



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham September 1, 2021



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Good Shepherd Friends,

Last Sunday, I spoke of the importance of religion in my life, as a guide and support to me along my faith journey. Yet, religion can sometimes get in the way, or even become an obstacle, to living our faith. There was a time when I realized that my faith was calling me to accept and welcome fully into the church all peoples, regardless of their gender or sexual orientation. I also realized that my faith was calling me as a priest to be married and have a family. For these reasons and others, I had to leave the church I had grown up in and been a priest in for many years, in order to follow my faith and minister as I believed God was now calling me to minister. That is how I found the Episcopal Church. In the Episcopal Church I have found an ever more inclusive and welcoming faith community, which supports me as I strive to live the commandment of love.

Have there been times in your life when religion has gotten in the way of your living your faith and following Jesus and his commandment of love? Let's keep in mind that the commandment of love should be our guide in all we do, as individuals and as church. Whenever there is a church teaching that seems to go against the commandment of love, we should question it; it is our duty to question it.

Love one another as I have loved you. By this they will know that you are my disciples, it is by the love you have for one another.

Peace,
Pastor Dan

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. On Sunday we will recognize, with a special blessing at our Sunday Services, those who are celebrating their *birthdays and anniversaries* during the month of September.
2. 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

Donating to Help Neighbors in Need Near and Far

When you are looking for ways to give financially to help those who are suffering from natural disasters; such as the earthquake in Haiti, the wildfires out west, and the recent hurricanes; consider donating to Episcopal Relief and Development (<https://www.episcopalrelief.org>). Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) is the compassionate response of The Episcopal Church to human suffering in the world. Hearing God's call to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being, ERD serves to bring together the generosity of Episcopalians and others with the needs of the world. ERD faithfully administers the funds that it receives from the church and raises from other sources. It provides relief in times of disaster and promotes sustainable development by identifying and addressing the root causes of suffering. ERD cherishes its partnerships within the Anglican Communion, with ecumenical bodies and with others who share a common vision for justice and peace among all people. The mandate of ERD comes from Jesus' words found in Matthew 25: "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food? We saw you thirsty and gave you something to drink? We saw you a stranger and welcomed you? We saw you sick and took care of you? We saw you in prison and visited you? 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'" —Matthew 25: 37-40 (NRSV)

Good Shepherd Guild Meeting

The Good Shepherd Guild will be meeting on Tuesday, September 7th, beginning at 6pm on the third floor of the church building. Please use the church office entrance and go up the two flights of stairs to the third floor. Face masks are required. The Good Shepherd Guild is a social group in the church that also raises money for the church through its rummage sales and its Christmas fair.

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, September 5, we will celebrate with those who have September birthdays and anniversaries.

A Message From Rosanne Leverone

Dear Church Family: In January of this year, I relocated to Ponte Vedra, FL, to be closer to my son and his family. It was the most difficult decision of my life but I trust God has led me in a new direction. I miss you all and want to let you know I keep you in my daily prayers. I wish I could have said my farewells to you in person but, with the Covid restrictions, I was unable to do so. My ties to Good Shepherd are strong and deep and will remain that way. I watch the services on FB Live weekly and will remain as the Clerk of the Vestry for this year. As of 9/17/2021, my new address will be: 41 Wheatfield Avenue, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081. I will use my son's address until that time. I will visit Wareham and my church family as often as possible. I hope you all are well and stay safe. Sending my blessings to each of you. Much love, Rosanne Leverone

The Next Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, September 9, beginning at 6:00PM. If you would like to submit possible agenda items for consideration, you can do so through Pastor Dan or through Senior Warden Chuck McCullough by September 2.

Monthly Liturgical Ministry Schedule

In addition to the liturgical ministry schedule being emailed to liturgical ministers each month, the liturgical ministry schedule can now be found on the Good Shepherd website under "Sunday Services Information."

Good Shepherd's Guild Fall Rummage Sale – September 25

Annual Good Shepherd Guild Fall Rummage Sale will be Saturday, September 25 from 9am to 1pm. We are looking for clean clothes and clean white elephant items. We do not take items that are broken or otherwise unsellable. We are not taking computers, tvs, microwaves and large framed pictures. We are also looking for volunteers to help set up on Thursday/Friday, work the rummage sale on Saturday, and/or to help clean up at the end of the rummage sale on Saturday. Unfortunately, in recent years the Guild has lost quite a few members due to moving and passing away. We would appreciate any help you can give us. You can drop off items on Friday from 10am to 5pm. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Karen Clark 508-763-5129. ***Facemasks will be required for all inside the building, including both volunteers and customers.***

Volunteers Needed

The Good Shepherd Guild is looking for volunteers to help with their September 25 rummage sale. They are looking for help with setting up (Thursday and Friday), working the rummage sale and cleaning up. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Karen Clark 508-763-5129.

Also, we are looking for volunteers to help with weeding the gardens around the church. Please contact Pastor Dan or the parish office (508-295-2840) if you would be willing to help. Thank you.

Facemasks Required

Until further notice all participants of our Sunday Services and all other meetings held in the church building are required to wear facemasks, regardless of their vaccination status. All who visit the parish office during office hours are also required to wear facemasks. This decision is based on the rising number of COVID-19 cases in our area among both vaccinated and unvaccinated people, due to the highly infectious Delta Variant of COVID-19. Please be in touch with me if you have any questions regarding this decision. Meanwhile, please keep those who are suffering with COVID-19 around the world and their loved ones in your prayers. ***Pastor Dan***

Good Shepherd's Table

Good Shepherd's Table serves a free take-out meal every Thursday afternoon from 3:30-5:00pm. All are welcome.

Turning Point is Looking For Volunteers

Turning Point, which is a day resource center for persons who are homeless or have issues of impending homelessness, is looking for volunteers. Volunteer Responsibilities include – commit to at least one three hour shift at least one day each week (9am to noon); honor the Turning Point Confidentiality Agreement; answering phones and scheduling appointments; provide referrals to other agencies; offer emergency food, toiletries, and clothing; conduct client intake interviews; maintain client files; attend team meetings (every 6 weeks); demonstrate client advocacy. Required Skills – Team player; integrity, compassion and the ability to work with a diverse population; welcoming interpersonal skills; active listening skills; basic computer skills. Instruction and training provided. Turning point is also looking to expand its list of volunteers who may be available to provide occasional support of turning point programs. Tasks may include the pick-up and delivery of goods and supplies; volunteer assistance to fulfill Turning Point community outreach programs such as our Holiday Program; time and talent in support of our various fund raising initiatives. Please contact Debra Ito (Turning Point Director) at 508-291-0535 or www.turningpointwareham.org for additional information regarding these volunteer opportunities.

Sunday Flower Donations

Please consider donating for the purchase of altar flowers for our Sunday Services in memory of deceased loved ones or in thanksgiving of blessings in your life. More information about how this works can be found on the Sunday Flower Donation Forms which are located in the back of the church and on the Good Shepherd Website. Please call the parish office (508-295-2840) to determine which upcoming dates are available.

Mid-Week Eucharist

On Wednesdays at Noon, there is a celebration of the Eucharist in the church, which is open to all. This is an opportunity to gather for prayer and reflection; and be reminded of God's presence between Sundays. For those on your lunch break, the celebration of the Mid-Week Eucharist is approximately 20 minutes.

Contacting Pastor Dan

You can contact Pastor 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).

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.

New Food Pantry Schedule

The Food Pantry is now open every Thursday from 2-5pm. People can pick up food from the Food Pantry one time each month.

Good Shepherd Food Pantry Wish List

We are looking specifically for cereal, toilet paper (4 packs), and individually packaged rolls of paper towels. Donation to the Food Pantry can be dropped off on Thursday afternoons from 2:00-4:00.

Pastoral Care

If you would like yourself or someone else placed on the Good Shepherd prayer list, please contact Pat Probert (508-291-3364) or myself. The Good Shepherd prayer group prays daily for those on the prayer list. If you need or would like a pastoral visit from the priest, please let me know. My contact information can be found below and is also on the back of the weekly Sunday Service Booklet. The only way I know that you need a pastoral visit is if you let me know. You might want to keep my contact information (cell # 603-953-3659 for emergencies) somewhere handy, so you know where to find it if the need arises. *Pastor Dan*

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.

September



**CHURCH OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			12Noon Mid-Week Eucharist	3:30 - 5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Takeout meals		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
The 15th Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM Sunday Service 10 AM Sunday Service including Facebook Live	6:00 PM Good Shepherd's Guild Crafts	6:00 PM Good Shepherd's Guild meeting	12Noon Mid-Week Eucharist	3:30 - 5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Takeout meals 6 PM Vestry Mtg.		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
The 16th Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM Sunday Service 10 AM Sunday Service including Facebook Live	6:00 PM Good Shepherd's Guild Crafts		12Noon Mid-Week Eucharist	3:30 - 5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Takeout meals		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
The 17th Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM Sunday Service 10 AM Sunday Service including Facebook Live	6:00 PM Good Shepherd's Guild Crafts		12Noon Mid-Week Eucharist	3:30 - 5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Takeout meals		9AM - 1 PM Good Shepherd Guld Rummage Sale
26	27	28	29	30		
The 18th Sunday after Pentecost 8 AM Sunday Service 10 AM Sunday Service including Facebook Live	6:00 PM Good Shepherd's Guild Crafts		12Noon Mid-Week Eucharist	3:30 - 5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Takeout meals		