

**The Good News**  
**The Church of the Good Shepherd**  
**June-July 2010**



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**FROM THE RECTOR: CHANGES TO WORSHIP SPACE AND STARTING NEW  
 MINISTRIES**

At its May 20 meeting, the vestry made decisions about two important ways for parishioners to give input about proposed changes to the worship space and new ministries that we are developing as part of the common ministry initiative. I'd like to discuss each in turn and invite your full participation.

**(I) Changes to Worship Space To Be Discussed at June 20 Forum**

First, on Sunday, June 20, after the 9:30 a.m. Eucharist, we will have a parish-wide forum about proposed changes to our worship space. The only thing that is off the table is that we are not going back to the old altar. That decision has been made, and there is no going back. I will be out of town, and I think it will be an opportunity for me to get out of the middle of two (or more!) groups within the parish: those who see substantial changes to our worship space as necessary and those who prefer to go slower or not to change at all. It is no secret that my sympathies lie with the former approach, but I think we have a real opportunity here for the whole parish to help decide what direction we will go.

Here is how the process will go. In my absence, Matthew Adeyaju will preside as the Senior Warden. During an initial plenary, Paul Clever and Carolyn Murphree have agreed to have a conversation with each other about the proposals we might consider and the issues involved, to provide some food for thought for the whole group. (They are already scheduling time for private conversation in anticipation of this important leadership role.) Then, after everyone has heard what Paul and Carolyn have to say, parishioners will divide into small groups. As we have done previously, we will divide these groups by length of time at Good Shepherd. Each group will have a facilitator, who is there not to manage the outcome but to help make sure that everyone is heard. Vestry members will be divided evenly among the small groups to take notes. After the small groups have met, everyone will come back together and report out. Vestry members will continue to note any clarifications or questions that are raised. Then, at the July vestry meeting a concrete proposal will be reached about what changes to make, together with a proposed time table and fundraising plan.

Without prejudicing the conversation one way or another, I would like to note some of the ideas that have been raised in the past. I suspect that (1) and (2) are the most feasible in the short run, but there may be other things that we can do. What we do is ultimately up to the vestry, which wants to make decisions informed by input from the entire parish. At previous forums with an ad hoc architecture committee and with the worship committee, the following have been suggested: (1) eliminating three rows of pews, building an elevated platform with an altar rail on the edge, and moving the altar to the base of the chancel stairs; (2) patching cracks and repainting everything, possibly in more than one color other than white; (3) adding a reredos or other piece of art below the big cross and other representational Christian art in select places throughout the building; (4) redoing the floors; (5) moving the font to a location near the entrance of the church; (6) expanding choir seating and creating a nice space in the chancel that could seat 45-55 people for evensong; (7) improved seating for the altar party; and (8) improvements to the PA system to assist those with impaired hearing.

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## (II) Proposed Ministry Initiatives Coming Out of Common Ministry Program

At the same vestry meeting, we compared the results of the May 2 asset mapping exercise with the vestry's conversation at our retreat. Keeping in mind Fr. Steven Applegate's suggestion that we need to focus on doing a few things well, we winnowed the many things we might do to some of the things that we seem to have the most energy and passion for. The following ideas seem very consistent with both the May 2 forum and the SWEEP analysis produced at the Vestry retreat (see the appendix that begins on p. 7). Vestry members will be surveying members of the parish by phone to get your input. How might these ideas be augmented, modified, or replaced with better ones? How will we make room in our lives to accomplish the things we say we want to do?

### A. Christian Formation

1. The group that came out of the May 2 forum is meeting on Sunday, June 6 after the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist. All are invited to come share their ideas about Christian formation for children, youth, and adults.
2. Two ideas are already underway:
  - a. An afterschool Sunday program to be held on Friday afternoons beginning in the fall, focused on special needs children and their families. Siblings and other typically developing peers are welcome. Tracey Carroll has already tested the waters with a support group to which the Carroll's and the Lamb's belong. Friday was chosen, because there are few if any therapy appointments that day. Drop-off will begin at 3:30 p.m. and the program itself will last from 4:00 to 4:45 or 5:00. Many students at Beacon are dismissed at 2:00 p.m. Special ed classrooms in other schools dismiss later. Five families have said that they would be interested or knew of others.
  - b. On 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays we are having Evening Prayer and Bible Study focused on mission. This comes from the group that was interested in starting a midweek worship and outreach center in Chauncy or Glouster, but we are open ongoing discernment of God's call to us. Together with the clergy, laypeople are leading both Evening Prayer and Bible study, and the goal is to become a completely lay-led group.

B. Evangelism—Greeters' Program: Seven persons have already agreed to serve in this role. A greeter is different from an usher, in that his/her responsibility is geared exclusively toward welcoming visitors. Greeters will offer to sit with visitors and help acquaint them with the Prayer Book, hymnals, and liturgy. They will help people find bathrooms, nursery, etc. as needed. They will invite visitors to coffee hour and introduce visitors and parishioners to one another. They will also ask for contact information and help with follow up.

C. Outreach/Campus Ministry—Fr. Steve and I wrote a grant to the office of higher education ministries at the Episcopal Church Center in New York. We were awarded \$56,400 over the next two years, roughly one sixth of the total available throughout the Episcopal Church between the 2009 and 2012 General Conventions. The precise details of what is funded are not known (we asked for \$100,000) and are likely negotiable to some extent. We requested money for additional peer ministers, mission trips, summer internships for students with a focus on community organizing training, advertising and website development, a faculty fellowship, and annual planting and harvest days at the Good Earth Farm to be promoted heavily on campus. Our goals include doubling the number of student volunteers at the farm, doubling the size of the Tuesday Eucharist and community meal (the Common Friars have broken ground on a chapel, because the liturgy has outgrown their living room), and creating a self-sustaining, lay-led community of undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. Part of the reason that we were awarded the grant is our growing collaboration with Christ Lutheran Church, which we are interested in expanding further. Gifford Doxsee and Twig Kaufman are serving on the advisory committee, and we are looking for other lay people as we ramp up to seize this major opportunity to reestablish a vibrant new campus ministry.

Grace and peace,



The Rev. R. William Carroll, Rector

## **FROM FR. STEVE: CAMPUS MINISTRY UPDATE**

This academic year is quickly coming to a close so I wanted to update everyone on all of the campus ministry activities that we have engaged in throughout these past months.

To begin with, Fr. Bill and I staffed the United Inter-Faith Association table during the orientation last August and I hosted a Shepherd's Alternative display at Baker at the campus involvement fair. Fr. Bill and I met with Pastor Lynn Miller at Christ Lutheran Church prior to school starting in September to discuss possible collaborative campus ministry events between our two congregations.

The college ministry program (the Bridge) at the Lutheran Church was very active averaging between 15 and 25 student participants per week. Since Good Shepherd was restarting a program and had no active students at that point, it was decided that I would participate fully in the Bridge program and would invite any students that came through Good Shepherd to engage with me at the Bridge. Two students that I met here joined me in the Fall Quarter with the Lutheran students.

From September through December I worked with the three Lutheran peer ministers and Pastor Lynn in planning, organizing and implementing the weekly program for college students. This included weekly Wednesday evening suppers followed by prayer time and a presentation on some aspect of discipleship. We also ran an overnight retreat invited Paul Clever to speak on a Wednesday evening and then took students out to Good Earth Farm on a Tuesday for Eucharist and dinner.

Unrelated to the Bridge program, Fr. Bill, Marsha Reilly and I had conversations with OU music faculty to explore ways in which we could make Good Shepherd available to music students and to hopefully build relationships with those students. Many ideas were considered, but the most feasible outcomes were to host a few musical ensemble group performances at the church at mutually agreed upon times. We will certainly let you know when the first performance will take place. In addition, a student theater organization – The Lost Flamingo Company – approached us with a request to put on a student directed show *The Laramie Project* here at the church. They staged a three night performance at Good Shepherd November 5-7, 2009. It was successful so we will be looking at other opportunities to host other student groups here at the church as long as they fit within our overall mission and values.

Pastor Lynn Miller was on sabbatical January, March and April so she asked me to fill in for her as the clergy person to the students at Christ Church. This increased my involvement with the Bridge as I became responsible for facilitating fundraising (Thank you to all who supported us at Bob Evans!), supervising the peers, planning and implementing two retreats and a weeklong mission trip to New York City during spring break and continued oversight of the Wednesday programs and the parish wide Adopt-A-Student gatherings.

I also preached and presided at six Sunday services at Christ Lutheran Church and coordinated a student led weekday Lenten service for that faith community. I also advocated for the student choir A New Song to join us here at Good Shepherd for a Sunday morning Eucharist. In addition, I worked collaboratively with other campus ministry leaders to implement two ecumenical events with the Roman Catholic and Methodist campus ministry programs and inter-faith conversations with Jewish students at Hillel and attended Friday prayers at the Islamic Student Center. We also went back to Good Earth Farm for a retreat and a workday during the month of May.

You may not have witnessed much or any of this work done on Good Shepherd's behalf with Christ Lutheran Church, but I assure you there has been and continues to be a great deal of student ministry going on this year! This collaboration has led to Christ Lutheran Church inviting us to send two representatives from Good Shepherd to be on the Bridge campus ministry advisory committee. In January, our vestry authorized Gifford Doxsee and Twig Kaufman to be our liaisons in this joint endeavor. This venture does not mean that our two student programs are officially combined rather it strengthens our collaborative work together.

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As you will recall, a decade ago the Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America signed a covenant that brought us into full communion with each other. While we maintain our individual denominational structures and governance, there are many ways in which this union has developed. In our diocese our Episcopal seminary at Bexley Hall in Columbus is housed at and works in conjunction with Trinity Lutheran Seminary. Episcopal and Lutheran students are trained together and clergy are able to celebrate at each other's churches. We also have an Episcopal priest in Cincinnati, Alice Conner, who works full time for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as the Lutheran campus minister at the University of Cincinnati.

Nationwide it is this collaborative campus ministry between Episcopal and Lutheran programs that is most dominant and visible. There are numerous colleges and universities that have an officially combined Episcopal/Lutheran campus ministry program. I interned at one such program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and there are others in Boston, Indianapolis and Chicago just to name a few. Both the national Episcopal and Lutheran churches encourage collaboration in these areas.

The grant that we just received from our national church for campus ministry specifically asked how our program would be involved with Lutheran campus ministry groups. I believe that what made our grant proposal stronger and more likely to be funded was that we have developed, maintained and proven a strong collaborative campus ministry program with the Bridge. Pastor Miller and Christ Lutheran Church wrote a letter of support for our grant and are ready to continue this working relationship with us.

As you have heard, we were awarded \$56,000 to be divided equally over the next two years. We will be sharing more with you in the coming months as to how this campus ministry is taking shape. These funds will allow us to serve the students at Ohio University in unique and innovative ways. Stay tuned for regular updates as to how this program is unfolding.

In the meantime, we are looking for parishioners to serve on a campus ministry committee here at Good Shepherd to help plan this exciting ministry. We would also welcome individuals to participate in any or all of the student activities we undertake. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Steve or Fr. Bill.

Peace and Joy,

Steve

The Rev. Steve Domienik

## **T.J. AZAR TO BE ORDAINED TO SACRED ORDER OF PRIESTS ON JUNE 19**

In the last newsletter, we had a provisional save the date announcement for T.J.'s ordination. I am happy to report that she has jumped through the final hoop and has been recommended for ordination. This is a wonderful day for the Church and a strong affirmation of a ministry already begun in the waters of baptism. Congratulations to T.J. as she begins the next chapter of her ministry.

God willing, Bishop Breidenthal will ordain T.J. to the sacred order of priests on Saturday, June 19 at 11 a.m. at St. Anne's, Westchester. This is the parish in suburban Cincinnati where T.J. is serving as a diocesan resident. The street address is 6461 Tylersville Rd, West Chester, OH 45069.

Here is a link to a map:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?q=6461+Tylersville+Rd%2C+West+Chester+45069&hl=en>

## **VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS (FROM THE MAY 20, 2010 MEETING)**

Fr. Carroll reported that he has hired Ginger Smith as our parish bookkeeper/receptionist. We found Ginger through Career Connections, and she was interviewed by a committee consisting of A. J. Stack, Anne Braxton, and Sharon Huge, before a final interview with Fr. Carroll and A.J. Stack. She will be in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:30 to 2:30 p.m. Her responsibilities are confined to all aspects of parish finance, under the oversight of the treasurer, and receptionist duties when she is in the building.

Fr. Carroll reported that the Rev. Tracey Carroll had been appointed by the bishop as priest-in-charge at St. Paul's Chillicothe, effective when they return from vacation in July. The position began as long term supply. The children will be dividing their time between Good Shepherd and St. Paul's.

The vestry discussed the issues presented by the presence of the American flag in our worship space. A variety of differing opinions were expressed about what was desirable in principle. A consensus was reached not to remove the flag.

The vestry approved a proposal to move all parish e-mail lists to Constant Contact, the commercial service that the diocese uses to produce its popular E-Connections newsletter. Due to privacy concerns, we will run an announcement in the E-news for at least 4 weeks, giving people the option to remove their names from our mailing lists before the change is made. After the change, people can unsubscribe by clicking a link. Before that, they can unsubscribe by replying to any edition of the CHOGS e-news with unsubscribe in the subject line or by e-mailing Fr. Carroll (gsrector@gmail.com).

The vestry considered follow up options to the May 2 forum and vestry retreat. There will be a parish-wide forum on June 20 to discuss proposed changes to the worship space. Vestry members will call parishioners for input about ideas concerning new ministries. See the rector's article, beginning on p. 1, for details about both topics.

## **NEWS FROM THE PEWS**

Our editor, Don Frazier, reports that he has no items for this newsletter. The next newsletter will appear in late July. *If you have a news item for Don, please speak to him, send it to Donjo@columbus.rr.com, or call him at 797-4857. Please make sure to get the permission of the person involved.*

## PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACTS

*(This is based on the list as it appears in the new directory. To make corrections or to be added to this list, please contact the rector.)*

### Clergy

Bill Carroll (rector)	590-7106	gsrector@gmail.com
Steve Domienik (assistant)	513-582-6834	sdomienik@gmail.com
Katharin Foster (assisting priest)	541-2291	kkfoster@columbus.rr.com
Tracey Carroll (assisting priest)	590-3865	mothertracey@gmail.com
Connie Jo McCarroll (deacon)	592-1230	conniejodo@cs.com

### Executive Committee (also includes rector)

Matthew Adeyanju (Sr. Warden)	592-3187	adeyanju@ohio.edu
Jack Flemming (Jr. Warden)	592-4460	lflemmin@columbus.rr.com
Anne Braxton (Treasurer)	593-5647	braxton@ohio.edu
Sharon Hugel (Secretary)	592-5178	huge@ohio.edu

### Vestry (also includes executive committee)

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### Staff

Marsha Reilly (music director)	592-2596	mareilly1@columbus.rr.com
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### Committee Chairs, Program Area Contacts

<i>Campus</i>	Steve Domienik	513-582-6834	sdomienik@gmail.com
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<i>Parish Life</i>	Lois Wagner	698-0140	loiswgn@aol.com
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<i>Property</i>	Jack Flemming	592-4460	lflemmin@columbus.rr.com
<i>Worship</i>	Bill Carroll	590-7106	gsrector@gmail.com

## **APPENDIX: SWEEP ANALYSIS FROM THE 4/17/10 VESTRY RETREAT PREPARED BY ELIZABETH SAYRS**

SWEEP exercise: In each category (service, worship, education, evangelism, and pastoral care), list a crisis, a pending crisis, or an opportunity.

**SERVICE:** Two main themes emerged in the category of service/outreach:

### **1) Recognition of the good work being done at the Good Earth farm, through our hunger ministries in general, and the opportunity to expand in this area**

- Major opportunity: The farm is a major opportunity for service that is being utilized, but we could perhaps increase involvement of the parish.
- Food pantry and farm
- Expansion of Good Earth farm
- Poverty, food, hospitality

### **2) A desire to structure ministries so it is easy for all to participate**

- Opportunity to connect with people who feel the need to serve others, but don't have the framework through which to do it.
- Structure most all ministries as participatory; promote these opportunities outside the church.
- Structure outreach opportunities so they're "plug and play" – a place for everyone

### **3) Additional ideas brought forward:**

- To increase our financial support for outreach as a percentage of the budget
- Christian education and space for special needs children
- Establish a regular calendar of outreach fundraising events.

**WORSHIP:** Ideas clustered in several areas:

### **1) A desire that our space reflect our liturgy, and that our liturgy reflect our life in Christ:**

- Worship space arrangement: updating and configuring
- Lots: Flow of communion and the role/type of music are the highest concerns
- Complete redesign of space, kid zone included
- Make our space reflect our liturgy
- Urgent need to reconnect liturgy with purpose of community in Christ

### **2) Concerns about how worship should/should not be changed:**

- A balance between the traditional with some innovation thrown in
- No consensus how to update [worship]
- Teaching the elements and expanding the worship committee

### **3) Making worship accessible for all:**

- Ramps for handicapped; better hospitality
- Horrible acoustics in nave and very difficult for those wearing amplification to often participate
- Also see concerns about accessibility under "pastoral care."

In addition, worship was considered an "opportunity for growth and development."

**EDUCATION:** This area had the most consensus.

**1) Christian education, especially for children/Sunday School:**

- Lack of Christian education [also #2 below]
- No critical mass for education/create space for education
- Connecting with children to help them understand liturgy, social justice issues, etc.
- We need to have Sunday school for the children.
- Need Sunday school – more space?
- No Sunday school/structured program for children
- Making it possible for parents to take part
- Adult and children's Christian education [also #2 below]
- Parishioners willing to teach children

**2) Christian education for adults as well, including those outside the church:**

- Christian education for both young and old [also #1 above]
- Provide more formation opportunities and promote outside the church; think about formation programs that people sign up for.
- Under-served students

**EVANGELISM:** This area had the least consensus, although several broad themes emerged:

**1) Promote the work of the church:**

- Take all the good ministries we do and formation programs and promote them outside the church.
- Opportunity: Make the community more aware of the work we do by linking our work with the name of Good Shepherd.
- Prominent signage for the church

**2) Evangelism through hospitality:**

- Time to talk to each other as well as newcomers; be a good example yourself by taking part in various jobs, etc. at church.
- This can be done through hospitality as well as providing food through the farm.
- Greeters up and running (opportunity/crisis)
- Also see #2 under "pastoral care"

**3) Engaging students**

- Wednesday lunch/ opportunity for college students
- Reaching students

**4) Concerns about membership:**

- Crisis: More members.
- Pending crisis: Again population with no one to take their place! Irrelevancy of Good Shepherd to surrounding community → tied to service.

In addition, the common ministry opportunity was seen as an opportunity for evangelism.

**PASTORAL CARE:** Again no consensus, but some broad themes:

**1) Expand opportunities for lay ministry related to pastoral care**

- Expand lay opportunities for visitations/lay Eucharist/home and crisis care, etc.
- Lay Eucharistic visitors need to be put to use.
- Establish pastoral care teams
- Care for home-bound individuals.
- Lindley Inn

**2) Encourage a welcoming and connected community**

- Parishioners need to be more outgoing; need to know what's going on. Who needs help?
- Welcoming new members of the community
- Need to become more welcoming and allow people to connect more quickly.

**3) Accessibility**

- Complete handicap accessibility.
- Ramps for those in wheel chairs or who have difficulty walking.

**4) Additional ideas:**

- Continuation of student ministry post-grant.
- Several clergy (opportunity)