

The Shepherd's Staff



Church of the Good Shepherd

The Building is Closed but Our Hearts are Open!

November 8:

9:00 am - Church School on Zoom

**10:00 am - Holy Eucharist at church & via Zoom
Stewardship Ingathering**

November 11:

7:30 am - All Age Morning Prayer, on Veteran's Day

November 15:

10:00 am - Holy Eucharist at church & via Zoom

7:00 pm - Youth Group Meeting on Zoom

November 18:

7:30 pm - Hop, Skip and a Jump Bible Study

November 22:

9:00 am - Church School on Zoom

**10:00 am - Holy Eucharist at church & via Zoom
Andy McMahon from Lowell Transitional
Living Center guest speaker
Christmas Wreath Pick up**

November 29:

10:00 am - Holy Eucharist

7:00 pm - Youth Group Meeting on Zoom

November 30:

Prison Ministry donations due (see article)

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<https://www.diomass.org>

A Word from the Fold



Dear Good Shepherd friends,

I am so delighted to be with you! My first weeks have been a lovely and busy whirlwind of the Spirit as I am blown about from one virtual gathering to another. I have been so heartened to discover a community very much alive and active in spite of the pandemic. Despite not being able to gather regularly in-person, you have found a way to carry on many cherished activities virtually. It has been a joy to join so many of you in these virtual experiences—Wednesday Morning Prayer, Virtual Lunch, Thursday Compline, Bible Study, and Book Group.

Sunday morning worship continues to be a highlight of the week for me—and I hope for you, too. While not the way we would normally gather, I am impressed by your faithful and creative efforts to provide worship that is prayerful, interactive, and inclusive of all who join us, regardless of whether in person or online. Thank you for your dedication and patience as we work to plan worship for the coming winter months, including the beautiful and festive seasons of Advent and Christmas. Stay tuned!

I write this on Tuesday, November 3, Election Day. Obviously, there are no results to reflect upon; no reaction yet to how our divided nation will respond. Yet, I am very aware that this election feels very different from those I have experienced before. The stakes feel higher; the divisions more extreme. Friends have complained of insomnia leading up to the election. The anxiety is palpable. Surely, you feel it, too.

I found great comfort in the National Service for Healing and Wholeness this past Sunday afternoon that the Episcopal Church broadcast. It is still available online for those that might have missed it. Check out our Facebook page for the link. Bishop Michael Curry's sermon was particularly wonderful and a balm to my wearied soul. I commend it to you. He spoke of the importance of values—Christian values, American values, values that are at the core of our Scriptures, at the core of Jesus's teachings, at the core of our faithful community here at Good Shepherd. Here is an excerpt:

Our ideals, values, principles and dreams of beloved community matter. They matter because they drive us beyond service of self alone, to commitment to the greater good of us all. They matter because they give us an actual picture of God's reign of love, and a reason to struggle and make it real. They matter to our lives as people of faith. They matter to our life in civil society. They matter to our life as a nation and as a world. Our values matter! ...

We don't think of it this way very often but love for each other is a value on which our democracy depends. On the Great Seal of the United States, above the bald eagle are banners on which the Latin words, e pluribus unum are written. Those words, e pluribus unum, literally mean, "one out of many." One nation from many diverse people.

But do you know where those words come from? They come from the writings of Cicero who lived during the time of the Roman Republic. Cicero said, "When each person loves the other as much as himself, it makes one out of many." Cicero who gave us those words said that love for each other is the way to make e pluribus unum real. Jesus of Nazareth taught us that. Moses taught us that. America, listen to Cicero, Jesus, Moses. Love is the way to make e pluribus unum real. Love is the way to be America for real.

Amen, Bishop. Amen. We don't seem to talk much about values these days. Of the importance of them to our lives, our families, our society. Perhaps one of the unfortunate consequences of falling church attendance and an over-emphasis upon those great American ideals of personal independence, freedom and

liberty is that we have lost sight of the collective values that bind us together. Values like love for neighbor, the importance of community, the grace of forgiveness, the strength in diversity, and responsibility for the least of those among us.

I pray that as we walk together through these days of pandemic and election, and on into Advent and Christmas, we may find comfort and

joy and strength in the things that bind us together, rather than those things which would drive us apart. I look forward to getting to know you all in the days and weeks to come.

Grace and Peace,
Ellie+

Junior Warden's Message



Hurray! Thanks to your generous support, we will soon have a brand-new roof at Good Shepherd! Apex Roofing will remove our existing roof shingles and replace them with Landmark Pro architectural 50-year shingles. Fortunately, the rubber portions of the roof are

still in good condition and require no work at this time. Depending on the weather, Apex could be at the church any day now.

The quoted cost for the roof is \$69,655. Before this fall, we had about \$45,000 in our Major Repairs Designated Fund, and today we have \$67,000, thanks to the people who have made special contributions for this project.



There is some rot underneath the current shingles that will add to the project cost. We hope to raise \$5,000 to \$10,000 more to completely cover all costs. If you would like to help, send a check to the church and note in the memo line that it is for the roof. Any amount is appreci-

ated to get us to our goal. We are exceedingly grateful to all who have financially supported this major capital project.

In other 'infrastructure' matters, Lydia and I hope you are as pleased as we are with our new sound system. The purchase of a high-quality mixer and two speakers has made our parking lot worship possible, even making our 'Zoom' participants' voices heard by our parking lot congregants! The new 'Madonna' headset microphone has made the words of our priest clear to listeners both in person and on-line.

As we move inside for the winter, this new system should make a substantial improvement over our virtual services last spring. Rather than a single microphone in the sanctuary, we will have dedicated microphones for organ, piano, priest, and a singer or reader which should eliminate the muffling reverb. If we are able to have in-person services this winter, it will be time to move forward with phase two of the sound system plan, installing additional new speakers in the sanctuary. The equipment we have been using outside will become the core of our sanctuary sound system, but we can still move it outside whenever needed. If you have an interest in tech toys, please consider becoming



one of our 'stage crew'... we need more people to become proficient at running the new equipment!

Jessie Panek

Worship

Worship

You can attend our Holy Eucharist Service at 10 a.m. on Sundays either online through Zoom, or in person in our parking lot. We are currently using Rite II in the Book of Common Prayer. The outdoor service is integrated into the live Zoom service, so if you are not comfortable attending in person, you can still be part of our service. We are doing our best to plan ahead for this service, but worship outside is weather-dependent. **The service may revert to Morning Prayer when the weather determines we need to be indoors and fully on Zoom.** Please watch the weekly eblast and check



the website for updates.

To everyone who would like them, we hope to provide pre-consecrated wafers to all who plan to worship with us via Zoom. Look in the eblast for updated instructions about how to obtain them ahead of the service. They are left in a basket on the altar and you may come and retrieve enough for your household for that particular week whenever the office is open. Please check the eblast for updates and call ahead as there are days the staff works from home. The eblast also contains the week's service leaflet with the readings and prayers of the people, and a separate handout



of the music (music is only for those who are attending via Zoom).

Signing up to attend each outdoor service is required because we need to have a list of attendees for contact tracing if it should be necessary. Each sign-up is for one 'circle' in the parking lot. Members of the same household group may share a single circle. It is assumed that the person who



supplies the e-mail address will be able to reach every household member for whom they are reserving a spot.

One advantage of signing up ahead of time is that if we have to cancel at the last minute due to weather, we will notify you! If it becomes necessary to cancel the outdoor service, we will e-mail each person who signed up by 7 a.m. on the morning of the service. The service will be moved indoors, but please note that at this time, we are not allowing a congregation in the sanctuary, so your only option is to participate via Zoom. Please check your email before coming to the church.

For Outdoor Worship you need to bring:

- Your own chair (if unable to bring your own chair, please e-mail Lydia Tolley and we can provide one)
- The Service Leaflet (please print it out at home and bring with you, if possible. Singing is not permitted, so you do not need to print the hymns.)
- Water or other beverage (optional)
- Face mask; **You are REQUIRED to wear a face mask at all times.**
- Warm clothes as needed

There are other limitations and instructions included in the Outdoor Worship Information Sheet on our website.

With Gratitude...

We could not be having our services via Zoom or outdoors without our priceless volunteers who have made this happen Sunday after Sunday, and sometimes in very cold conditions.

Many thanks to our online hosts: Harry Peebles and Denise Kelly.



We couldn't have done without our on site sound techs "Roadies": Lydia Tolley, Jessie Panek, Tom Hoch, Chris O'Leary, Jon Panek, Anna Browning and Nick Terry.



Our ushers have directed traffic, taken attendance and of course...ushered. Many thanks to: Marilyn and Dick Fedele, and Gail and Ray Lyons, and to Emily Terry for helping with Eucharist.

And lastly we truly thank and appreciation Dave Hazen singing the hymns for us every Sunday.



Winter Worship Survey

In light of the cooling weather, the Regathering Team would like to know your thoughts regarding in-person worship - whether outdoors or indoors. Please know that online worship will continue to be an option each week. We do not yet know whether in-person, indoor worship will be possible. However, your responses will be very helpful to us as we consider our options for worship this winter. the link is below:

Service Schedule

Sunday:

10 am Eucharist
at church and on Zoom

Wednesday:

7:30 am Morning Prayer
on Zoom

Thursday:

8:00 pm Compline
on Zoom

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XPVHPXS>

So, You'd Like to Be a Lector?

Of course you would! Lectors are responsible for reading the lessons during our Sunday services. We can always use more people to join the team, and there are no meetings to attend! It's very simple. I reach out to our list of lector volunteers and request that they sign up for one or more Sundays in the upcoming months. I have created an online Sign Up Genius form so you can see what dates are available in real time. Once you have signed up, you can expect to hear from me by the Thursday prior to the Sunday service with your reading. You can read from the parking lot or from Zoom in the comfort of your home. It's all good and it's a great way to be a part of the service and serve our church community. Please email by clicking on my name below if you would like to be added to the volunteer list and I'll send you all the details. And a big Thank You to all our current lectors for your service.

[Debby Flint-Baum](#)

Good Shepherd Music

Update on our pipe organ:

The one and a half ranks of wood pipes were serviced and reinstalled after three weeks' time in the shop of Andover



Organ Company. That renovation and repair should last another 100 years!

Also, yesterday the organ received its autumn tuning, which is always considered the main tuning of the year. The secondary Easter tuning is one that brushes up on minor issues and any repairs.

I asked the gentlemen about any different specifics in tuning with regards to possible future worship in a sanctuary with windows wide open in winter? Organs still need to be tuned at the usually heated temperature as would be in place in any given Sunday morning worship service.

Our beloved 1892 Hook & Hastings Tracker Organ is in great shape now, and I thank you for your interest in reading about my passion, as well as your enjoyment of hearing it being played!

This Sunday's hymn is *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*. It is an ancient Eucharistic chant from Habakkuk 2:20, "*Let all the earth keep silence before him*". The original was composed in Greek and dates back to at least AD 275. The modern version by Ralph Vaughan Williams is set to the tune Picardy, a French medieval folk melody, and became popular in Christian congregations.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, Alleluia
Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Deborah Colageo

Greening of the Church

Advent and Christmas plans are still in a state of flux, please check the weekly e-blast on Thursday's for up-to-date info about Greening of



the Church this year.



Blessing of the Animals



Adult Christian Formation

Exploring the Scriptures:

A Hop, Skip and Jump through the Bible

We are continuing to hold our Bible Study on Zoom once a month on Wednesday evenings from 7.30-9pm. The dates and readings will be posted in the E-blast two weeks before the meeting. Come and join us as we consider how the scriptures speak to us today. All are welcome!

[Bev Ridpath](#)

Church School

Love, Love, Love.



This fall the church school program has gotten off to a slow but steady start. Grades pre-K through 5 have met on Zoom a couple of times. **The class is scheduled for 9am every other Sunday morning before the regular worship service.** The older

kids have gathered both virtually and in person for social and service activities.

The theme this year for all youth is love. The younger kids have explored it through music, prayer and discussion of a Bible story. They considered love of self as well as love of neighbors and love of God. Each time we meet we grow in understanding of love and each other. The older kids have practiced love of fun by gathering on Zoom to play a virtual escape room game. They have also met to work on various service type projects for other members of the congregation and the larger community including making care packages for CGS young adults in college (see articles on the Story Walk and Halloween Food Drive for other examples).

The biggest expression of love was shared in a video montage that whole families helped to create for Pastor Melissa's leaving. Church school family members of all ages responded to requests for special video messages of gratitude and affec-

tion for everything Melissa was and did for our church during her term as interim priest. Now we excitedly look forward to showing the same kind of love to Rev. Ellie in the days and years to come.

[Taryn](#)

Story Walk

In late September youth group teens and church school teachers along with Pastor Melissa and me joined together at the church to build our very first Story Walk. The idea of Story Walks originated in Vermont with Anne Ferguson in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library. The idea is to display the pages of a children's story along a path for all to read and enjoy as they walk.

The story I chose for the CGS story walk was Bird Hugs by Ged Adamson. It's the tale of a bird with extra long arms who feels sad about not being able to fly. He's different than the other birds but through experiences with his animal friends he learns that different is not bad at all and he brings great joy to others. They give him joy in return. It's a book that truly highlights the importance and beauty of loving oneself.





I brought the materials including wood donated by friend Brian Griffin of M and M Home Services. The others brought enthusiasm, ingenuity, care and persistence. We had to troubleshoot such issues as how to get the wood stakes firmly into the ground and where to appropriately place each new page of the story. Just like the bird, we felt some frustration but ultimately joy as we witnessed the walk develop into a meaningful journey around and with the church. We hope to install another story later in the year.

Halloween Games & Food Drive

Mission outreach continues to be a passion for many CGS parishioners. Similarly, the church school council continues to focus on developing ways for the youth of our community to participate in the mission outreach projects.

One of the easiest and most meaningful ways our children can connect with the missions is through food. Most kids love food. It's personal and tangible. They want to help others to have it. That's why it was also easy to continue our practice of collecting food at the beginning of the month to donate to the Acton



Food Pantry.

Shortly before Pastor Ellie came on board, I started formulating ideas to combine a way for the CGS kids to enjoy some time together, outside at church, and also participate in a Food Drive for the Acton Food Pantry. What better time than Halloween and All Saints weekend? Thanks to the ideas of Carol Brady and other Christian formation leaders in the area, the plan solidified and got a formal green light from Ellie shortly thereafter.



The result of the planning was a lovely albeit somewhat cold gathering on Halloween afternoon in the church parking lot where volunteer adults and youth group kids collected food and ran Halloween themed carnival type games. We instituted great caution and thoughtfulness in structuring the event to allow for social distancing and sanitizing. There was minimal contact between participants but maximum commitment to having fun and helping others.



I'm always impressed by the teens who take time away from their other responsibilities and occupations to give their energy to not just others in our church community, older and younger, but also to the community at large. These young people love having activities in which they have purpose and do good. I'm also



immensely grateful to all the adults who continue to support our young people when and where they can. It's challenging for all of us right now in different ways and at different times. The Halloween Games and Food Drive was a beautiful demonstration of how despite challenges this community still shows up.

Taryn Ross-Hyman

Church School Calendar

Nov. 8 at 9:00 am - Church School on Zoom

Nov. 11 at 7:30 am - Morning Prayer for all ages on Veteran's Day

Nov. 15 at 7:00 pm - Youth Group Meeting on Zoom

Nov. 22 at 9:00 am - Church School on Zoom

Nov. 29 at 7:00 pm - Youth Group Meeting on Zoom

Mission Outreach

“We are called to be the change we want to see in the world by honoring human dignity and seeking to improve the rights and conditions of people locally, nationally, and globally.”

Mission Outreach Calendar

November: Lowell Transitional Living Center

December: Welcoming Immigrants

January: Esperanza Academy

February: Food Pantries

March: El Ocotillo

April: Easter/No mission focus

May: Creation Care

November is “Undies Sundies” Month

“Winter Bed is closer than I care to admit. The times in which we are living make it even more foreboding than usual. Socks, gloves, etc are always in high demand and short supply as are blankets, cots, sleeping mats. I have great concern about Winter time. I hope everyone at Good Shepherd is well. Thank you for all you guys have done and continue to do.”

(Andy McMahon - Director of the Lowell Transitional Living Center)

As most of you know, we have supported the Lowell Transitional Living Center (LTLC) for many years,

Andy McMahon will visit us this year on Nov. 22 to talk with us about how our contributions help and what their needs are this year. Each year we gather and send new



underwear, socks, undershirts, scarves, and hats to the LTLC. We’ve also had fundraisers for specific items such as pillows, blankets, cots, and a commercial washing machine.

Due to the Pandemic, we will be asking for “virtual gifts” this year. If you would like to support this ministry, we ask you chose a donation (listed below) and send a check directly the the Church of the Good Shepherd. I also encourage you to send a card (or cards if you’d like to write/make more than one) with words of encouragement to the staff and residents along with your donation.

Here are the donation options:

10.00 - socks, underwear, undershirts scarves, hats

20.00- pillows

50.00 - blankets

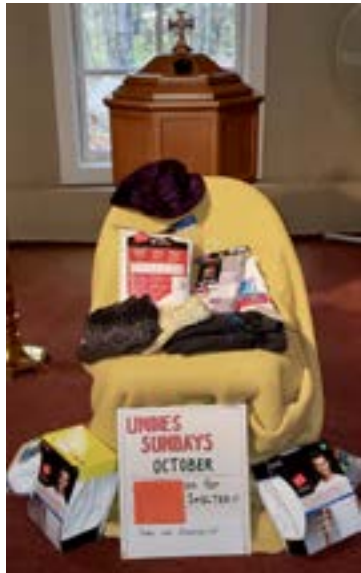
100.00 - cots

(If you’d prefer you can also send checks/gift cards for items that are not on the list above.)

We are looking forward to Andy speaking during our Sunday service on **November 22nd** and hope to see you online or in person at church. It would be wonderful if we could send him back to the center with an outpouring of love, encouragement and funds to sustain the winter bed program this year.

In closing, here is my last email from Andy on 10/31:

“Thank you and everyone else at the Church for your continued support of LTLC’s mission to help the homeless. You are certainly correct about Winter Bed needs....cots, blankets and pillows are great and always in need. As far as drives go... anything warm..... Gift cards to places like Market Basket or the Dollar Store or similar stores are great too. Checks are fine. Whatever makes the most sense for folks is perfect. This Winter will likely prove to be the most challenging yet. It is comforting to know that we are not alone as we head into the “great unknown” Andy”



Gift Bag Project, 6 Walden Street #1, Concord, MA 01742. Please send your donation by November 30th.

Immigration Focus during Advent

We are creating a two-session interactive session with Cristosal to answer your questions about immigration. Watch for dates and details.



Our Prayer Chain Covid Response

Church of the Good Shepherd has a long history of prayer and action for those in need. During this time of the COVID-19 outbreak, our Prayer Chain members invite you to submit the name(s) of anyone in need of prayer, whether they’ve been exposed to the virus, have symptoms, have tested positive, have a job that puts them in danger of being exposed, or if they are struggling emotionally. If you would like to add someone to our Prayer List, please email [Jane Lothian](mailto:jane.lothian@goodshepherd.org) or [Margaret Geanis](mailto:margaret.geanis@goodshepherd.org). Our Prayer Chain will keep all prayer requests strictly confidential. If the situation changes, or they no longer need prayer, please use the same link to update us on their status.

Here is a link to the Episcopal Church’s web page for the Pandemic. It includes prayers and resources for you. <https://episcopalchurch.org/concerning-covid19>



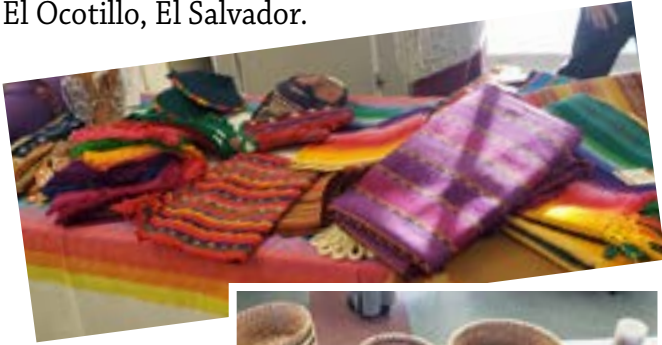
Prison Ministry Holiday Gift Bags

There will be a Holiday Gift Bag program this year. It is more important than ever since the prisoners have had no contact with volunteers since March. It is important for them to know that people care. To be safe in Covid times, the prison will not allow handmade cards and Concord Prison Outreach will purchase all of the items for the bags. Tax-deductible donations to pay for supplies are appreciated and may be made out to Concord Prison Outreach, Inc., earmarked “Holiday Gift Bags” and mailed to CPO, Holiday



El Salvador

Don't do all of your holiday shopping at Amazon! The Fair Trade Craft Sales are planning an outdoor event in December! These sales support the scholarships for students in our sister community: El Ocotillo, El Salvador.



Esperanza Good News

Thanks to generous donations by Good Shepherd parishioners, we raised \$2500 for Esperanza Academy scholarships through their October Harvest of Hope event. Our sponsorship will help provide a rigorous curriculum to 60 middle school girls of Lawrence. The tuition is still free and their fundraising options are limited due to the pandemic.



Crop Walk

Sunday, October 18th was a beautiful day for walking, discovering turtles, and spending time with friends. The gang from Good Shepherd drew the attention of passersby on the Bruce Freeman Trail with their hand-designed Crop Walk sashes.

So far we have raised \$1025 towards \$1500 goal. Click here to visit the Church of the Good Shepherd team page <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/concordma/COGS>

What if Esperanza Girls Ran the World?

The students' Harvest of Hope thank you gift to us is this 40-minute entertainment and informational show, designed with one question in mind: "What if Esperanza girls ran the world?" The program is infused with Esperanza's joy, love, and inspiration! The Video can be found at: **What if Esperanza girls ran the world?** <https://www.esperanzaacademy.org/hope>

Events

Christmas Wreath Fund Raiser

Friends,

We are expecting the wreaths to be delivered the week before Thanksgiving, so we are planning to set up a few tables outside (weather permitting) or in the entryway Sunday, November 22nd for pickup. If there is a delay in delivery, we will plan for the 29th. You pay when you pick up your orders. Please make checks made out to the church. We believe that all orders will be filled; if not, you will be called. Thank you.

[John Link](#)



Farewell Service for Rev. Melissa Buono



Editor's note: There were other photos take of this morning, however they create a huge computer glitch every time I tried to use. Addional photos can be found on our FaceBook page.

Sorry, Margaret Geanisis

Committee News



Stewardship Appeal

At a previous church, I spent many years chairing the Stewardship Committee. One of the things that I learned is that people have many reasons to give to the church. For some, it is highly transactional, almost like dues or a fee for services rendered. Others may give out of a sense of thankfulness for all of the blessings in their life. Still others may feel a sense of duty or obligation, or give as a spiritual exercise.

For me this year, my Stewardship decision will be guided by my desire to keep the church on firm financial footing and especially to support a strong start to a new chapter in our church's life under the leadership of Rev. Ellie Terry. Your Search Committee was blessed to be able to invite candidates to consider service in a community that was generous, responsive and financially sound – something that is increasingly rare these days. We need to maintain that solid footing as we move forward with Ellie!

My prayer for all of us is that we make this important decision intentionally and prayerfully. I hope we all will set aside some time to pray about our Stewardship decision, discuss with our families and actively consider what God is asking us to do.

How will I know if I was intentional in my Stewardship decision? For me, I have found that intentional decisions do not automatically default to what I did last year. They involve consideration of the impact of my decision last year, both in terms of my finances and my faith. There may be other indications that are important to you.

Of course, our financial pledge is but one way in which we contribute to our life together and

to supporting our new rector. Our pledges in terms of time and talent are equally important! I would ask that in this season, and at this moment in our church's life together, that we all commit to being intentional in considering the decision that we are being asked to make.

Chris O' Leary

Stewardship Pledge Instructions

Please try to make your 2021 pledge as soon as possible. On Sunday November 8 we will celebrate the ingathering of pledges. Pledges received in November help give the Vestry an estimate of income so they can plan next year's budget in December.

Pledge Information

Each year our parishioners participate in our Annual Giving through our pledge campaign. The money that they contribute represents over 90% of the total income of the parish. This money is used to fund all of the activities of the parish including Worship, Education and Pastoral Care.

Make a pledge at: <https://goodshepherdacton.org/pledge-form>

After making a pledge, use one of the following methods to submit your pledged donation.

Electronic Bill Pay:

Mail a check directly to the church from your bank at the frequency you prefer. Contact your bank to find out how.

Paypal:

If you're a PayPal user, use the "send to a friend" option to send to Church of the Good Shepherd at cogspaypal@gmail.com.

Dave Hazen

Creation Care

Reduce your carbon emissions through Acton Power Choice. Good Shepherd already has!

Acton parishioners: Follow Good Shepherd's lead and purchase your electricity outside of the standard Eversource offering through Acton Power Choice, www.actonpowerchoice.com to enable you to make a 100% renewable energy choice for your home.

Parishioners from other towns: Ask your electric company if they offer a plan for renewable energy.

7 Acton Houses of Worship Endorse Acton's Climate Emergency Declaration

On September 8, 2020 at a Special Acton Town meeting, the citizens voted overwhelmingly to join some 1750 other towns and cities around the world in declaring a Climate Emergency. Good Shepherd was an endorser of Acton's Climate Emergency Declaration along with six other Acton houses of worship: St Matthew's Methodist Church, Acton Center Congregational Church, South Acton UCC Church, Beth Elohim Congregation, West Acton Baptist Church and First Parish Church of Stow and Acton.

A critical component of this declaration addresses carbon emissions from buildings and fossil fueled vehicles.

"Be it Further Resolved, that the members of Acton Town Meeting call on Town government and staff, and all Acton civic groups, businesses, and residents to commit to a climate mobilization effort, with appropriate support from state and federal governments, to bring the net Town-wide carbon emissions to zero as quickly as possible,

with a target date of 2030."

The declaration can be viewed in its entirety at: <https://www.actonclimatecoalition.org/#declaration>. Let's mobilize to reduce carbon emissions! Contact [Carolyn Platt](#) to learn more.

Creation Care Learning Opportunities Waste & Recycling Webinars

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has compiled a month of informative programming this November called Reduce, Reuse, Recycle-palooza! They are offering two different webinars which are FREE and open to anyone. Spread the word! Registration is required. <https://mailchi.mp/83fc07968d37/reduce-reuse-recycle-palooza?e=946891cf4f>

Waste Reduction and Why it Matters

November 16, 2020 (2:00 pm–3:15 pm)

Did you know that all landfills in Mass will be closed by 2030 and that the seven municipal waste combustors in the state are operating at or near capacity now?

This presentation is for anyone who wants to understand the magnitude of our trash problem (both locally and globally). Learn what is being done, what's still needed, and most importantly how you can help!

Talking Trash and Recycling

November 18, 2020 (7:00 pm–8:15 pm)

Are you confused about what should go in your trash barrel and what should go in your recycling bin? Find out what happens to your trash and recyclables here in Massachusetts.



Building Committee Update

Many thanks to Ken Kozik, Tom Hoch, Jon Panek, and Doug Haney for their work on Oct 3. We replaced the deteriorating white skirt boards along the Arlington St side and around the corner to the front of the library. The project included weather-proofing with flashing tape and Tyvek building wrap under the PVC skirt boards. The repair will keep the sill dry and the outside looking sharp for the next 20+ years.

Tim White



Administration

Thank You's From Our Warden

Lydia Tolley, our Warden, was out straight with her job this issue, but she wanted to make sure that the following acts of donated Stewardship Time and Talent were acknowledged.

- Thanks to Lesley Murray for helping me clean out the Rector's office, and for repairing liturgical vestments.
- Thanks to Kathi Haney, Diane Cooke, Harry Johnson, and Jessie Panek for assisting with the Celebration of Melissa's Ministry.
- Thanks to Rafael Pupo, Laura Brock, yours truly, Margaret Geanisis, and all the parish contributors for the photo gift book for Melissa.
- Thanks to Emmanuel Aronie, Chris O'Leary, the

Transition Team, and all the parish contributors for the personal story book for Ellie.

- Thanks to Tom Hoch and Tony Geanisis for clearing leaves from the parking lot last Saturday.
- Thanks to Chris O'Leary for cleaning construction trash and for fixing light fixtures.

"I'm sure I've missed others, but I've caught a few more!"

Lydia Tolley

Our church has continued to sustain us through the many donations of Time, Talent and Treasure from all of you, both acknowledged and unacknowledged. Thank you.

Margaret Geanisis, Editor