



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham April 28, 2021



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Good Shepherd Friends,

This coming Sunday we will hear the passage from John's Gospel where Jesus says:

"Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches."

Do you find this to be true in your life? I do. The more connected I am with the teachings and life example of Jesus, in the movement of the Holy Spirit, the more meaningful my life is and the more fruit I bear. The opposite is of course true as well. Thus the importance of staying attached to Jesus the true vine, and to God, our true life source.

The temptation can be to find another vine, what appears to be another "life source," and attach ourselves to it. What have been the other vines in your life? What or who have you looked to to give you life. I don't think we consciously seek out another life source, but rather they seek us out; promising us happiness, success, security. And all they ask in return is that we put all our trust and hope in them. But they will only fail us in the end, leaving us separated from our true life source.

Jesus taught us that there is only one true life source, and that is God. And for us Christians, Jesus is the true vine that keeps us connected to our true life source. Let us abide in Jesus. Let us stay close to Jesus and allow him to show us the way to the fullness of life in God.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. 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

Church Reopening Process to Begin

Look for an announcement from me tomorrow (Thursday) concerning our reopening schedule for in-person worship Services. Meanwhile, please continue to be 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***

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

On the first Sunday of the month we recognize, with a special blessing at our Sunday Services, those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries during that month. On Sunday, May 2, we will celebrate with those who have May birthdays and anniversaries.

Good Shepherd Food Pantry

The Food Pantry is open on the first Tuesday of the month from 3-5 pm. The Food Pantry will next be open on May 4. Food donation to the Food Pantry can be dropped off on Thursday afternoons from 2:00-4:00. ***We are looking specifically for cereal and for toilet paper, bars of soap (full size), toothpaste, and dishwashing liquid.***

Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, May 13, 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 May 6 (one week before the meeting).

Sunday Flower Donations

Altar flowers are purchased for the church monthly, for the first Sunday of the month, and remain in the church for the month (we keep them in a refrigerator during the week). ***The new cost to the church (charged by the new florist) for altar flowers is now \$70 for the two arrangements.*** You can pay the whole amount and your exclusive intention will be remembered during the Sunday Services for the first two weeks of the month, or you can share the cost (\$35 from each donor) and the intentions of both donors will be remembered during the Sunday Services for the first two weeks of the month. The [Sunday Flower Donation Forms](#) can be found on the Good Shepherd Website. Please call the parish office to reserve the month you wish to donate flowers. Your check for \$35 or \$70 should be made out to "Church of the Good Shepherd." Mail the Sunday Flower Donation Form (found on the church website) with your check to: The Church of the Good Shepherd, P.O. Box 719, Wareham, MA. 02571. *The months of March, April, and December are not available; due to it being Lent (no flowers), Easter (we already have Easter flowers), and Advent/Christmas (no flowers & Christmas flowers).*

No Walk for Hunger

There will not be a Walk for Hunger held in Wareham this year due to the pandemic. Normally the Walk for Hunger, which raises money for Project Bread and local feeding programs (like the Good Shepherd Food Pantry), is held on the first Sunday of May. You are welcome to make a donation to Project Bread directly this year (<https://www.projectbread.org>), in support of their efforts to feed the hungry in Massachusetts.

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, and it helps us maintain our Good Shepherd ministries.

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 meeting 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..

May 2021



**CHURCH OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
The 5th Sunday of Easter <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live		3-5 PM Food Pantry		4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
The 6th Sunday of Easter <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 6 PM Vestry Meeting		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
The 7th Sunday of Easter <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Pentecost Sunday <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
30	31					
The 1st Sunday after Pentecost <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live						