAY WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL, THANK YOU**

Poets' Corner

FROM THE WRITERS GROUP: BELIEVE

I believe in sunshine
Only when it rains
And I can sit in this spot
And gaze as the horizon fades
Into darkness
Before the rainbow
Smells the variety of colors
in shades of blues
While blood trickles down perspiring black skin lost to history
Hope fading into secret societies
Dancing to future illuminations
Of humanity
And I hear the voices of angels

By Bill Greene

FROM THE WRITERS GROUP: FOR LANGSTON

I was reading
Langston Hughes
on his birthday
and was struck by
how little things have
really changed.

Its better now, perhaps
on the face of things
yet under it all
deep in the blood
It simmers
a hatred
a fear
of the other
However we decide
to sort Them out.

Once
when our pelts
were far thicker
we smelled Them out
protecting the troop
ensuring our bloodlines

I wish we could
GMO ourselves,
snip out that primal fragment
remnant of our simian days
cruising Tanzanian treetops
our brains yet too small
to see beyond
primitive instincts
hard-coded by selection
to preserve our DNA

Even now
reason battles
amygdaline fears
We're long past the days
of sniffing out our
kinship bonds
but narrow our gazes at those
who look, or speak.
believe, or love differently.

It is getting better
at least for some
but the fight is constant
as it has been
for thousands of years.
To overcome ourselves
transcend our
ancient programming;
Comment out our
archaic, bug-ridden code,
Re-write ourselves.

Save ourselves.

By John Kaprielian

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PRAYER LIST (AS OF FEBRUARY, 2016)

We pray for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem; the women and orphans of the Kwithu (*KWEE-too*) Feeding Center in Malawi; for all who are in seminary, including Christian and Paul; for the rector search committee; for the Community Center of Northern Westchester; and for Somers Boy Scout Troop 376. We pray for all who serve in the armed forces, especially Noah, Brendan, and Nicholas; and we pray for Linda, Arja, Hannah, Jessie, Celeste, Doris, Norman, Tabitha, Eric, Max, Katherine, Mike, Luke, Linc, Betsy, Luis, Al, Stephanie, Lois, Maureen, Jeff, Connie, Lee, & Herb. We pray for all the departed, especially George, Ian & Michael, and for all who mourn.

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COMPLETE LIST OF COMING EVENTS

MARCH, APRIL and MAY

- March 17, Thursday – VESTRY MEETING 7:30pm
- March 19-20, Saturday/Sunday – Confirmation Class & Youth Group Overnight
- March 20, Sunday – Palm Sunday
- March 21, Monday - Evening Prayer 6:30pm
- March 22, Tuesday – Evening Prayer 6:30pm
- March 23, Wednesday – Evening Prayer 6:30pm
- March 24, Thursday – Maundy Thursday & Mediterranean 6:30pm
- March 25, Friday – Good Friday & Soup 6:30pm
- March 26, Saturday – Easter Vigil and Pizza 6:30pm
- March 27, Sunday – Easter Day – Easter Egg Hunt and Festive Coffee Hour Following 10am Service
- April 3, Sunday – Confirmation Class
- April 4, Monday – Annunciation Mass (6pm) & Stews/Chowder Dinner to Follow
- April 21, Thursday – VESTRY MEETING 7:30pm
- May 5, Thursday – Ascension Day Sung Mass (6pm) and Steak Dinner (7pm)
- May 8, Sunday – Mother’s Day and Confirmation Class
- May 15, Sunday – Pentecost and Family Eucharist Celebration (10am Service)
- May 15, Sunday – Arts Fundraiser – Carmel Movie Theater 3:30pm?
- May 19, Thursday – VESTRY MEETING 7:30pm

Christmas Eve at Good Shepherd



Table Eucharist

