



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham August 28, 2020

Reflections


*From the
Pastor*



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Friends of The Good Shepherd,

Racism exists in our country. It has been woven into the very fabric of our society since the foundation of our country. People have been discriminated against and considered “less than” simply because of the color of their skin. Racism has kept our country from realizing its ideals of freedom, liberty, and justice for all. And most importantly, racism is not part of God’s plan for how we are to live together, for we are all brothers and sister of the family of God. Jesus taught us to witness God’s love to all we encounter, and the color of one’s skin is not an exception to this teaching.

As followers of Jesus, it is important that we do the personal and communal work that is necessary to free ourselves from the evils of racism. To this end, you are encouraged to participate in the life changing on-line program called “Liberating Ourselves from Racism” (LOFR).

LOFR, which begins on September 24, is a 12 session program which includes four modules, with three sessions in each module. The sessions will be held on Thursday evenings (from 6:30-8:00pm) over a five month period. The sessions will be lead by two people from the Mission Institute of our Diocese.

The reduced cost per participant is \$150 (\$75 due before the first module begins and \$75 due before the third module begins), the remaining \$100 of the full \$250 cost will be paid for through a Diocesan grant held by Good Shepherd for this work. If you are facing financial challenges at this time, please let Pastor Dan know. Additional grant money is being held for those facing financial challenges.

Click the button below for details concerning the LOFR program, including a summary of each module and the dates for each of the sessions. Together, let us work to liberate ourselves and the world around us from the evils of racism.

Please let Pastor Dan know (pastor.dan.bernier@gmail.com) by September 17 if you will be participating in this important educational opportunity.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

1. Limited **in-person 8am Sunday Services** will begin Sunday, September 13, by reservation only. See below for more details.

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

Liberating Ourselves From Racism - An Educational Opportunity

As followers of Jesus, it is important that we do the personal and communal work that is necessary to free ourselves from the evils of racism. To this end, you are encouraged to participate in the life changing on-line program called "Liberating Ourselves from Racism" (LOFR). LOFR, which begins on September 24, is a 12 session program which includes four modules, with three sessions in each module. The sessions will be held on Thursday evenings (from 6:30-8:00pm) over a five month period. The sessions will be lead by two people from the Mission Institute of our Diocese.

Although the full cost per participant is \$250, each participant is asked to pay \$150 (\$75 due before the first module begins and \$75 due before the third module begins), the remaining \$100 of the full \$250 cost will be paid for through a Diocesan grant held by Good Shepherd for this work. If you are facing financial challenges at this time, please let Pastor Dan know. Additional grant money is being held for those facing financial challenges.

Please let Pastor Dan know by September 17 if you will be participating in this important educational opportunity, or if you have questions about the LOFR program. Together, let us work to liberate ourselves and the world around us from the evils of racism.

Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, September 10, 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 September 3 (one week before the meeting).

Good Shepherd Music Ministry Concert - Thank You

Thank you Music Ministry Team (Jeane, Jon, Leslie) plus Katie for the wonderful concert last Saturday evening. It lifted our spirits and filled us with God's love and peace. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

Limited In-Person Worship Set to Begin Soon

Beginning Sunday, September 13, Good Shepherd will begin a limited in-person Worship Service on Sunday mornings beginning at 8am. The Service will last approximately 30 minutes, and for the time being will not include music or communion. Our main Sunday Service will continue to be the 10am Facebook Live Service, which will remain online only. Attendance at the 8am in-person Service will be by reservation only so we can control the number of people who attend the Service (limited to 24). To request a reservation, please email Pastor Dan (pastor.dan.bernier@gmail.com) by the Wednesday before the Sunday you would like to attend, and he will confirm your reservation for a specific date. Walk-ins will not be permitted. More details concerning the guidelines for the in-person 8am Sunday Service can be found on the Good Shepherd website (www.goodshepherdwareham.org), under "Sunday Services Information." Please review the guidelines for the in-person Service before requesting a reservation. The 8am Service will continue unless there is a rise in COVID-19 cases in our greater Wareham area and in our State.

Online Worship Continues

Every Sunday we have our 10am Sunday Facebook Live Services. This is our main Sunday Service, and participation is only online at this time. At the conclusion of the live Service, a link of the recorded Service is emailed to those on our parish email list. Please continue to let others know about our Facebook Live Services.

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. If you need to contact Pastor Dan, the best way to reach him is to email him (pastor.dan.bernier@gmail.com) or if it is an urgent matter to text or call him (603-953-3659).

Our Summer Fairless Fair Fundraiser

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Summer Fairless Fair fundraiser. As of August 30, we have received \$6,740, which is over half of our projected loss of income due to the pandemic. If you have not already contributed, please do so as you are able. All donations will be greatly appreciated. Make checks payable to "Church of the Good Shepherd" with the notation: "Fairless Fair." Thank you.

"Forward Day by Day" Booklets

The "Forward Day by Day" daily devotional booklets for August - October are available at the church. If you would like a copy, please let Pastor Dan know and one will be mailed to you. There are a limited number, which will be mailed on a first come first served basis.

Pledges and Other Contributions

Thank you to those who have been mailing in pledge payments and donations to the church. It is very much appreciated, as our bills still need to be paid and our funds are running low. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, some of our budgeted sources of revenue will not be realized this year including some planned fundraising events and most of the rental fees from outside groups that use our church building.

Sunday Flower Donations

Please consider donating for Sunday Flowers in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for blessing in your life. You may do so by sending a message to Pastor Dan that includes the Sunday you wish to donate towards the purchase of flowers and the intention for the flowers. The amount we are charged by the florist for the two arrangements of flowers is \$35. Please make a check out to The Church of the Good Shepherd, with a notation of "Altar Flowers" and mail it to the church. If you are unable to pay the \$35 offering, please give as much as you are able. Your thanksgiving/memorial will be included in the Sunday Prayers of the People.

Good Shepherd's Table

We are continuing our ministry to feed the hungry through Shepherd's Table by providing takeout meals from 4-5pm on Thursdays.

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 September 1. Food donation to the Food Pantry can be dropped off on Thursday afternoons from 2:00-5:00. We are looking specifically for cereal and for liquid dish soap and laundry detergent (which can be found at the dollar store). Please only shop for the pantry while you are shopping for yourself. Don't make an extra trip to the store.

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.

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) or by calling the church number (508-295-2840). I am monitoring the church phone, but email is the quickest way to contact me. You can also use my cell phone, especially with urgent matters.

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 and Pastor Dan's daily "Thought for Today."



September 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
		3-5 PM Food Pantry		4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
The 18th Sunday after Pentecost <hr/> 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals 6 PM Vestry Meeting		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
The 19th Sunday after Pentecost <hr/> 8 AM In-Person Service By Reservation Only 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
The 20th Sunday after Pentecost <hr/> 8 AM In-Person Service By Reservation Only 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live				4-5 PM Good Shepherd's Table Take-out Meals		
27	28	29	30			
The 21st Sunday after Pentecost <hr/> 8 AM In-Person Service By Reservation Only 10 AM Sunday Service - Facebook Live						