

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

# GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

VOLUME XII, EDITION 10

NOVEMBER 2008

## ABUNDANCE

Abundance, not scarcity, is the mark of God's kingdom. But that abundance must be made manifest through the lives of a people who have discovered that they can trust God and one another."

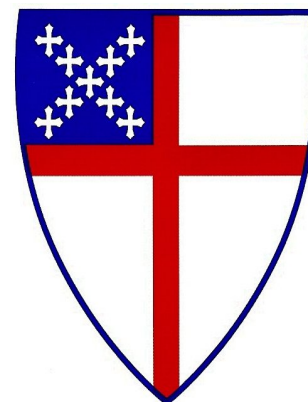
-Stanley Hauerwas

The truth is that God has given us more than we can ask or imagine. As we consider the gifts God has given to us, we must operate from a theology of abundance. Like the loaves and the fishes during the Sermon on the Mount, there is more than enough of what we really need to go around. Christ's invitation to us is to live and rejoice in that abundance. In that great prayer we thank God for his son Jesus Christ, for "his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom." We thank God that we have discovered that we can trust God and we can trust one another. New life is ours for the asking.

But that trust must be manifest in our lives. In God's kingdom we can live together in such a way that we trust that God and God's people will provide. We can share from our abundance and from our scarcity for the good of the world. If we cling to what we have, it ties us more tightly to our possessions, and they own us rather than we own them. If we release our grasp, then we rejoice in the Lord's abundance.

The Church of the Good Shepherd has a mission statement: "To know Christ and make him known through joy, faith and service." This bold and faithful declaration invites us to live the abundant life, rejoicing in God's extravagant love for us. We celebrate that love in worship and children's programs, by welcoming newcomers and through enriching our lives with educational programs. We embody that love with pastoral care, and joyful service to the world. You are asked consider your own invitation to the abundant life of God in Christ during this season of preparation and future planning. You are invited as well to make a faith gift to this parish that is reflective of your trust in God and God's people.

Robert A. Davenport  
Rector



To  
Know  
Christ  
and To  
Make  
Him  
Known

Moving to Christ, Welcoming God as We Welcome Others:  
Submitted by Tricia McKee:

The Church of the Good Shepherd, in planning for worship and education, centers our life in community and hospitality. This is central in both our Sunday and weekday schedule for study and worship.

Our Sunday schedule has been shortened to facilitate participation in both education and worship for our whole community.

Parents please take note: Classes for children (Godly Play and Elementary) begin at 9:15 and go through the beginning of worship until 10:15. At that time children move to the children's chapel and begin worship there, joining their parents at 'The Peace' and the congregation in celebrating the Eucharist welcoming all ages to the table.

If you join us only for worship at 10 there are worship bags available in the Narthex before you come in to worship and children are welcome all during the service or your child may join their group upstairs when you arrive.

Child Care begins in the nursery at 9:00 AM and continues through the 10:00 AM service. Our caregivers, Linda Garciga, Nadine West, and Addison Parsons have been Safe Church Trained and Red Cross Certified, and are there to welcome your children up through age 3 when you come to worship and participate in adult activities at Good Shepherd.

If you are new to the Episcopal tradition, feel free to explore a Prayer Book found in the pews in the nave (church) and familiarize yourself with worship movement and how to participate. Come by during the week and speak with one of our program staff to ask questions about our worship and tradition, and classes offered

Continued: Christian Education

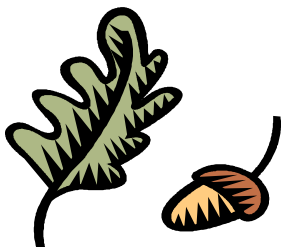
Sunday November 30 marks the first week in Advent. Classes will meet as usual but Advent resources will be available in the area at the elevator's to take home for personal prayer and family devotions. We will not be making Advent wreaths on a large scale this year, but encourage folks to take advantage of worship resources for the home at this time, putting their wreath together or choosing a candle to light at home that meets their needs.

### **Weekday Group Updates**

Knitting Circle- 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays - Winter is coming and our numbers are growing. We are beginning a prayer shawl ministry for folks in our congregation unable to come in community physically at the current time. Anyone wishing to knit with us, or who wishes to learn is welcome. A second group will begin during the daytime on Tuesdays at 9:30 beginning November 4<sup>th</sup>. We have some very experienced knitters in the group who are willing to teach and work with newbies. Contact Tricia McKee in the church office for information.

Ruach- A spiritual break of music, games, story and art for children ages 4-elementary each week on Wednesday from 5:15 – 6:15. If sports have kept you out this fall, take a break with us. Children in elementary will be working on Advent music for congregational worship in November.

Scripture Study– **NEW IN NOVEMBER**- Wed. 9:00am– As Advent approaches we hear familiar words from Isaiah that touch our hearts, but often we simply don't know much about the book. So, this year, we begin to take a look at Isaiah in the month of November. Men and women, all ages are welcome to come join us for prayer and understanding. Finishing promptly at 10 am each week.



Sunday Evening Bible study- 5-6pm promptly. A group of lay people working to understand life and community for the early followers of Jesus, in the book of Acts and life together in the church today.

Everyone, young adult through all ages, welcome! Led by Tricia McKee, Director of Education Ministry.

The Children of Good Shepherd will be telling the Christmas story at the 5:00 service on Christmas Eve. Rehearsal will be in church school classes (through Middle School) Dec. 7, 14, and 21- at 9:15 groups can touch base and speaking parts shared. Dress rehearsal will be Dec. 20th from 9-11 in scheduled groups. Refreshments provided.

If your child or youth wishes to be in the pageant this year – please write down these dates and return this card to the church office-or contact Tricia McKee at [patricia@goodshepherdnorfolk.org](mailto:patricia@goodshepherdnorfolk.org).

Name of child (children):

Ages:

Parent(s) names and email:

Tricia will be in touch with you as soon as we get your rsvp!



Faith Matters-upstairs at the elevators- a place for progressive people of faith in Christ to explore their life and faith together. Living the Questions-DVD this fall.

Adult Forum in the Parish Hall- Living With History from The New Church Teaching Series, by Fredrica Harris Thompsett.

During the end of November-all classes, chapel worship, and small groups will take time to get ready for Christmas. This will include an opportunity for all ages to walk a Labyrinth and say a prayer at our doors, take part in our Christmas Pageant and prepare for that, give personal devotional time for prayer and peace in our lives during this most important season of worship.

## Announcements, Announcements, Announcements:



**Tigers Wanted:** Good Shepherd needs your TLC! Buildings and grounds wants anyone who can scrape, sand, pull, push, turn, lift, or wipe. We have projects and we need your help. Can you organize a kitchen, sand a table, scrape a window, pull a weed, clean a pew? We have a job for everyone! The 3rd Saturday of each month from 8-12 we will be meeting. Come for one hour or all four! Please sign up on the bulletin board by the kitchen or email Keith Hope at [rkhope@cox.net](mailto:rkhope@cox.net). You can make a difference! Our next meeting will take place on November 15th and there is lots to do so please come and help!

**Let's celebrate the holidays together at Good Shepherd's Annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 14th at 6pm, in the home of Laurie and Jamie Marshall, 1415 Daniel Avenue, Child care will be provided.**

**Special thanks to Sascha Grunwald for 10 years of wonderful service here at Good Shepherd! We greatly appreciate your hard work and dedication!**



### A Note of Hospitality:

A big 80's Thank You to Charlotte and John Chandler for hosting the Awesome 80's Mannamakers Prom in October. Over 80 people had an amazing time! Costumes were a RIOT! Mannamakers is a time for adults of Good Shepherd to come together for fun and fellowship!

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE AND DINNER - WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26TH 6:00 PM:

Everyone is invited Wednesday, November 26th at 6:00 to give thanks through prayers and fellowship together. We will have a Thanksgiving Service at 6:00 PM followed by dinner for all. Good Shepherd will provide the Turkey. Please bring your favorite dish to share!



### CHRISTMAS PARADE NEWS (A GRAND ILLUMINATION LIKE NEVER BEFORE)

This year Good Shepherd and the Mission of the Holy Spirit have teamed up under the creative direction of Rexanne Metzger to build, create, paint, glue, paste, nail, hammer, a Christmas parade float for the 2008 Grand Illumination Parade! Youth and adults from the Mission and Good Shepherd will begin meeting each Tuesday from 6-8 pm to begin working on the float. If you or your youth would like to take part in this illuminating endeavor please contact Rexanne Metzger or Ben Blanchard in the parish office for more information.

### THESE ARE NOT MY PANTS!

Each Tuesday evening from 6-8 youth from the Mission of the Holy Spirit come to Good Shepherd for art and learning. For the past couple of weeks we have been creating a clothesline of pants- Why pants? There is a song entitled "These are not my pants" The song has about 10 verses – Each verse has the same lyrics however is sung/performed in every realm/style of music from country western to classical to jazz to hip hop. This exercise shows how everything we do (art, music, scripture, stories) we interpret in different ways. Our history follows up in the decisions we make and the way we interpret. This was too much fun of an activity not to share with you. In the entryway of the school check out the laundry line of pants! (and a couple of skirts).



Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us.

We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

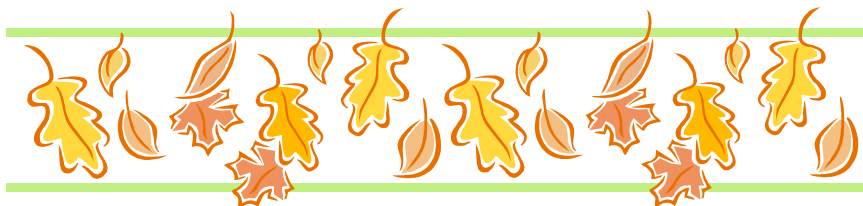
We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

*Book of Common Prayer page 836*



THANKSGIVING BASKETS- Each year Good Shepherd provides Thanksgiving baskets for those in need at Thanksgiving. If you would like to contribute to the basket drive please mark donation checks "Thanksgiving Baskets" . The youth will do the shopping the Sunday morning before Thanksgiving!

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF  
THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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**Junior Warden:** Randy Noe

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Jennifer Sanford, Keith Hope, Rexanne Metzger, Elliott Webb, Beth Williams, Eddie Wolcott