
Good SHEPHERD News

The Episcopal Church of The Good Shepherd

September

2008

Inside ...

From the Rector	p 1
News from the Pews	p 3
Outreach.....	p 4



Seeking and Serving Christ in all persons

The August Vestry Meeting: Three Grace-Filled Actions

At its most recent meeting, the vestry endorsed a proposal from Paul Clever about hunger ministry and a diocesan resolution concerning health care. They also affirmed the sense of a proposal from the finance committee about a way forward with our parish finances, leading to a balanced budget by 2014. (More specific decisions about that proposal will be made in the course of the 2009 budget process, which is designed to encourage broader participation by the parish at the front end.) I am grateful for the leadership the vestry has shown on each count. As I said in the meeting, the reason we are concerned about parish finances is so that we can continue to sustain the kinds of ministry we all care about. I remain convinced that money follows (and serves) mission. This month, in lieu of a vestry highlights column, I want to use my own column to share with you about the vestry's most recent meeting and to renew our invitation (made in the March 2008 newsletter) for your collaboration in setting the vestry's agenda.

First, the vestry endorsed a proposal from Paul Clever (who had already made a presentation to the outreach committee) on behalf of the Good Earth Hunger Mission, a ministry which will grow and glean food to support area hunger ministries, including the Athens Food Pantry and our free Wednesday lunch. As a result of this action, donations to the Good Earth Hunger Mission will pass through our church account, giving a tax deduction to those who choose to support this ministry. Paul will also be able to use the parking lot on a couple of mornings each week (not on Wednesdays) as a place for volunteers to gather and carpool out to the fields. He hopes to offer a service of Morning Prayer for those volunteers who are interested. The Good Earth Hunger Mission will also be given the use of the parish kitchen for processing food on an occasional basis. (Subject to the availability of the kitchen and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.)

Second, the vestry endorsed a resolution about justice in health care policy, so that Good Shepherd will be listed as a co-sponsor at our 2008 diocesan convention this November. The full text of the resolution appears in this newsletter on page 8. As I told the vestry, we should not assume that all members of Good Shepherd can adequately meet their own health care needs. The uninsured and underinsured do belong to this parish, and we are certainly in ministry with those who are at the mercy of the current system. This resolution may not include everything we'd like, but it does move us in the direction of universal and more equitable access to healthcare.

Third, the vestry affirmed the sense of a report from the finance committee about a plan to eliminate our deficit in the next five years. The most important thing to report here is that the finance committee did find a way to trim roughly \$15,000 from the budget without eliminating the parish administrator's position. As I told the parish meeting last January, I was unsure about whether there was any other way forward. By God's grace, we have found an alternative. It won't be easy, but it is, I believe, a far better option to keep Glenda Frost, a capable and loyal staff person, who adds much to our mission and ministry.

I give thanks, therefore, for the finance committee, who met several times and led the way to this more hopeful proposal, and for the vestry, who affirmed it. As I mentioned above, the vestry would like to be further into the 2009 budget process, which includes a parish forum on Sunday, October 12, before firming up decisions about the benchmarks, which have implications for the direction of our mission. At this meeting, parishioners will have a chance to comment on the details of a proposed 2009 budget, including the cuts in the finance committee proposal. My hope is that this process will help the vestry to adopt a budget that will reflect parishioners' hopes and dreams for Good Shepherd and the ministry we share.

I would like to remind you that the way to propose items for the vestry agenda is to contact me (593-6877; gsrector@gmail.com) or any other member of the executive committee. Executive committee is comprised of the rector and the four chief lay officers of the congregation, namely Carolyn Murphree (senior warden), Ted Foster (junior warden), Jack Flemming (treasurer), and Anne Braxton (secretary). Contact information for executive committee and the entire vestry is printed at the front of the parish directory and is also available from the parish office (593-6877; chogs@frognet.net). Agenda items about specific program areas may also be placed on the vestry's agenda through the action of parish committees. In some cases, executive committee may choose to refer an item to, say, the outreach committee, which will then bring items requiring action to the vestry meeting. Further, remember that regular meetings of the vestry are at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month (except July), and that these meetings are generally open to any member of the parish.

In Christ,



The Rev. R. William Carroll, Rector

News from the Pews . . .

For some time, I've been aware that some are missing the parish news updates provided by "News from the Pews." Several of you have expressed to me the hope that such a column would nurture the ties that bind us together in Christian fellowship. This is particularly important in a far flung and changing community like Good Shepherd. I have therefore met with Reid Sinclair (who edited "News from the Pews") and asked him what role he would like to play in a revived column. Reid indicated that he is willing to collect information and pass it on, but that he would like two or three others to help him collect information. In the meanwhile, if you have brief news notes about parishioners, their family, or our extended Good Shepherd community, please feel free to share them with Reid or send him an email (593-8174, rbaytop@frogn.net). Stories may be edited, and those filing reports should take care to seek the consent of the person involved in a story before asking that it be included in our newsletter. If you would like to participate more actively in helping Reid to gather information, please contact him or me (593-6877, gsrector@gmail.com). My sense is that this ministry would be fun and quite valuable in helping to build up our parish community.

**The Rev. R. William Carroll,
Rector**

OUTREACH- not only with our lips, but in our

Cardboard City: October 4th – 5th

Cardboard City 2008 is coming up soon! Athens County Habitat for Humanity organizes this event to raise awareness about sub-standard housing in our midst. Event organizers invite us to “Come build your own “home” out of cardboard to raise awareness about poverty housing and to fund construction of a Habitat Home in Athens County. The need to end poverty housing in this county is real. Please help Habitat make decent housing a matter of conscience and action.” The event will begin at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, October 4th, in Morton Parking Lot and end at 7:00 a.m. the next morning. Individuals or teams can register and collect sponsorships for the event. For more information please contact Twig Kaufman or Ilona Carlson.

October 5th Picnic, Bike Ride, Animal Blessing, and more...

Mark down Sunday, October 5th, at 1:00 p.m. on your calendars. We are having a picnic at the Good Earth Hunger Mission main site (Paul and Sarah Clever’s house). The picnic coincides with several other events. The Youth 2 Mission bike ride is a Diocese wide event that raises money for youth mission trips. Last year this event raised \$16,000, and this year organizers are planning bike rides all over the Diocese. Athens will be one location and will hopefully draw people from across the Deanery. The picnic will cap off the ride, but everyone is welcome. The picnic will be right off the bike path at Paul and Sarah’s new house. It will give everyone an opportunity to see the Hunger Mission’s gardens. Also there will be an Animal Blessing and Field Blessing in conjunction with the Feast of St. Francis. Please save the date for this day filled with fun activities. Contact Paul Clever with any questions or if you are interested in helping to put this together.

Paul Clever, Outreach Communication Chair

A reminder that comments and/or suggestions for future Outreach Committee articles are VERY welcome! Send e-mail to Paul Clever pclever2@yahoo.com or call at 594-2425. Also, the Outreach Committee meets every fourth Sunday of odd number months making September 28th our next meeting. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Ways You Can Help with Kairos

As most of you know, Gifford Doxsee is on the very first team to present a Kairos weekend at Hocking Correctional Facility October 2nd – 5th in Nelsonville. Our support is crucial to Gifford and the success of the weekend. More details will be available in the Sunday bulletins.

- 1) First and most important, PRAY-PRAY-PRAY for Gifford, the team, the inmates and the staff.
- 2) Cookies-home baked (or church baked) Gifford's share includes about 50 dozen. This is only 12 people making 4-5 dozen each or fewer if our group baking works well.
- 3) Making placemats -- coloring mats with messages of encouragement and hope add a lot. There will be some examples as well as blank mats available. Posters should bear messages of hope and encouragement as well. More details later.
- 4) \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Funds are needed to purchase the special food prepared for the inmates -- we call them "residents" to show respect. A change from institutional food is a powerful symbol of caring. Notebooks, paper etc. are also needed. Each team member contributes a substantial amount of money just to participate. Check can be made to Kairos of Ohio.

Jan Gault, 698-7116 or gault@ohiou.edu
Kairos coordinator for Good Shepherd

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY: Parish Supper Club

The Good Shepherd Supper Club is again being organized, to help parishioners get to know each other better and to introduce newcomers to the church family.

The Supper Club will meet once each quarter, with October (fall), January (winter) and April (spring) being recommended. The procedure is as follows. Participants may sign up (or check names off last year's list) at coffee hour, or contact Phyllis Dean (593-8487, deanp@ohio.edu). Dinner groups will consist of six to eight parishioners, with one person (or couple) designated as host(s) for that quarter. The mix of people will be organized differently each quarter and dinner group listings will be posted in the newsletter prior to the beginning of the quarter.

This is a great chance to get to know each other better, and to make newcomers feel welcome. The goal is to have as many people participating as possible. If you would like to participate but feel you can't host because of space limitations, don't let that stop you, we will have some people who may be able to host more than once.

Please don't delay in signing up. Additional names will be added as the season progresses, but group listings for the fall quarter must go to press on September 22nd to be in the October newsletter.

Phyllis Dean,
Parish Supper Club Chair

An invitation -

Sunday, September 7th, there will be a music rehearsal from 9:45 a.m. to 10:10 a.m. in the Nave. This is open to anyone who would like to help lead the music for the 10:30 a.m. service. This rehearsal will be focused on the hymns for that service. During the service this group will form the “Choir in the Pews so we can – in words from Psalm 98:5 “Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *Lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.”

Then, on Wednesday, September 10th, from 7:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. there will be an open rehearsal. An open rehearsal is just that – open to anyone. Are you interested in deepening your faith through music of all kinds and all periods? Are you interested in learning more about the great wealth of our Anglican tradition? Are you interested in being a part of close knit group for the work of music leadership and fellowship? Then explore being part of the choral program of Good Shepherd.

The first vested choir Sunday will be September 14th – the day of our big Welcome Back Sunday with the picnic following.

The choir retreat will be Saturday, September 20th, from 8:45 a.m. – noon. The retreat will include Morning Prayer with a meditation from Father Carroll, vocal production, singing through and some detailed rehearsal of anthems and service music for the fall and beginning rehearsal on music for the Advent Festival scheduled for Sunday, December 7th, at 4:00 p.m.

Service music change on September 14

From September 14th through Christ the King Sunday (November 23rd) We will sing the following service music at the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist:

Song of Praise - “Lord, have mercy upon us” (S91 – Healey Willan) (please note rubric on p. 356 of the Book of Common Prayer – “On other occasions the following is used”)

Sanctus - S130 (Franz Schubert)

Fraction Anthem – S164 (Franz Schubert)

Each Thursday, in the “This Sunday at Good Shepherd” e-mail, the hymns for each Sunday will be listed. In addition, this column will, from time to time focus on the history of the hymns we sing. Welcome back!

*Marsha Reilly,
Music Director*

A Resolution Concerning Justice in Health Care Policy (endorsed by the vestry)

Resolved, this 134th Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio supports health care reform that incorporates the following principles:

- Health care should be available to all;
- Access to health care should be continuous;
- Health care should be affordable for individuals, families, and business;
- National and state health care policy should be affordable and sustainable for society;
- Health care should enhance health and well-being by promoting access to high-quality care that is effective, efficient, safe, timely, patient-centered and equitable;
- Health care providers should not be expected to assume a disproportionate share of the cost of providing health care; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention will support:

- Reforms consistent with the Principles, including measures that promote fairness and affordability, and improve efficiency;
- Measures that provide financial support for insurance coverage and health care;
- Funding and policies that reflect shared responsibilities among public and private interests, including individuals, families, business, health care providers, [insurers?] and government;
- Measures that improve access and quality and promote efficient and effective use of the health care dollar;
- Accountability and transparency in health spending; and be it further

Resolved, that this Convention appoint a committee of ___ persons [of which ___ shall be clergy and ___ lay persons] to meet at least quarterly and advise the Diocese and the next Convention the status of health care legislation and advise whether particular legislation should be considered by the Diocese and the Convention for endorsement.

September Events at Good Shepherd

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Parish Office Closed	2 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting 8 pm – AA Meeting	3 noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – Midweek Eucharist 6 pm – AJ Stack Discernment Committee Meeting	4 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting	5	6
7 8:00 am – HE I 9:45 am – Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am – HE II	8 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting	9 9:30 am – Prayer Shawl Meeting @ Ruth Cox's home 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting 8 pm – AA Meeting	10 noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – Midweek Eucharist 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	11 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting	12 5:30 pm – Ultreya Potluck 6:30 p.m. – Ultreya Meeting 8 pm – Shepherd's Alternative	13 Mt. Grace Conference, Athens Rec Center Noon to 3 pm - ARC Party
14 8 am – HE I 9:00 am – Adult Ed 10:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – HE II Kick Off Picnic 2:00 pm – Lindley Inn Eucharist	15 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting	16 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting 8 pm – AA Meeting	17 noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – Midweek Eucharist 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	18 8 am –ARC Meeting 7 pm – Vestry Meeting 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting	19 8 pm – Shepherd's Alternative	20 8:45 am – Choir Retreat
21 8 am – HE I 9:00 am – Adult Ed 10:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – HE II	22 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting	23 9:30 am – Prayer Shawl Meeting @ Lois Wagner's home 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting 8 pm – AA Meeting	24 noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – Midweek Eucharist 7 pm – Choir Rehearsal	25 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting	26 8 pm – Shepherd's Alternative	27
28 8 am – HE I 9:00 am – Adult Ed 10:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – HE II Outreach Committee Meeting 2:00 pm –Lindley Inn Eucharist	29 7 pm – Boy Scout Meeting	30 7:30 pm – Alanon Meeting 8 pm – AA Meeting				