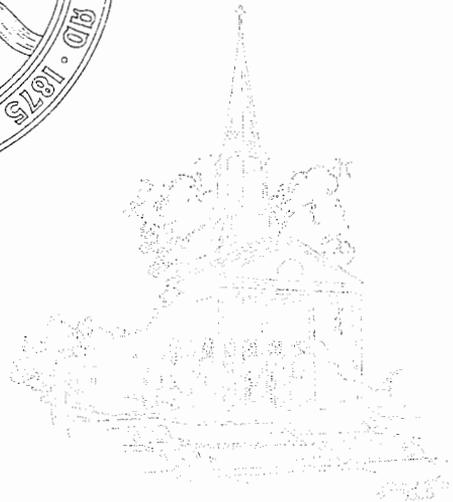
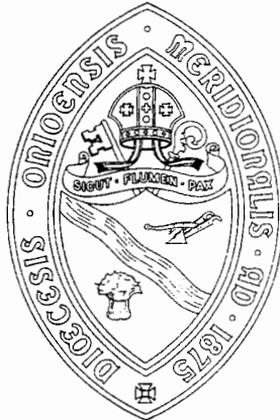


Good News

The Episcopal Church of The Good Shepherd

October

2007



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Building and Serving Christ in Cleveland

Stewardship: A Season of Renewal

I am writing to you, beloved, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Grace to you and peace in his Name!

This month, we begin a season of financial stewardship. This is also a season of renewal in God's mission. We all will receive a 2008 pledge card and two letters making an appeal for giving, one from me and one from our stewardship co-chairs, Geoff Buckley and Julie Nehls. In the next several weeks, lay witnesses will speak to you about the importance of giving and the ministries it makes possible, I will preach about Christian stewardship, and our senior warden will make an appeal. Every year is crucial, but this year especially so. I believe that God has set three missionary imperatives before us as we build stronger foundations for another half-century of ministry in this location.

First and foremost, I am convinced that God is calling Good Shepherd to devote a greater percentage of our parish budget to mission and ministry. We need to discern where God would have us go, fund ministries that move us in this direction, and raise up lay leadership to make it happen. In the coming year, we will continue to expand our ministries of Christian formation, evangelism, and outreach. We will also respond to the two parish listening sessions held last spring through efforts to renew our campus ministry, strengthen our outstanding music program, and create more opportunities for fellowship. I'll have more to say about each of these ministries in my letter to the parish.

Second, I am convinced that God is calling us to take better care of our physical plant. The Nehls Hall renovation shows what we can do when we give and work together. Thanks again to all who contributed so generously. This beautiful space will make an enormous difference to our ministries. Our building has many other needs. As I did last year, I intend to advocate a 50% increase in the maintenance budget, so that we can continue to strengthen our base for mission.

Third, I am convinced that God is calling us to live within our means. Last year, I insisted that any withdrawals from the endowment above a 5% sustainable rate be shown as a "deficit withdrawal," because I want it to be clear what we are doing when we tap into the principal. There are times when the vestry should adopt a deficit budget, but this should be the exception and should never be done lightly. The endowment is a gift from past generations. Our task as stewards of their generosity is to be vigilant with its asset for ministry. We intend to eliminate the deficit withdrawal quickly. With God's help, we will strengthen our parish.

Shortly after I came to Good Shepherd, the Rev. Canon Vicki Zust told me that being a new rector is “not a sprint, but a marathon.” She’s right. We are pointed in the right direction, but we have only begun to run the race together. There are many signs of a great renewal in mission all around us. Attendance is up, the Sunday school is growing, and I sense a growing hopefulness. If we respond faithfully to God’s call, our ministry together will continue to flourish and grow.

To rise to meet these challenges, I believe that Good Shepherd will need at least \$160,000 in pledges this year. This represents about a 15% increase from last year’s giving. With a combination of new pledges and increased pledges, this is well within our reach. But I am conscious that some of us have already stretched ourselves thin. Tracey and I have committed to increasing our pledge, and I encourage us all to do the same as we are able. I want to assure you that there are other ways, equally valuable to God, to contribute to our mission and ministry. But most of us can afford to give generously, and we should.

After its October meeting, the vestry will present a “challenge budget” to the parish, which will show the direction we intend to go with our 2008 financial statement of mission. In addition to strong support for existing ministries, we hope to reduce the size of our deficit, to make a more substantial investment in our church building, and to expand our commitments to music, campus ministry, and outreach.

One of the things that has been hardest for me to get used to about being your rector is the need to ask for money. As I have prayed for our parish and its future, I have come to a place of deep peace about this. I’m asking you without apology, because I believe giving is good for us, and I have found it to be a source of joy in my own life. Ultimately, we give because of Jesus, who gave himself for us, who sends us in mission, and whose Gospel is changing our lives.

So please read the stewardship materials when they come, listen to the talks on Sundays, and pray about what you might give for 2008. Then please fill out a pledge card. Be as generous as you can and know that your giving makes a difference for God.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill".

The Rev. R. William Carroll, Rector

Outreach Committee Meeting

**Sunday, November 18th
after the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist**

The agenda includes discussion of where we want to go with programs, both locally and internationally. Come help us plan for the future of outreach and social justice ministries at Good Shepherd.

Interfaith Sit for Peace October 2007

Every Day in October
8-8:30 a.m. / 5:30 – 6 p.m.

UCM, 18 N. College St.

What: Daily silent sitting meditation to promote peace

When: 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Where: UCM: Center for Spiritual Growth and Social Justice,
18 N. College St.

*People of all traditions or no tradition
coming together in peace to make peace to be peace*

Major Feasts Eucharists

The Eucharist will be celebrated at 5:30 p.m. in the Nave
on the following dates:

Thursday, October 18th: St. Luke the Evangelist

Tuesday, October 23rd: St. James of Jerusalem

Monday, October 29th: St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles

Vestry Highlights September 20th, 2007

Fr. Carroll reported that he had approached Geoff Buckley and Julie Nehls about being stewardship co-chairs. The vestry enthusiastically endorsed Geoff and Julie for this role. He also reported about the overall structure of this year's campaign (see his article in this newsletter).

Fr. Carroll reported that the Nehls Hall renovations were complete and that there was approximately a \$2000 surplus after the work on the floors, curtains, lights, and walls was complete. The vestry voted to allocate the surplus funds for furniture and to entrust the design committee for the renovations with completing the work.

Fr. Carroll reported about ongoing trouble with frognet, and the vestry voted to empower the executive committee to take action in choosing a new internet service provider for the office.

Notes from the Organ Bench

Preparations are beginning for the Advent Festival of Lessons and Music to be held on Sunday, December 2nd at 4:00 p.m. Put it on your calendar now and be sure to invite your friends. Extra singers are always welcome. If you would like to be part of the choir for this occasion please contact Marsha Reilly – 592-2596 or mareilly1@columbus.rr.com

We are also trying to compile a listing of those parishioners who play instruments and who would feel comfortable participating in the liturgy with their instrument either in a group or solo situation. Let Marsha know of your interest and approximate level of ability. If you are interested in learning more about handbell ringing please let us know that as well.

*Marsha Reilly
Music Director*

NAMI Conference – “Mental Illness: Recovery and Hope”

MORNING EVENTS

8:00-8:30 AM: Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30-8:45 AM: Introductory Remarks, George Weigly, CEO, Tri County Mental Health and Counseling Services, Athens

8:45-9:45 First Keynote: Steve Miller, Member of the Executive Committee of the Consumer's Council of NAMI National, "Surviving Schizophrenia and Rebuilding One's Life"

9:45-10:00 AM: Break

10:00-11:00 AM: Darby Penney, Powerpoint: "The Lives They left Behind: Suitcases from a State Hospital Attic"

11:00-11:45: AM: "Employment and Benefits: We Can Work it Out", John Hartman of COVA

11:45-12:15: Who We Are, (A round robin of 20-second self introductions of all present.) Pete Wuscher, Coordinator

AFTERNOON EVENTS

12:15-12:45 PM: Box Lunch

12:45-1:00 PM: Video on the local transformation project

1:00-1:20 PM "The Mental Health Levy", Earl Cecil, CEO, 317 Board

1:20-2:15 PM: Second Keynote: Maureen Boals, "Surviving Bipolar Disorder and Reentering the Work Force"

2:15-2:30 PM: Break

2:30-3:30: PM: Panel on Groups

The Gathering Place, Scott Kreps

Consumer Support Groups, Pete Wuscher

NAMI Athens, Adrienne Nagy

The Athens Photographic Project, Nate Thomson

3:30-3:45 PM: Closing Remarks, Doug DeVoe, Ohio Advocates for Mental Health

The conference features the wisdom of prominent folks in recovery from mental illness. Free for consumers, students and faculty. Minimal charge for others. Breakfast, lunch and snacks included. We offer CEUs.

For more go to namiathensohio.org, click on projects, then the conference.

Please register now so we'll have an idea of numbers. The website has a registration form. Technically the deadline for registration is the 6th, but we'll accept walk-ins. A great event! Please come and take advantage of it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A MEETING TO DISCUSS OUR YOUTH MINISTRY will be held on Sunday, October 28th, after the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist in Hobson Lounge. This meeting is for parents. The youth will also be involved in planning for the future at other times.

A PUBLIC FORUM to discuss our worship will be held on Wednesday, November 14th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Nave. This will be a time to reflect on how things are going as well as how we may best provide for those who wish to kneel to receive communion. In the meantime, please feel free to convey suggestions or concerns directly to Fr. Carroll. We are entering into a period of transition, and our worship space is going to be reconfigured around our new altar.

PARKING SPACES FOR RENT: We have several open parking spaces in our lot, which are available for rent during the week. If you or someone you know would like to rent a spot from us, please call the parish office (593-6877). In order to remain competitive, we have recently reduced our rates to \$50/month or \$140/quarter. All the money from parking space rentals helps support the mission and ministry of Good Shepherd. Remind interested people that we are in a prime location, right near the library.

OPEN DATES FOR ALTAR FLOWERS are November 18th and December 2nd & 23rd. If you would like to reserve one of the above dates, please call the parish office at 593-6877.

October Events at Good Shepherd

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|-----------|---|
| | 1 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting | 2 7:30 pm – Alanon 8 pm – AA | 3 11 am – Staff Meeting noon – Free Lunch 1 pm – Noonday Prayers 5:30 pm – MW 7 pm – CR | 4 7:30 pm – Alanon | 5 | 6 TBA – Youth Group Coal Tour – Creation Justice Activity |
| 7 8 am – HE I 9 am – Chr Ed 10:30 am – HE II 1 pm – Animal Blessing 6 pm – Campus Dinner 7 pm – EP | 8 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting | 9 9:30 am – Prayer Shawl @ Zelma’s 7:30 pm – Alanon 8 pm – AA | 10 noon – Free Lunch 1 pm – Noonday Prayers 5:30 pm – MW 7 pm – CR | 11 7:30 pm – Alanon | 12 | 13 |
| 14 8 am – HE I 9 am – Chr Ed 10:30 am – HE II 2 pm – LI 2 pm – Youth Group – Crop Walk 6 pm – Campus Dinner 7 pm – EP | 15 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting | 16 7:30 pm – Alanon 8 pm – AA | 17 noon – Free Lunch 1 pm – Noonday Prayers 5:30 pm – MW 7 pm – CR | 18 5:30 pm – HE II 7 pm – Vestry 7:30 pm – Alanon | 19 | 20 |
| 21 8 am – HE I 9 am – Chr Ed 10:30 am – HE II noon – Youth Group 6 pm – Campus Dinner 7 pm – EP | 22 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting | 23 9:30 am – Prayer Shawl @ TBA 5:30 pm – HE II 7:30 pm – Alanon 8 pm – AA | 24 noon – Free Lunch 1 pm – Noonday Prayers 5:30 pm – MW 7 pm – CR | 25 7:30 pm – Alanon | 26 | 27 |
| 28 8 am – HE I 9 am – Chr Ed 10:30 am – HE II 2 pm – LI 6 pm – Campus Dinner 7 pm – EP | 29 5:30 pm – HE II 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting | 30 7:30 pm – Alanon 8 pm – AA | 31 noon – Free Lunch 1 pm – Noonday Prayers 5:30 pm – MW 7 pm – CR | | | |

Key Guide:

HE I – Holy Eucharist Rite I
EP – Evening Prayer

HE II – Holy Eucharist Rite II
CR – Choir Rehearsal

MW – Midweek Eucharist
Chr Ed – Christian Education

LI – Lindley Inn Eucharist