

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

VOLUME XIII, EDITION 1

JANUARY 2009

Thank You

The good Spirit that has permeated this Church during the Advent and Christmas Season in the last year is worth recognizing. There are too many people to thank if one tries to name everyone, but some recent events from parish groups are worth mentioning. I apologize if I have left some activity or some person out.

The Vestry members have led cheerfully. This has included toasting outgoing members Jim Izard, Rexanne Metzger, Elliott Webb, Eddie Wolcott and Jean Bryan and welcoming new members Diana Smelt, Woody Duffy, Frank Thomas and Bob Starck. (Steve Cyrus continues on as Treasurer.) Committee heads have stayed the course. Hospitality and Newcomers just had a grand Christmas Party at the Marshalls'. Lay Pastoral Care hosted a merry gathering at the Tucker House and continued to reach out to others in the parish. Christian Education folks hosted Wednesday quiet days with prayers, worship and soup, shopped for local families and children, and then directed a spectacular Pageant and Eucharist. Outreach and Mission began with a Thanksgiving Dinner and a Grand Illumination Parade float and persevered with an Angel Tree, help with Habitat and more Christmas gifts. Building and Grounds' Task Tackling Tigers were still at it toward the end of Advent, as was the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. The Prayer Group continued to watch and pray. The Communications Committee continues to improve how our words and messages will be delivered, while Hazel Peck and others see that the hands on collating happens in a timely fashion. The financial end of the parish has been trying to wrap up the fiscal year with annual giving callers finishing up their work and the Stewardship Committee meeting for an organizational lunch. The Worship Committee and the Choir managed to green the Church for Christmas in the midst of a lovely Advent Lessons and Carols Service while others coordinated a host of servers in all the varieties of manners for our wonderful worship services through Advent and Christmas. In the midst of helping all this activity be organized and publicized, the parish staff has done the leg work for an Annual Parish Meeting and Vestry Elections, the hiring of a new sexton, scheduling building use for outside groups, arranging funerals for Carl Laycock, Lalla Hansen and Marjorie Kelley, and by and large maintained good cheer. Everyone who has helped all these good things (and more!) happen deserve our heartfelt thanks.

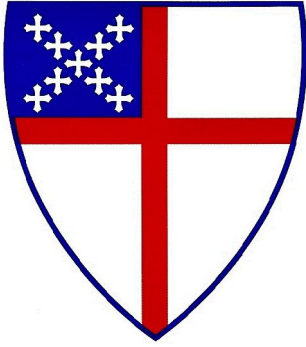
The Book of Common Prayer sums up so often the truth of where our thanks and prayers ultimately need to be directed. This is done no better than in the The General Thanksgiving on page 58.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Thank you,

Robert
Rector

“To Know Christ and To Make Him Known With Joy, Faith, and Service”



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OUTREACH

Angel Tree 2008

Each year around the beginning of November a team of Good Shepherd folk gather to organize and put together the Good Shepherd Angel Tree. The tag filled tree contains names of young people from birth to eighteen years old. Each tag is labeled with clothing, a toy or a game for a young person. Once again Good Shepherd did a great job in completing Christmas for a child in 2008. A special thank you to Neven Garris and Betsy Temple for organizing the tree. Thank you also to the youth and adults of the parish who helped deliver the gifts this year.

Tuesday Night Mission

The Mission of the Holy Spirit will continue to meet each Tuesday night from 6:00 to 8:30 in the new year. The youth are currently working on banners for council with the Millennium Development Goals as the theme. Each banner is a mixed media piece that is ten feet tall and about four and a half feet wide. Good Shepherd provides a light dinner each week for the youth. If you are willing to "drop off" dinner on a Tuesday, please contact Pat Tayloe to get on the schedule. (489-8919)

A Note from United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon regarding the Millennium Development Goals

"Eradicating extreme poverty continues to be one of the main challenges of our time, and is a major concern of the international community. Ending this scourge will require the combined efforts of all, governments, civil society organizations and the private sector, in the context of a stronger and more effective global partnership for development. The Millennium Development Goals set time bound targets, by which progress in reducing income poverty, hunger, disease, lack of adequate shelter and exclusion — while promoting gender equality, health, education and environmental sustainability — can be measured. They also embody basic human rights — the rights of each person on the planet to health, education, shelter and security. The Goals are ambitious but feasible and, together with the comprehensive United Nations development agenda, set the course for the world's efforts to alleviate extreme poverty by 2015. "

MUSIC

Good Shepherd Choir Retreat at Chanco

Each member of the choir and friends will be traveling to Chanco Friday January 30th through Saturday January 31st for a fun filled time together. We will begin the retreat with a night of shape note singing.

What is shape note singing? It traces the earliest roots of Sacred Harp to the "country parish music" of early 18th century England. This form of rural church music evolved from a number of the distinctive traits that were passed on from tradition to tradition, until they ultimately became part of Sacred Harp singing.

These traits included the assignment of the melody to the tenors as well as the distinction between the ordinary four-part hymn ("plain tune"), the anthem, and the fusing tune. Several composers of this school, including Joseph Stephenson and Aaron Williams are represented in the 1991 Edition of *The Sacred Harp*.

Around the mid 18th century, the forms and styles of English country parish music were introduced to America, notably in a new hymnal called *Urania*, published 1764 by the singing master James Lyon. This stimulus soon led to the development of a robust native school of composition, signaled by the 1770 publication of William Billings' *The New England Psalm Singer*, and then by a great number of new compositions by Billings and those who followed in his path. The work of these composers, sometimes called the "First New England School", forms a major part of the Sacred Harp to this day.

Billings and his followers worked as singing masters, who led singing schools. The purpose of these schools was to train young people in the correct singing of sacred music. This pedagogical movement flourished, and led ultimately to the invention of shape notes, which originated as a way to making the teaching of singing easier. The first shape note hymnal appeared in 1801: *The Easy Instructor* by William Smith and William Little. At first, Smith and Little's shapes competed with a rival system, created by Andrew Law (1749-1821) in his *The Musical Primer* of 1803. Although this book came out two years later than Smith and Little's book, Law claimed earlier invention of shape notes. In his system, a square indicated fa, a circle sol, a triangle la and a diamond, mi. Law used the shaped notes without a musical staff. The Smith and Little shapes ultimately prevailed.

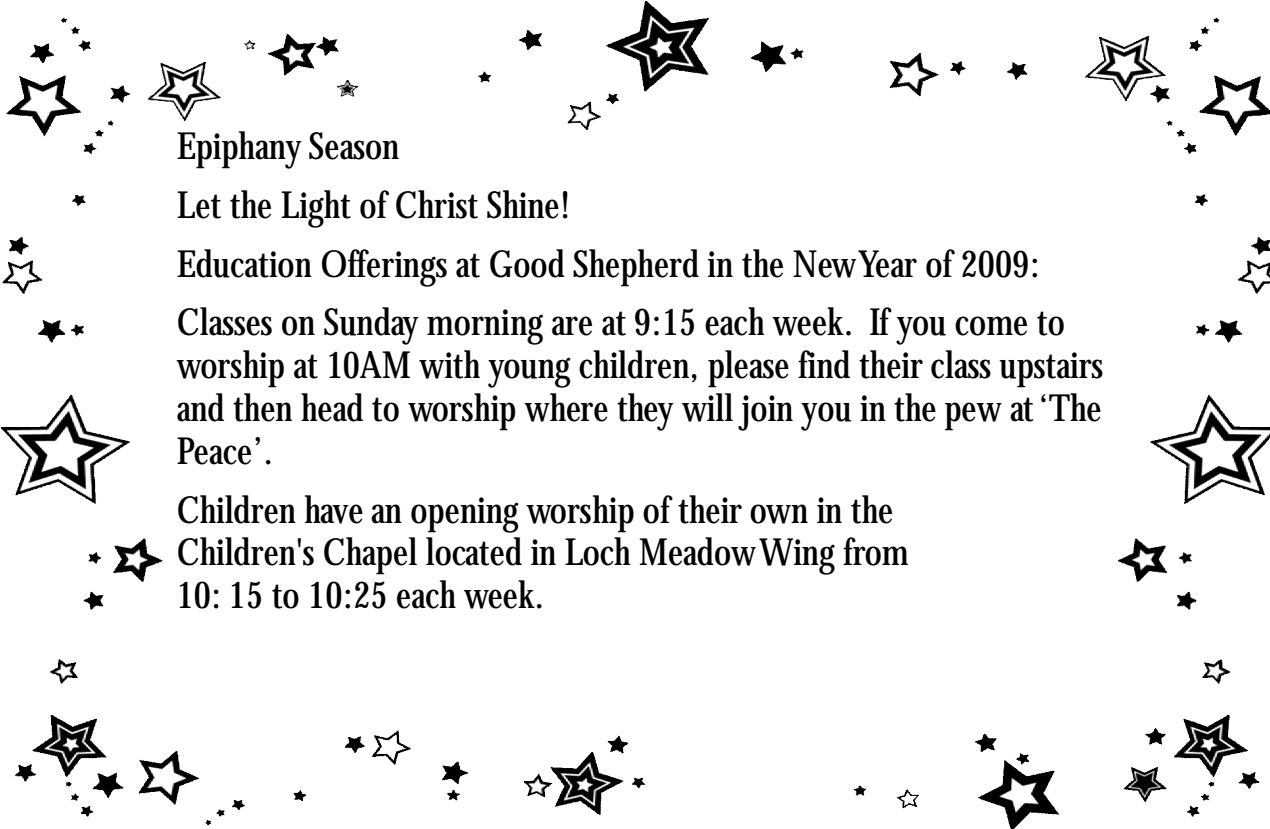
Shape notes became very popular, and during the first part of the nineteenth century, a whole series of shape note hymnbooks appeared, many of which were widely distributed. As the population spread west and south, the tradition of shape note singing expanded geographically. Composition flourished, with the new hymns often drawing on the tradition of folk song for tunes and inspiration. Probably the most successful shape note book prior to *The Sacred Harp* was William Walker's *Southern Harmony*, published in 1835 and still in use today.

Even as they flourished and spread, shape notes and the kind of participatory music which they served came under attack. The critics were from the urban-based "better music" movement, spearheaded by Lowell Mason, which advocated a new form of hymnody, more "scientific" and based on the rules of harmony prevailing in European music. The new hymnody gradually prevailed. Shape notes and their music disappeared from the cities prior to the Civil War, and from the rural areas of the Northeast and Midwest in the following decades. However, they retained a haven in the rural South, which remained a fertile territory for the creation of new shape note hymnbooks.

We will move to workshops Saturday morning to work on tone quality and singing as a group. This will be a fun time for all! If you are interested in the retreat or joining the choir please contact Ben in the church office.

Our facilitator for the weekend will be Bruce Landenberger, an architect by profession, who has maintained a passion for music performance for over 40 years as a brass player in school bands and orchestras; as a recorder player with solo and ensemble experience in modern, baroque, and early music repertoire; and as baritone and counter-tenor in several choral groups, including the Providence Singers, Blanch Moyses Bach Festival Chorale, and the Brattleboro Concert Choir. As a volunteer with the Episcopal Diocese of Alaska in the 1970's, he supported music programs of two native village parishes in Ft. Yukon and Venetie. He was an active parishioner and choir member at St. Stephen's Church, Providence, RI from 1983 – 1996, and currently at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Brattleboro, VT. Bruce lives in Newfane, VT and relishes visits from his three sons ages 22, 19 and 19.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, Submitted by Patricia McKee:



Epiphany Season

Let the Light of Christ Shine!

Education Offerings at Good Shepherd in the New Year of 2009:

Classes on Sunday morning are at 9:15 each week. If you come to worship at 10AM with young children, please find their class upstairs and then head to worship where they will join you in the pew at 'The Peace'.

Children have an opening worship of their own in the Children's Chapel located in Loch Meadow Wing from 10:15 to 10:25 each week.

Thanks to the wonderful teams in Godly Play and Elementary classes. If you are a visitor and want to bring your child into our worshipping community at any time, please contact Tricia McKee in the church office (423-3230). I am happy to acclimate children to our worship space ahead of time so they will feel secure coming into a new place and community.

Youth and Adults— the same is true for learners of any age. Contact the church office and we can connect you with a group or Sunday class that might enrich your faith and life.

Adult Classes in January include:

Sundays: Adult Forum and Synthesis Together in the Parish Hall:

Opening with an Introduction to the Gospel of Mark, Peter Stewart to lead.

Faith Matters-upstairs at the elevator. New directions in the new year. Come join them!

Wed. Morning Study—Scripture: Isaiah in the New Year, and prayer.

Led by Tricia McKee

Knitting Groups—for those who learn by doing something!

Tues. evenings (2nd and 4th) 6:30 to 8:00

Tues. mornings (1st and 3rd) 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Continued CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

For a synopsis of worship and education schedules at Good Shepherd please check the website: www.goodshepherdnorfolk.org

Special January Educational Events:

**Adult Forum : First Weeks Introduction to the Gospel of Mark-Led by
Peter Stewart and Tricia McKee**

**Last Weeks– Learn To Grow Old A Forum on Ourselves and Our Parents as
we get older.**

Groups after the Holidays:

**Tuesday Evening Knitting Group will begin again on Tuesday January 13. Morn-
ing Group: 10 AM January 16th.**

**Wednesday Morning Bible Study will resume on Wed. January 7 at 9 AM. We
will resume our study of Isaiah, read in Chapters 40 on.**

**Ruach will resume our fun and laughter nights with music, art and story on
Wednesday the 7th also. PARENTS: Remember to sign up for supper sharing
on the board in the hall.**



Let The Light of Christ Shine in all of us in the New Year!

Children at Risk

A faithful group from this parish continues to explore how this parish might take part in a mission to provide mental, physical and spiritual care for children (birth through 3 years) and their families through an infant, toddler and parent program. They have been in contact with a number of local and national resources and are reading a book together on the work of the Harlem Children's Project and the work of Jeffrey Canada. This winter they will be meeting in a workshop setting with a representative of the National Association of Episcopal Schools. This organization serves schools, Early Childhood Education programs, school establishment committees and sponsoring Episcopal Church institutions whose missions integrate spiritual formation into all aspects of the educational experience. We are seeking their advice as we sharpen their focus, assess community support and address governance issues. If you would like to be a part of the book reading or workshop gatherings please contact Buffy Driskill or Robert Davenport.

Vestry Notes

In the last year the Vestry has spent a lot of time discussing what the Vestry and the Church do. we have spent most of our efforts on mission development, long range plans, strategic thinking and committee organization for implementation of objectives. This year at their Annual Retreat January 30th and 31 they will ponder who we are as the Church. What does it mean to be a Christian, an Episcopalian and Christians together? Our facilitator will be Elsa Bakkum, a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, an organist, an a facilitator in a variety of small group sessions including training for EfM Mentors. Certainly there are decisions to be made, positions assigned and responsibilities to be assumed. But all these things are best done within a community of faith and trust as we incorporate our own life stories into the larger story of Love.

At their December meeting the Vestry celebrated the service of five outgoing members: Jim Izard, Rexanne Metzger, Jean Bryan, Elliott Webb and Eddie Wolcott. They welcomed new members Bob Starck, Diana Smelt, Frank Thomas and Woody Duffy. They thanked Sandy Bond, registrar and Steve Cyrus for their generous service, and they gave a toast to the impending celebration of our Lord's Nativity with a treat provided by Lizzy Allen Davenport.

Announcements, Announcements, Announcements:

Designing Gourmands: Do you have an eye for design? Do you enjoy writing? Do you like Greek food? If you said yes to these, then you might be just the person we're looking for. The Communications Committee is looking for a creative soul to join the team. We're a growing group and want to make a difference in the life of the Church. We meet the 2nd Friday of every month at Azar's and have just started to really have some fun. Call or email Jennifer Sanford if you think you'd like to serve the Church in this way. Call 537-7004, or by email at jennifer.sanford@employmentguide.com



FOLD, STAPLE AND STICK: Many, many thanks to the dedicated crew of volunteers who help the office staff to complete the many time-consuming tasks involved in communication to the congregation: bulletins, newsletters, directories, booklets and bulk mailings. The members of this "elite" group receive as much as they give in the way of fellowship, support and lots of laughs, and will gladly welcome any newcomers who would like to join. If so, please call the office at 423-3230. Whether or not you can help, you might like to say, "Thank you" to the current members of the FOLD, STAPLE, AND STICK CREW: Sallie Avery, Bill Avery, Margaret Ayscue, Phyl Bellah and daughter, Nancy, Sandy Bond, David Clark, Lizzie Davenport, Kathryn Duffy, Terry Griffin, Frieda Grimbball, Lesa Nelson, Molly Payne, Hazel Peck, Anne Redfern, Kathleen Redfern, Margaret Redfern, and Martha Sarcone.



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THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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The Vestry

Senior Warden: James Izard

Junior Warden: Randy Noe

Treasurer: Steve Cyrus

Jean Bryan, Molly Parsons, John Chandler, Lelia Graham Webb, Rich Crawford,
Jennifer Sanford, Keith Hope, Rexanne Metzger, Elliott Webb, Beth Williams, Eddie Wolcott