

The Shepherd's Voice

Newsletter of the Parish of the Good Shepherd
November 2018

I hope to see all of you at the parish's 150th Anniversary celebration on All Saints Sunday, November 4, either at the service or the afternoon banquet or at both. It will be a joyful day to give thanks for all that Good Shepherd has accomplished for so long, through the dedication of so many saints.

The dedication of multiple generations to our parish's ministries is also the theme of our annual giving campaign: "Giving Across Generations." A letter inviting you to commit to supporting the parish financially in 2019 will be mailed out the first week in November. All of the returned commitment cards will be blessed in worship on Sunday, December 2.

Even though the annual giving campaign focuses on financial support, every person in the parish can offer something from their time, their talents/skills/abilities, and their treasure to help support our parish as we share God's love. Some of us have more time and less financial treasure—but that time can be shared in many different ways. Even our youngest members can contribute by being present in worship and Sunday School on Sundays and sharing their joy and curiosity. Those who cannot come to worship services regularly due to work schedules or mobility issues can pray for the parish and its leaders and for the pastoral celebrations and needs listed in the newsletter.

Today I ask you to consider how you will offer your time and your talents at Good Shepherd this year. When all of us help, our ministries can continue to be a joy rather than a burden. Whether it be time to help serve food at Fun Friday, or be part of the Trash & Treasure team once a month, or serve as an acolyte (no matter your age), your time is a huge gift. Perhaps you can help set the parish's priorities by serving on vestry, or help our youngest grow in faith in Sunday School.

And coming to worship regularly and participating in other parish activities is also a gift to the rest of us, as well as to God—because if you are not present, we miss your energy and all the ways that only you can be a blessing as part of our family! See you Sunday!

Gillian+



Sunday, November 4th

10 am Holy Eucharist commemorating All Saints Day

**with special prayers for the Parish of the Good Shepherd
welcome guests, sing to the Lord, take home a remembrance
There will not be Sunday School.**

Celebration Coffee Hour follows

1:30 pm Luncheon at Twelve Acres

Sunday, November 11th return to our regular schedule:

Choir Rehearsal at 9:15 am
Sunday School at 10:00 am
The Holy Eucharist at 10 am

Every Sunday we pray for “those who defend and protect our community”. This year the civic holiday, Veteran’s Day, is on a Sunday, November 11th - a time to look back in time and look around us and remember all those who have served in all branches of the military to defend our freedom. We will sing for peace as we pray for an end to war.

“Come, ye thankful people, come.”

Thanksgiving Eve, Holy Eucharist at 6:30 pm, Nov. 21st

Thursday, November 22 is Thanksgiving Day, a time to “give thanks to God for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them.” If you have a garden at home or here at Good Shepherd, you know that growing food is not only hard work but depends on favorable weather and rain at the right time! What we choose off a shelf in the grocery store is the product of all this on an immense scale. Easy to forget. Give thanks.



Ongoing events:

AA meetings every Saturday: 5:30 - 6:30 pm - “Big Book”
7:00 - 8:00 pm - “Sober Sweet”

Trash or Treasure is open on Wed. and Sat. from 9 am to noon

Clothes and shoes for all ages are still needed. If you can't or won't wear something ever again, remember Trash or Treasure! Please pass this information on to your friends and relatives who might be looking for a place to donate clothing or household goods. Clothes for any season can be brought now.

Our long time Saturday cashier, Janet Jackson, has resigned from our Trash or Treasure Shop. She moved about our congregation almost unnoticed but shined brightly as an ambassador for Good Shepherd to our customers and friends. For at least a decade Janet worked almost EVERY Saturday. We extend our appreciation and good wishes to her.



A void will now have to be filled. Anyone wishing to help out in our shop on one or more Saturdays each month please contact me. Remember the Trash or Treasure Shop is vital to our neighbors and to meeting our church budget and your help would be appreciated. Cheryl Scarpetti

On **Sundays Nov. 4, 11, & 18** we will continue to collect food: **stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, and gravy** or canned veggies or instant potatoes for a special **Thanksgiving food distribution** by Harvest Hope Church of God in Christ. The food comes from weekly donations from both congregations, from the Food Bank, and from a food drive organized by the librarian at the Winters School. The students will deliver that food in a grand procession and volunteers will be needed to sort that donation after the students have returned to school. As this newsletter is written the date for that delivery is uncertain; let Caryl Frink know if you might be available to help. \$15 Stop and Shop cards are provided by the Advent Fund for the purchase of meat and other perishables. **Every can or box you give helps a family.**



In honor of our 150th Anniversary, the Outreach Committee has made gifts of \$150 each to

- the Episcopal Conference Center
- the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen
- San Jorge Community Service at St. George’s Church, Central Falls for their Food Closet
- Episcopal Relief and Development for disaster relief (in addition to our usual donation)
- St. Paul’s Church, Pawtucket for their homeless shelter
- St. Luke’s Church, Pawtucket for their Food Closet and community meals
- the Diocese of Massachusetts for disaster relief in the Merrimack Valley (gas explosions)
- a special gift to the nurse at the Winters School as part of what will eventually be a total of \$150 for various needs at the school

There's always apprehension before the first **Fun Friday** of the school year, especially "Will anyone come?" On October 5th the answer to this question was a resounding **YES!** There were 73 guests; last season we averaged 40. There was a lot of last minute moving things around so that everyone had a place to sit. Games were played and various Halloween crafts were popular. Dennis Tripodi played a very special game of "loaves and fishes" in the kitchen but everyone had something to eat.

Future dates are November 2nd and December 7th from 5:30 - 7:30. Come and be part of the fun; we are a super fast cleanup crew and you will be on your way home well before 8 pm.

We welcomed Mrs. Jennifer Surmeian, Community School Resource Coordinator at the Winters School, to Fun Friday and she used this time to get to know many parents in an informal setting. What is a community school? "A community school is "the hub of its neighborhood, uniting families, educators, and **community partners** to provide all students with top-quality academics, enrichment, health and social services, and opportunities to succeed in school and in life," That's us - we at Good Shepherd are community partners!

It costs nothing extra to cut the "Box Tops for Education" logo off products you buy anyway. There is a basket for them on the table at the rear of the church; they will go to the Winters School where the librarian converts them into books.



Around the parish:

On November 3rd **Frank Cook and Ann Maddix** will represent our parish at the **228th Convention of the Diocese of Rhode Island** being held at St. Luke's Church, East Greenwich. The business of the convention will be conducted using a paperless format. From Bishop Knisely, "We will be trying to live out part of being the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement by caring for creation. Care and justice for all creation is a core value of the Episcopal Church ..."

We have about come to the end of this growing season for the Ken Lagerquist Memorial Gardens. Thanks to Jim Scarpetti the tools and hoses are about to be stored and the water turned off. We do send thanks, as well, to Master Gardener Jeff Faria who freely shared his garden knowledge (sometimes in the rain!) throughout the season and went above and beyond when he lent a trap and then carried our urban woodchuck to a new home. We have informal requests for plots for 2019 and will start signups come early spring.

Alyssa Cameron has begun the training necessary to become a Chalice Bearer at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Shop local! A Victorian and Country Christmas
by Elizabeth (Betty) Collins at 59 Pinecrest Drive, Pawtucket
Friday, Nov. 30th: 9 am to 7 pm & Sat., December 1st: 10 am to 4 pm

Happy Birthday

to those celebrating their special day in November



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|--------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 Jim Scarpetti | 4 Kaylee Ramsay | 5 Raymond Stephenson |
| 16 Brinton Dekreon | 18 Jenna Silvestri-Mitchell | 19 Janet Jackson |
| 19 Ernest Marasa | 20 Cynthia Tengbeh | 22 Katie Grace Marcotte |
| 28 Karen Tripodi | 29 Zachary Dekreon | (who will be two!) |

**Join us for Soup Suppers
Three Wednesdays in December
December 5, 12 and 19 at 6:00 pm**



Come together for warm soup, conversation and spiritual reflection on the first three Wednesdays in December. As part of our observance of Advent, we will gather in the parish hall at 6:00 p.m. and watch a short video from the “Nooma” series by Christian pastor and author Rob Bell. “Nooma” is a series of short (10-14 minute) films promoting spiritual reflections on individual life experiences.

After watching the video we’ll ladle up some soup, break some bread, and share sustenance, conversation and reflection with one another. The evening will end with the short service of Compline from the Prayer Book and you’ll be headed home by 7:30 pm.

Deacon Mary Ann will provide the soup and sides for Wednesday, December 5 and will solicit volunteers for the following two weeks. Sign-up sheets and a preview of one of the videos will be available at coffee hour on Sunday, Dec. 2nd.



Advent worship will be a bit different...but still the Eucharist

Question: What includes 2 canticles and some suffrages and begins on page 75 of the Prayer Book?

Answer: A form of worship we’ll be (re-)acquainting ourselves with during the Sundays of Advent (December 2-23).

Our Sunday services will still be Holy Eucharist, but the first half of the service will be in a somewhat different format than usual. You’ll need to look in your Prayer Book (pages 75-102 and the Additional Directions on 142), or read the December newsletter closely for more information!

It is always appropriate to give thanks to God in our own words. However, for many of us it is daunting to pray out loud with family and friends. We want the “right words”; here are a few suggestions:

From the Book of Common Prayer:

- Give us grateful hearts, our Father, for all your mercies, and make us mindful of the needs of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
- Bless, O Lord, your gifts to our use and us to your service; for Christ's sake. Amen.
- Blessed are you, O Lord God, King of the Universe, for you give us food to sustain our lives and make our hearts glad; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- For these and all his mercies, God's holy Name be blessed and praised; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Especially suitable for children:



Thank you for the food we eat,
Thank you for the world so sweet,
Thank you for the birds that sing,
Thank you God for everything.

Lord, thank you for the food before us,
the family and friends beside us
and the love between us. Amen

A Blessed Thanksgiving to all