



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham April 7, 2021

Reflections



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Good Shepherd Friends,

May God's blessings of hope and peace be made known to you as we continue to celebrate Easter throughout Easter season. Even during the pandemic, there is much to be hopeful about. The days are getting longer, The air is feeling warmer. Crocuses, daffodils and tulips are blooming. The birds are singing beautifully. Baseball season has begun, with fans in attendance! People are getting vaccinated at a much quicker rate. Yes, there is much to be hopeful about.

If we remaining vigilant with masks wearing, maintaining social distancing, not gathering in large numbers and getting the vaccine when we are eligible; things will continue to improve with the pandemic. This will mean we will be able to begin the process of reopening our church building in May, as is being planned. Look for our Good Shepherd Church Reopening Plan, which will be sent to you later this week.

By the way, I received my first dose of the Pfizer vaccine on March 27, with just some very minor soreness at the injection site (which lasted one day). I am scheduled to receive my second dose of the vaccine on April 17. I will be fully vaccinated on May 1. Please plan to receive the vaccine when you are eligible, as we are all in this together.

Easter Blessing to you all!

Peace,

Pastor Dan

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. On Sunday, April 18, ***Bishop Gayle Harris will be making a visitation*** to Good Shepherd. See below for more information about her visit.
2. Our ***Good Shepherd Church Reopening Plan*** is set to begin on May 2. More information will be emailed to you later this week.
3. If you have parish information to pass on to the Good Shepherd community in our weekly newsletter ("Along The Way"), please submit the information to our office manager Cathi Maurice or to Pastor Dan.

Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

Easter Flower Donations - Thank You

Thank you to all who made donations which allowed us to purchase flowers and prepare the church for the celebration of Easter. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

An Easter Preparation Thank You

Thanks to all those who helped to make our Holy Week and Easter celebrations so wonderful. Thank you to Diane Walsh and Maurice Parkonen who helped prepare the church for the Easter Service. Thank you to Jeane Wallace, Jon Andrews and Leslie Bernier for your music ministry. Thank you to Katie Bernier for your work with the camera, so parishioners could participate in the Services. Your dedication and commitment to our Good Shepherd community are very much appreciated! Easter Blessings! **Pastor**

Dan

Church Reopening Plan

The process for us to gradually reopen our church to in-person worship will begin on May 2. **More information about our reopening process will be revealed later this week.** Of course, our progression through the reopening process will be based on the spread of the virus in our greater Wareham area. Safety will always be a priority in our re-opening process. Please continue to be patient and stay vigilant in preventing the spread of the virus. Please continue to wear face masks, maintain social distancing, not gather in large numbers, and get the vaccine when you are eligible. Peace, Pastor Dan

Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, April 8, beginning at 6:00PM. Anyone who would like to submit possible agenda items for consideration can do so through Pastor Dan or through our Senior Warden Chuck McCullough by April 1 (one week before the meeting).

Welcome Bishop Gayle Harris

On Sunday, April 18, we will welcome Bishop Gayle Harris who will be making a visit to Good Shepherd. One of our Bishops generally visits each parish in the course of about 3 years. The visit will consist of Bishop Gayle presiding over and preaching at our 10am Facebook Live Sunday Service. Following the Service (beginning at 11:15) Bishop Gayle will meet with church members for a virtual "Coffee Hour" through the Zoom online platform (all are invited and encourage to participate); at the end of the coffee hour, Vestry members will stay on the Zoom session and meet with Bishop Gayle. The Zoom Link will be sent to you the day before the Bishop's visit (April 17). Please mark your calendars for this wonderful opportunity to be with one of our Bishops!

Discretionary Fund Donations

Sunday, April 18, is the third Sunday of the month. Although donations can be made at any time during the month, on the third Sunday of the month parishioners are invited to contribute to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, as they are able. It is from the discretionary fund that Pastor Dan assists those in need. You may make contributions to the discretionary fund by mailing them to the parish office (Rev. Dan Bernier, Church of the Good Shepherd, PO Box 719, Wareham MA 02571). Please consider contributing to the discretionary fund. Checks should be made out to "Church of the Good Shepherd – Clergy Discretionary Fund." Thank you to those who have made contributions in the past!

Pastor Dan Will Be on Vacation

I will be taking some vacation time the week of April 19–27. There will be no Facebook Live Service on April 25. If you have some church related business which cannot wait until my return, please contact Chuck McCullough (our Senior Warden) and he will assist you. **Pastor Dan**

There Will Be No Facebook Live Service on April 25

Pastor Dan and the music ministry team will be taking a rest on Sunday, April 25, so there will be no Facebook Live Service on that Sunday. Facebook Live Services will continue on May 2.

Pledges and Other Contributions

Thank you to those who have been mailing in pledge payments and donations to the church. It is very much needed and appreciated, as our bills still need to be paid. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we are missing some of our past sources of revenue.

Good Shepherd's Table

We are continuing our ministry to feed the hungry through Shepherd's Table by providing takeout meals from 3:30-4:30pm on Thursdays.

No Meetings in the Church Building

Until further notice there are no meetings being held in the church building. This includes support group meetings as well as church meetings.

Parish Office

The parish office is not open for drop-in parish business. If you need to contact the church (or Cathi Maurice our church office manager), please either call (508-295-2840) or email (goodshepherdwareham@gmail.com) the church.

Contacting Pastor Dan

Though I am at the church a few times during the week, I am working mostly from home. You can contact me by email (pastor.dan.bernier@gmail.com), by calling the church number (508-295-2840) and leaving a message, or if it is an urgent matter by texting or calling me through my cell phone (603-953-3659).

Please "Like" us on Facebook

Please like us on Facebook ("Church of the Good Shepherd Wareham") so we can get the word out about what is happening in our parish community, especially about our Facebook Live Services.



April 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service	7 PM Good Friday Service	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Easter Sunday <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live		3-5 PM Food Pantry		4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 6 PM Vestry Meeting		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
The 2nd Sunday of Easter <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
The 3rd Sunday of Easter <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live Bishop's Visitation				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
The 4th Sunday of Easter <hr/> No Services Today				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		