

# The Shepherd's Staff

October 2022



Church of the Good Shepherd  
*Our story inside these pages*

**Oct. 9 at 10:00 am - Holy Eucharist with  
Baptism**

**11:30 am - "Christ Walk" program begins**

**Oct. 15 at 10:00 am - Men's Group Meeting  
in the Library**

**Oct. 16 at 10 am - Church School begins**

**Oct. 22 at 7 pm - Fall Social**

**Oct. 23 at 10 am - Church School begins**

**Last Sunday to order Christmas Wreaths**

**Oct. 31 - Last day to vote  
for our "Shaun the Sheep"**

**scarecrow at Curcubit  
Farms (see pg 9)**

**November will be  
Undies Sunday Month**



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Church of the  
Good Shepherd  
164 Newtown Road  
Acton, MA 01720  
(978) 263-5782

Website:

<https://goodshepherdacton.org>

[FB: Church of the Good Shepherd, Acton](#)

Episcopal Diocese of  
Massachusetts

# A Word from the Fold



Let's think about passion. About the pent-up passion many of us feel to return to what we remember as normal. A time when the pews were filled with families. A time when there were dinners and other social events held at our church. A time when our Sunday School programs were filled with interesting projects and lessons to entertain and inform our young folks about the wonderful mysteries of our journey through a life of faith. Yes. We miss

all that.

Now that our church is back to being fully functional and accessible, now that COVID restrictions have been lifted for many of us, we are in a hurry to reclaim what we feel we lost over these past two-plus years of separation. And rightly so! This is our passion: to rebuild, to renew, an active and fulfilling parish life for all of us as we follow Jesus' teaching to share our gifts with each other and with the community outside our doors.


Our situation is, I believe, that we are out of practice with being together. We were taught to avoid contact with each other, and we learned that lesson too well. Perhaps even our Spirituality has gotten out of shape through lack of practice and exercise. We've gotten used to being spectators rather than participants. We just aren't sure how or where we are to go from here.

My friends, we are in this journey together, and it is up to us to help each other rediscover the joys of a shared life of faith. Like restarting an exercise program after a long illness, we have the desire to get back into a routine, but it now feels uncomfortable. We feel clumsy and awkward. We just can't just pick up where we left off. We need to be gentle with ourselves and each other as we relearn our discipline and practices. We need to push our comfort zone a little bit farther, stretch our spiritual and interpersonal muscles a little more.

Like restarting an exercise program, it's easy to give into frustration with our efforts, and that's perfectly understandable. Happily, we have our church and each other to share that journey. Opportunities to exercise our Christian lifestyle are present and being reformed to invite your participation. Coffee Hour is getting some structure, our Men's group is about to be launched, and an autumn walking program will be available for most of us to enjoy as we explore our external and spiritual environment. These will join our well established ministries with Lowell Transition Center, Esperanza, El Ocotillo, and our Afghan family.

Please ask about, and consider joining us as we begin to stretch our Spiritual muscles once again!

+Deacon Ken



**The Vestry of Church of  
Good Shepherd invites  
you to attend the**

# **Fall Social**

**Saturday, Oct. 22, at 7 PM  
in the Parish Hall**

**Come join us for a fun casual evening, get  
reacquainted with old friends, and meet  
new friends.**

**It has been far too long since we have had a  
chance to spend time together!**

**Please bring a beverage, (wine, beer, or  
non- alcoholic), and/or an appetizer to share.**

**\* This is an adult-only event.**

# Senior Warden's Message



## Children's Playground Update

If you have just recently joined Good Shepherd, you likely have not seen many children out in the yard behind the Parish Hall. This is the location of our playground!

Our collective departure from indoor services rendered the playground a bit secondary during pandemic-era grounds maintenance. The upkeep of the building marched on, but this area was put on the back burner.

However, we are now all filtering back in on Sundays; Sunday School has resumed, and it is time to give this wonderful space a sprucing up!

The current design and features of the playground are thought to have originated when we leased out our lower-level rooms to a Montessori School, back in the day. Since then, not many upgrades have been made.

But there is much to be done before the area is ready for little merrymakers! Currently, there are three small play structures in visible need of either repair or removal. They have seen better days. The ground play surface is badly in need of a refresh as well.

Early work on cleaning up the area has begun. A pile of old plastic toys was taken to the recycling center, courtesy of the Platts, so that was a big help. Thank you, Andy and Carolyn! A couple of weeks ago, the Girl Scouts of Acton descended upon its weediness and provided a thorough going over. The same Boy Scout troop that undertakes our annual property cleanup has also volunteered to remove the most decrepit of the three climbing

structures.

This may involve some chainsaw work (NOT by the boy scouts!) to efficiently deconstruct it, and a willing congregant with a pickup and dump pass....

We also have a line on a large wooden play structure donation, discovered by the Gagliano's. The donor would like a timeline from Good Shepherd as soon as possible on when we will be taking it away, so they also can plan. This will require a crew to disassemble and reassemble it (From personal experience I would suggest numbering the building pieces and inventorying the hardware).

To make this all possible, what we really need now is a group of dedicated folks to team up and coordinate the work together on the playground upgrade. The playground is a space patiently waiting to be renewed. It is a great asset and an integral part of our offering as a place to gather for families. If interested, please contact me at [warden-fedde@gmail.com](mailto:warden-fedde@gmail.com) for more details.

Wendy Feddeerson



# Junior Warden's Message



Dear Parishioners,  
We've got yummy news. Personal Chef Anina Kostecki will be renting our kitchen on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning in October. Typically, but not always, her workday will be from 9 am to 1 pm. Please say "Hello"

when you see her. Anina will be preparing "home cooked" meals for clients to pre-order. Tuesday and

Thursday meal pick-up will be late in the afternoon, currently planned for 5 to 6 PM. During reasonable weather, clients will pick-up their orders from her truck in the parking lot. Inclement weather will have pick-up under the entry walkway roof or inside the parish hall. Information about her menus, and how to order meals will be forthcoming. This rental is good for our budget. The activity, especially meal pick-up, is expected to also be good for our neighborly relations. Rev. Ellie and Laura enjoyed a sneak peek during Anina's test run last week, complete with wonderful aromas.

Peace,  
Harry

## Worship

### Liturgy Update

This summer and early weeks of fall, our 10 am liturgy has come from the "Thanksgiving of the People of God" Eucharistic setting from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*. We look forward to celebrating the baptism (our fourth of the fall) of Benjamin Carpenter, son of Mike and Lays Carpenter on October 9. Later in October, as we welcome back Ellen Oak and our choir, we will shift to a Rite II liturgy from the *Book of Common Prayer*.

### Music & Choir

I am delighted to share that Ellen Oak, our Pastoral Associate for Liturgy and Music, is healing well from not one, but two, hip replacement surgeries. We look forward to welcoming her back on Sunday, October 9.

Ellen's full return, beginning October 9, will take place gradually. She'll be back with us for Sunday mornings, and then will add back her fuller duties, bit by bit, as her healing continues. It will take some time to plan and prepare rehearsals with

### Service Schedule

#### Sunday

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, also live streamed on Zoom

#### Wednesday

7:30 am Morning Prayer followed by breakfast

#### Thursday

8:00 pm Compline via Zoom

the choir. Choir members will begin singing hymns on Sundays very soon, with more music added in as weeks go on. I appreciate your continued understanding and support as we welcome Ellen back to the fold, newly mended, yet still healing.

We have been blessed, during her extended absence, to have had music every Sunday, thanks to the generosity and talents of a variety of gifted

musicians. From our own parish, Lydia and Chris Tolley, Jon and Jessie Panek, and Dave Hazen have all led music and/or singing. Thank you for sharing your gifts with us! We welcomed Elizabeth Tousignant, Saeah Lee, and Charlotte Russell as supply organists on other weeks. I am grateful to all of them for enhancing our worship while Ellen has been out.



## From Ellen Oak

Heartfelt thanks to the whole community of Good Shepherd! You have held me in such tender and powerful care and prayer through my two total hip replacement surgeries and initial recovery. The prayer shawl, the cards, the emails, the intercessions on Sunday morning and throughout the week, and your keeping the song of faith aloft and alive, have all made a big difference in my healing journey. I look forward to being back among you in the flesh soon.



### Worship Snapshots



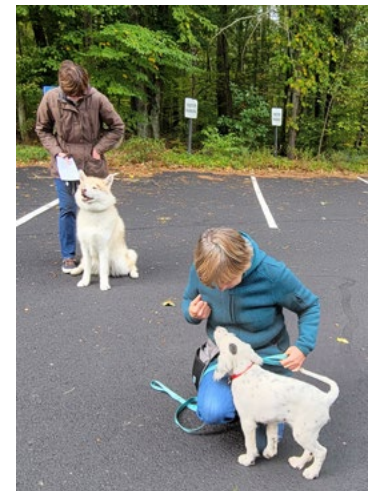
Photos from the often heard about, but rarely seen 8:00 am Service



**Blessing of the Backpacks**



**Blessing of the Animals**



# Christian Formation

## Join Our Revitalized CGS Men's Group!

In case you missed the notices posted around the church, Good Shepherd, Acton, is re-starting its Men's Group. Our first gathering will be on **Saturday, October 15, at 10:00 am**. We will meet in the library, at the end of the hall beyond the parish hall. All are welcome!

During our first gathering, we will get to know each other better, explore our interests and expectations for the group, and explore the Gospel passages for that coming Sunday. We will also consider how we can best share our gifts with our parish and with our community. We hope to provide opportunities to enrich, explore, and share our faith and life journeys, as we share with and learn from each other.

Please join us! We need your ideas, energy, imagination, skills, and prayers to create and maintain a safe environment for caring, respect, and mutual support. You are wanted! You are welcome!

Ken Schmidt

## Christian Formation:

### Christ Walks: Let's take a hike, together!

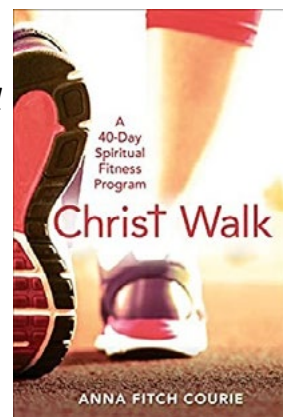
Our Christian Formation program for this fall will be something new and different. Beginning, October 9, after the 10 am service (following coffee hour), Rev. Ellie will lead us on a weekly Christ Walk in the Grassy Pond Conservation Land across the street from Good Shepherd.

This will involve a gentle walk through the woods along an unpaved path and a board walk. All ages (including kids and families) are welcome and encouraged to join us. We'll begin with a brief meditation and prayer and then walk together to the bridge/dock overlooking Grassy Pond. There, we'll have another brief prayer. Those who prefer a shorter walk can head back along the boardwalk the way we came. Those who wish a longer walk, can continue on the 1.1 mile loop through the woods.

Our meditations will be loosely based on the book *Christ Walk: A 40-Day Spiritual Fitness Program* by Anna Fitch Courie. We'll make available daily meditations, taken from this book, for those who would like to use them on daily walks between October 9 and November 17. Each Sunday in these 40 days, we'll take a walk together, giving thanks for the beauty of God's creation, delighting in the company of one another.

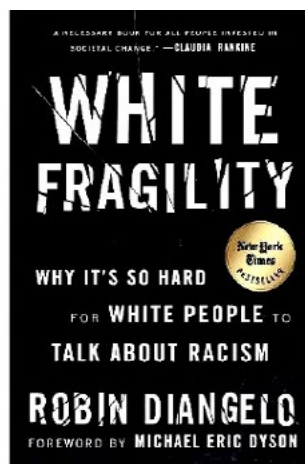
Please dress for the weather, wearing footwear appropriate for occasionally muddy trails. You might want to bring a water bottle, light snacks, and bug spray.

**Christ Walks, Sundays October 9, 16, 23, 30, November 6, and 13 after the 10 am service.** We'll head out after Coffee Hour, **around 11:30 each week.** Length of walk is up to you.  
Rev. Ellie



## Book Recommendation

***White Fragility: Why it's so Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*** by Robin DiAngelo



This is a book for white people. Robin DiAngelo is a white person who leads diversity workshops. She noticed in her workshops that white people would be very angry or upset when discussing diversity in the workplace. This puzzled her for a while, until she realized that when white people discuss race, the often feel uncomfortable. This “racial discomfort” causes people to act out with anger or fear or guilt. She called this defense mechanism “white fragility”. White fragil-



ity functions in a way that re-establishes the social norms and prevents meaningful dialogue.

We are taught that racism is a bad act committed by a bad person. When we are told that something we have said could be construed as racist, we are understandably upset, because we are not bad people.

But there is another definition of racism. Race is a complex social construct. The culture that we were born into has racial structures in place that we do not think to question. When we hear that something that we are doing could make a Black person uncomfortable, we should stop and ask why. What is it about this event that makes people of

color uncomfortable? An example would be displaying a Confederate flag. White people view a Confederate flag differently than Black people do because our experiences are different.

If you are only ever going to read one book on racism, this is the book to read. There are no sad stories. This book gives you an understanding of how we can interrupt our own defense mechanisms so we can listen to another person's point of view, and be more compassionate.

<https://www.amazon.com/White-Fragility-People-About-Racism/dp/0807047414>

Gail Lyons

## Church School

We look forward to **beginning Church School on Sunday, October 16**. Church School will meet on the first and third Sundays of each month for kids in grades Kindergarten through Grade 8.

We are grateful to welcome back teachers Jen Thornton and Mary Bunker. Jen will teach the younger students, in grades K through 4. Mary will lead the class for our older students in grades 5-8.

Thank you to the families who responded to our earlier survey. We are so excited to welcome you and your children to Good Shepherd this fall. Plans are still coming together, but we anticipate celebrating Special Communion Sunday again this year, and regularly incorporating children more directly in our worship as ushers, readers and acolytes. We look forward to offering a Confirmation class for our older youth as well.

Please contact Rev. Ellie if you are interested in helping with any of our children's/youth ministries this year.

### Shaun the Sheep

**Make Sure You Stop by & Vote before Oct. 31!**

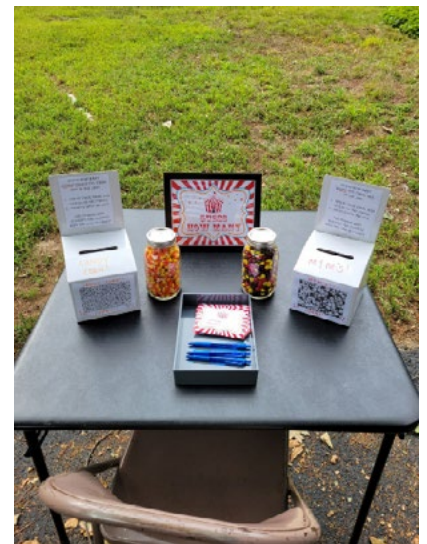
Our Church School kids have made and submitted a scarecrow which is Good Shepherd's submission to the Scarecrow Contest at Curcubit Farm at 32 Parker Street, Acton. All proceeds will go to benefit NAMI, National Association for Mental Illness.



**Some more photos of the Blessing of the Backpacks.**



**Return to the Fold Fall Picnic Children's Game**



## **Church School Calendar**

**Sunday October 16 at 10:00 - First day of Church School**

**Sunday October 30 at 10:00 - Church School**

**Sunday November 6 at 10:00 - Church School**

**Sunday November 20 at 10:00 - Church School**

# 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

November 20 - LTLC speaker

January - Esperanza Academy

March - El Ocotillo

## Mission Outreach: a Personal Reflection



This morning, September 25, 2022, Good Shepherd celebrated the Baptism of Orion John, Juno Petunia, and Ophelia Rome. The babies' extended family included siblings, cousins, and friends, totaling close to a dozen

little children blessing our sanctuary. Every time I looked the youngest children were in the loving hands of a different adult, a bevy of relatives sharing in the responsibility of soothing, cuddling, and entertaining the littlest ones.

As I watched this beautiful event my emotions rolled in waves from delight in the new young lives in our midst to sadness about the state of the world that is receiving them. I thought about the 100 million forcibly displaced refugees in the world this year and imagined how many of that enormous

statistic are young children. I thought about the children facing hunger crises in Afghanistan and large regions of Africa. I wondered if this country, the United States, will be a place where each child can thrive and be themselves.

Last week Elton John received the National Humanities Medal from President Biden at a White House concert that highlighted his passionate work fighting HIV/AIDS. He writes in *A Letter to My Sons on My 75th Birthday*:

*I want you to grow up in a world free from conflict, where you can fulfill your dreams, whatever they may be. And I want every other child—every other person, everywhere—to have that same opportunity. I've seen how we can make progress by acknowledging our differences and learning how to have compassion and empathy for each other.*

Later in the letter he writes:

*That brings me to my final lesson: Give back. Service to something bigger than yourself is the most rewarding thing you will ever do. This world is unequal and unfair, and it's on us to make it better. May we all do everything within our power to give every child in the world a safe and nurturing environment to be the best version of themselves.*

When we are at our lowest, and pained by the state of the world, may we find hope that it is possible to make a difference.

Barb Magee

## Esperanza Academy

This is Good Shepherd's 14th year in relationship with Esperanza Academy in Lawrence MA



Esperanza's mission is bold and inspiring: Esperanza Academy is a tuition-free, all-girls, independent middle school in Lawrence MA, built on justice and centered in joy. We celebrate, challenge, and inspire each student to embrace their brilliance. Our program empowers girls to redefine what is expected of them, to counter societal limitations, and to take on challenges that will positively impact the trajectory of their lives in Lawrence, MA and beyond.

Here is a sampling from head of school Jadi Taveras' recent update.

*"It's no secret that we're out to set the standard for reimagining urban education. The heart of Esperanza is a commitment to educating girls at the intersection of justice and joy. We're proud of our long-standing dedication to justice in education, from our founding as a tuition-free school to our social justice and student-centered lens..."*

*"...Our returning eighth graders rejoin the school community as wise seniors who have benefited*



*from extraordinary summer learning experiences across the region. Incredible partner programs at Prep@Pingree, GovsPLUS, Andover Bread Loaf, Performing Arts at Stoneleigh Burnham School, and The Academy- Pine Manor Institute for Student Success engaged our students in everything from archaeology to filmmaking to math immersion. An Esperanza student who attended Andover Summer at Phillips Academy became an ambassador for her class and was nominated to speak during the All School Meeting to nearly 1,000 students!"*

### Volunteer at Esperanza

Esperanza Academy relies on a committed corps of volunteers who share their diverse talents and time with our students. Our Academic Program Volunteers tutor students on reading and other core subjects. These volunteers not only enrich each student's educational program, but they make a tremendous academic and personal impact on a young life.

We welcome those generous individuals who believe in and wish to support Esperanza's mission and promise you that the students of Esperanza Academy will provide you with a memorable and richly rewarding experience.

For more information, please contact [Ariel Aggarwal](#) or call (978) 686-4673.

Carolyn Platt

## A New Beginning

As we reconvene with new fervor after two and half years of Covid worries, we continue our commitment to the Lowell Transitional Living Center, Esperanza Academy, the community of El Ocotillo, and support of our Afghan family in Lowell. **The Mission Outreach Committee is thinking deeply about new outreach endeavors that build community within our congregation through engagement in service to others.** That means doing outreach work that actively engages us in groups working together toward a common goal. We are considering forming a Household Goods Recycling Team to support the great work that HGRC does to provision the housing needs of families. We are also exploring other ideas including food insecurity at Bunker Hill Community College. We welcome your enthusiasm and participation in these discus-

sions. We invite you to add your voice, your ideas, and your leadership to the work that we do at Good Shepherd. Stay tuned for opportunities to talk about Mission Outreach before and after services in October.

## The Acton Stow Interfaith Partnership

Do you have a car that you no longer need and might be willing to donate to the Habibi family before the winter? A minivan would be ideal but smaller cars would also be considered.

Bingo Night at Apple Valley Catholic Collaborative generated almost \$5000! Thank you to anyone from COGS who contributed to this endeavor. **Our focus in the next month is to secure a better apartment and a car for the family.**

## “Undies Sunday” November 20

***“Hunger and homelessness happen for a number of reasons: a job loss, an illness, a divorce, or a disability. Whatever the reason Lowell Transitional Living Center is here to help by providing a full range of services aimed at lifting people up. LTLC helps open doors for our most vulnerable citizens and believes everyone deserves a safe place to call home. For so many who have lost hope, our dedicated staff and high-quality programs restore dignity one person at a time”*** (LTLC)

For the past 20 years, Good Shepherd has donated new underwear, socks, undershirts, scarves, and hats for the Winter Emergency Bed Program (WEBP) at the **Lowell Transitional Living Center**. We’ve also had fundraisers for specific items such as pillows, blankets, cots, and a commercial washer machine. Last year we established a 1000 dollar “Andy Fund” in honor of the past Director of LTLC, Andy McMahon. This fund offers LTLC residents small money “cards” for bus passes throughout the city and opportunities to frequent a local donut shop and use public



bathrooms as paying customers. Beyond these, the cards give residents dignity in their community. We will have details for collecting “Andy Fund” donations in the coming weeks and hope to have a check for LTLC when **their Fundraising Director Debra Leary visits on November 20.**

One of the major programs of the LTLC is their Winter Emergency Bed Program (WEBP). Given the enormity of the need in these cold months, all hands are on deck and preparations are in gear as the staff looks forward to running another successful program this winter. The WEBP runs from November through April and the goal is to give homeless adults a safe haven throughout the winter and provide case management and healthcare services to people who typically do not seek out help on their own.

WEBP is the only service north of Boston and in the Merrimack Valley Community that provides reliable overnight emergency shelter for adults who are living on the streets and facing freezing cold conditions which are very detrimental to their health and well-being. With the program, clients get access to a safe environment where they can warm up, shower, and do laundry. They also receive a cot with pillows and bedding, a warm breakfast, and can request new clothing, toiletries, coats, and socks.

As we have in past years, we will be collecting the following men’s clothing items starting in the beginning of November to support their clients:

- Underwear
- Undershirts
- Socks
- Hats
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Flip Flops for Showering

In addition to our traditional donations, this year we will be collecting men’s clothing for job interviews. These items must be in good shape and ready for a job interview: dry-cleaned or ironed, on hangers please. We will have a clothing rack in the parish hall for donations throughout the month of November.

- Collared shirts
- Pants
- Jackets
- Ties
- Shoes

*cont.pg*



Date: Friday, July 8th, 2022.

**Hello, Good Shepherd Friends.**

Dear Friends, by this mean, I am addressing you to wish you blessings in your homes; may our God give you health and protect you from any adversity.

I want to express that as family and community, thank God, we found ourselves with good health and we are praying for you as our sister community to be with good health as well.

I am writing you for sending you my most sincere gratitude for all the support you have given me in my journey as a student, since with your help I have successfully graduated as an agronomist engineer. The graduation took place on Friday, July 1 at the University of El Salvador, San Miguel headquarters; the next day as a family we held a small celebration thanking God and the people who were part of the effort and who supported me to achieve my goal.

I am much honored to have belonged to the scholarship program, and I am committed to support other students who are motivated to continue their studies and achieve their goals.

I bid you farewell by thanking you for your support and hoping that you will be in good health, and that may God we see us soon, I sent you hugs and greetings to you all.

Edith and family.



Please consider donating clothing and/or funds to this worthwhile cause.

Helene Gagliano

## Graduation News from El Ocotillo

**Edith Martinez (previous page)**

**Roselia Martinez graduation**

We were all excited back in 2017 when Roselia became one of our scholarship students, especially because she was the first to study nursing. Tragically she suffered terrible injuries to her legs in a traffic accident later that year. We met her in 2018 during our last delegation visit soon after she had been discharged home following a long hospitalization. We went to her home which incredibly was about 200 yards down a steep embankment in El Ocotillo. She required many outpatient visits for rehabilitation therapy. Still unable to walk at all, her husband and friends would have to carry her out in a hammock for each of those appointments, reversing the process when she would return. If that wasn't enough, she was also the mother of a young child. She was forced to take a year off from her studies but was determined to resume them as soon as she could. We were so happy to learn she graduated as an LPN this past May and hope she will become a medical resource for the community.

Rafael Pupo

In the graduation photos to the right, you can see her mother and brother as well as her devoted husband (the older gentleman).



## Events

### Christmas Wreath Fundraiser

This year we have decided to resume our traditional Christmas Wreath fund-raiser. The profits will help fund the decoration of the church for the holiday season. We will be working with the same company that has provided such great wreaths in the past; they arrive fully decorated and ready to

hang. (Photos of the wreaths are on the next page.) The wreaths will be sprayed with an anti-desiccant so they stay fresher longer, but still have that wonderful balsam scent! Prices will range from \$30 to \$40. There will be a display showing the different options in the Parish Hall after Sunday services. Stop by and place an order. **Our final day to accept orders will be the week of October 23.** Delivery should be the week before Thanksgiving so

we will be able to have them up for Advent.

### **Wintergreen wreath:**

The soft green fabric bow of this 25" diameter wreath is made with wired gold edged ribbon to hold the full arc of the bow's loops and tails and is backed with a swag of glittered cedar. Natural Ponderosa pine cones laced with gold jingle bells accented with faux persimmons sprigs adds the final detail to this truly unique Christmas Wreath.



### **Cranberry Splash wreath:**

This elegant 25" diameter Balsam Fir Wreath is festively decorated with a fabulous fabric bow with wired edges and is backed with a glitter gold faux cedar branch. The Ponderosa pine cones which are accented with gold jingle bells are backed with sprigs of faux cranberry which add a truly merry look to this Christmas Wreath.



### **Victorian Wreath:**

This most popular 25" diameter Balsam Fir Wreath features an exquisite satin bow with imprinted wired gold edges to hold its generous loops and tails. The trimmings, which include natural Ponderosa pine cones accented with gold jingle bells and a pair of matching Christmas bulbs finish off the elegant look of this fashionable Christmas Wreath.



### **Classic wreath:**

The Classic Wreath is as traditional as Christmas itself. The 25" diameter Classic Wreath is tastefully decorated with a long tailed, gold-backed velveteen bow and white tipped and glittered Ponderosa pine cones accented with red jingle bells which match the generous red bow. Celebrate the Holiday Season with this traditional symbol of world peace!



John Link

## **"Return to the Fold" Fall Picnic**

Dear Parish,

Many congregants showed for the Fall picnic. You were great company! Lots of smiling faces. The weather and food was pretty good, too. It was wonderful to see regulars, returnees, and new folks. I particularly liked all the families in attendance. We had perhaps a dozen children and youth laughing and playing.

Here's a big thank you to Rafael for organizing all the volunteers. Here's a big thanks to the many table movers, burger grillers, food servers, potluck cooks, game leaders, plate washers, and helping hands. You made it happen.

Peace, Harry

*Apologies from Margaret, who was so busy visiting and scooping ice cream that she forgot to take any photots. Thanks to DianePrunier there are few more children's photos in the Church School section.*





# Committee News

## Coffee Hour

There is a new Coffee Hour sign-up sheet on the table. Please pick a weekend to do this vital ministry here at Good Shepherd. If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Fedderson, who will also help you through the process of Coffee Hour.



Date	Name	Email
Oct. 2		
Oct. 9		
Oct. 16		
Oct. 23		
Oct. 30		
Nov. 6		
Nov. 13		
Nov. 20		
Nov. 27		
Dec. 4		
Dec. 11		
Dec. 18		

Those providing Coffee Hour can be an individual, friends, a group within the church such as a committee, a family, or a couple. Coffee Hour provides an important time for us to connect, get to know newer members, and just talk.

And after all...Coffee Hour is the third sacrament of the day!

## Paper Recycling

Were you aware that we had stopped recycling paper here at Good Shepherd? Neither was I! The church discovered quite a while ago that our trash company wasn't recycling what was in the trash bin in the parking lot, it was all just trash. Since then several people, such as Rev. Ellie, Dick Fedele, and others have been bringing paper and cardboard home and putting them in their own

recycled trash or town recycling centers.

There also hasn't been a spot for all of us to put used church paper in a bin to be recycled. That's about to change.

Starting on Indigenous People's Day there will be a paper bag placed under the table across from the office to collect paper. Please note that this includes ONLY office paper. Used paper plates and napkins are NOT recyclable.)

We need 2-4 volunteers to bring the full paper bag and cardboard to their recycling source and toss the paper and bag. We'll have extra paper bags nearby, just open up a new bag and Voila! There are three ways you can help:

1. Volunteer - Ideally we'd like to have four volunteers, one for each week of the month.
2. Bring in some extra full size paper bags to church for us to collect the paper in.
3. Take apart and fold flat any cardboard you may have brought into church and place it behind the bag

Please sign up on the clipboard in the Parish Hall to volunteer to pick up the recycled paper on a monthly basis. Working together we can save God's beautiful planet.

Margaret Geanisis



## With Abundant Gratitude to:

- **Chuba Udokwu** for leading our participation in the CWS Hunger Crop Walk for so many years



- **Beverley Duncan** for decades of commitment to Prison Outreach. Their passion for these programs taught us all and contributed to improving lives.

- **Diane Prunier** for all the Children's Activities at the picnic, they were outstanding and lots of

fun!

- **Marilyn and Dick Fidele** for doing all the work for the post funeral receptions this month. We used to have a group of people doing this, it's a lot of work for two people with all their life experience.



- All musicians filling in for Ellen Oak: Sept. 4, **Elizabeth Tousignant**; Sept. 11, **Lydia and Chris Tolley with Jessie Panek** as Cantor; Sept, 18 **Elizabeth Tousignant with Dave Hazen** as Cantor; Sept. 25 **Jon and Jessie Panek**, Jessie and **Lydia Tolley** both participated in the Baptismal song while **Jessie** was the cantor; Oct. 2, **Charolotte Russle**; and **Jay Lane** for playing at David Pierce and Howard Kuenzler's Funerals.



- **Tony Geanisis** for power washing the playground equipment so that we could truly see their condition.
- **Andy & Caroly Platts** for taking the old toys in the playground to the dump.
- **Christine Sadlowski** and the Girl Scouts for weeding the playground.



- **God and God's Holy Spirit** which helped

Rev. Ellie Terry get through this very difficult month of funerals and burials, combined with the joyous start of our fall activity season and Church School while caring pastorally for our ill and shut-in parishoners.

- **Alex Flores** for inventorying our kitchen tableware and flatware so that we can replace missing pieces.
- **Barbara Meglis** for writing about the Baums's friendship
- **Rafael Pupo** for writing about his memories about David Pierce
- **Kate Ogle** for sharing her memories about Howard Kuenzler
- **Harry Peebles** for all the work he's done getting estimates for the oil tank and the cracked chimney at the Rectory. It's difficult getting estimates for work in these post-Covid times, the trades don't respond quickly.
- the **Altar Guild** for setting up for the funerals this month
- **Tony Geanisis and Vern Nixon** for ushering at the funerals this month.
- **Beverly Ridpath** for organizing and often doing Coffee Hour at the 8:00 service
- **those nameless saints** who stayed to help clean up after the picnic, and both funeral receptions.
- **Jessie Panek** for all the work she is doing to get our elevator working again.
- **Diane Prunier, Jessie Panek and Tony Geanisis** for taking photos for both the fb page and this *Shepherd's Staff*.

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# Administration

## Vestry Vignettes

We opened with prayer. The August minutes were accepted with a few minor changes.

A discussion was held as we continue with ***How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You Are Going: Leading in the Liminal Season*** by Susan Beaumont, focusing on Chapter 4 "*Deepening Group Discernment: Seeing What God Is Up To.*" This is a very rich chapter with lots of ideas which were new to many in the group. We decided to continue discussing the chapter next month before we move onto Chapter 5 in November.

### **Return to the Fold Picnic:**

Harry led the discussion on our "Homecoming Picnic." The volunteerism was high; engagement was high; we need more mindfulness around RSVP numbers for dietary restrictions and seating. Attendance was around 70 people and the children's activities were a big success.

### **Ministry Fair:**

Wendy gave an update about the "Ministry Fair." There was discussion around sourcing table space and ministries to be showcased; folks discussed subs to fill in at various tables.

### **Fall Social:**

Gail discussed the plans on "Fall Social Gathering" on October 22nd; it will no longer be marketed as "wine and cheese" to be more inclusive.

### **Fundraiser:**

John led the discussion on the "Christmas Wreath Fundraiser." The Vestry decided to proceed with the wreath selling. John will need some volunteers to help moving boxes as delivery time approaches.

### **Deacon's Report:**

Deacon Ken led discussion on "Men's Group" and he will be pushing for some age diversity.

### **Rental Space at church:**

Reverend Ellie updated us on the rental of the kitchen space. Our renter is interested in renting the space twice a week where she will fill 10 slots of meals per day. She will work 9am - 1pm. Clients will pick up food between 5pm - 6pm. Her days of interest are Tuesday and Thursday. We are currently planning on \$100 per day. There's potential for a dinner club on Wednesday evenings. She is in the process of signing the contract for the biweekly cooking. We will circle

back about the Wednesday cooking club as we know more. Denise asked about how to invoice the renter; Ellie will talk to Laura about what need to be done.

### **Kitchen:**

Margaret led discussion on "the Kitchen." We ran out of spoons and bowls during the picnic; there was a call for the development of a kitchen committee to source more spoons and bowls. Alex, with support, can help take inventory.

### **Rectory update:**

Harry Pebbles led a discussion on "Tenants, Chimney, and Oil Tanks". We replaced CO detectors in rental property as they were chirping and not shutting off. The chimney liner is an on-going issue and there will be email correspondence about estimates. We have switched oil sourcing due to cost. During the servicing, it was discovered that one tank was compromised. After looking at tank repair estimates, a motion was made by John to approve/accept \$1,542.37 or less expense for oil tank repair which includes removal of faulty tank and rewiring/plumbing to a single tank. The motion was approved. The funding is coming from money already set aside in the budget. A discussion ensued about moving away from oil and using more energy-efficient/environmentally- friendly ways to heat homes.

A motion was made by Harry to approve/accept a \$2000 proposal or less to repair the problem chimney. There was an objection made thinking that we could do more extensive repair rather than just repair the liner. Well-being of the tenants was considered, and the objection was rescinded. Seconded by Raphael. Discussion floor opened and closed with no further comments. Approved by all present.

### **Finance Report:**

Denise led a discussion on the "Finance Report." We are still in good shape. We closed the meeting with prayer.

## Cell Phone Photographers Needed!

Can you take a photo on your phone and email it? If so, we really need more people taking photos of events at church and during the service, especially if Margaret is not there. If you can do this, please let Margaret know by clicking on the link to speak to her in person.

# Passages

## Baptisms

**Juno Petunia Doss** was baptized on Sunday, September 25th. Juno is the daughter of Ethan and Alessia Doss.

**Orion John Doss** was baptized on Sunday, September 25th. Orion is the son of Ethan and Alessia Doss



**Ophelia Rome Korbas** was baptized on Sunday, September 25th. Ophelia is the daughter of Greg and Francesca Korbas.

Juno, Orion and Ophelia are the grandchildren of Guido and Helen Gagliano.



## Graduations

**Marisa Cooke**, daughter of Bob and Diane Cooke, recently completed her Master's Degree in Higher Education Administration at Southern New Hampshire University.



## Moved

**David and Debby Baum** have moved to NH! They started attending Good Shepherd 25 years ago when their daughter Julia was 4 years old. Both of their two daughters, Julia and Monica, were confirmed at Good Shepherd. Debby



jumped right in to help by being a Sunday School teacher. She worked on the Newcomer's Committee with Louise Batista and Karen Conley, and was often a smiling face people saw when they walked in as she was a Greeter. She was a Lector, most recently becoming the Lector coordinator. Debby served on the Search Committee which found us Rev. Ellie, as well as working on the Strategic Vision-



ing Committee. She served on the Vestry, was the parish Clerk, finally becoming our Senior Warden from 2016-18. One of her focuses was updating our communications systems including our new website.

Dave was all about helping out with our buildings. He is wonderful with construction, and was often present working both inside and outside the church building, as

well as at the Rectory. And of course he functioned as Assistant to the Senior Warden.

Both Debby and David were not only pres-



ent at most social functions,

but were also often found behind the scenes helping.

Their daughter Julia was married to JJ Kuchan in 2019 at their family home in Wolfeboro, NH.

Debby works in marketing scien-



tific equipment for Teledyne, and Dave does design support for Acorn Deck House. Their future plans up in NH include continuing to work while enjoying the many outdoor activities in the lakes region and practicing extreme patience while waiting for their new home to be completed (along with long-



time Good Shepherd alumni Susan and Bob Christmas, who happen to be building in the same town).

Debby and Dave brought much to Good Shepherd and will be very

sorely missed. They enriched our community of faith by their many contributions to our ministries and by just being themselves.

*“ I first got to know Dave when he was a valued member of Good Shepherd’s Building Committee for many years. His building expertise guided many of our projects including Safe Church modifications and exterior repair projects. But Debby’s and Dave’s musical interests are what drew us together as friends. We have attended many con-*



*certs together in Boston as well as the Fresh Grass bluegrass festival in North Adams every September. We’ve made that weekend a tradition.*

*I am very grateful for our friendship, and it all started at our beloved Church of the Good Shepherd. COGS friends are Forever Friends.*

Barbara Meglis

## Deaths



### David Joseph

**Pierce**, 39, of Brookline, passed away suddenly on Sept. 2, 2022. David is survived by his parents, Susan and Doug Pierce and his sister Emma and her husband Scott Newton. He also leaves behind his fiancée Crystal Kazik;

they had plans to marry on October 4, 2022. His funeral was held at Good Shepherd on Sept. 17, and his private burial took place on Sept. 24th.

David grew up in Boxborough while attending Good Shepherd, and was an active teen and young adult here, enriching our worship with his percussion pieces from time to time. No one who experienced his drumming masterpiece at our Easter Vigils to the reading of “Dry Bones” will ever forget it. It was transcendent.



David graduated from Acton-Boxborough

Regional High School in 2001. While in high school and college he worked at Trader Joe's in Acton. He attended Lynn University and graduated from UMass Lowell Cum Laude in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in music performance. He played with many groups and symphonies of all sizes from local trios to the Concord Symphony. He went on to teach music to children and adults of all ages. He was a beloved and highly respected music teacher in the North Shore area. He spent many years composing and writing his solo project, ZEAL, which was nearly complete at the time of David's death.



When I think of David, I think of beats – beats of music, hand beats of the drum, beats when he played the full set of drums, and the beats of his huge gentle, compassionate, and loving heart.



*“As we all grieve the loss of David Pierce, it gives me solace to remember a very special time I shared with him in 2001. David was just 18 and decided to join 6 other members of our congregation on our first delegation to El Salvador. It was a trip that required a lot of faith from all of us. With the exception of our leader, Carol Davis, none of us really knew what to expect in a very poor country just 10 years out from a terrible civil war and now struggling to recover from 2 recent earthquakes. There was also no cell phone service or internet, so for over a week we would have no way to reassure our families back home.*

*David was the only youth among us. He brought to our group the energy and enthusiasm that would go on to infuse almost everything he did throughout his life. Early in the trip, we all learned about the inspirational life of Monseñor Oscar*

*Romero, the former archbishop of El Salvador who was martyred at the beginning of the civil war. His was a life of serving others and this resonated immediately with David. He bought a T-shirt with an image of Msr. Romero and he was honored to wear it. On several occasions we saw beautiful murals of Msr. Romero surrounded by Salvadoran children. Throughout the trip and especially in El Ocotillo, David's playful, open spirit was a magnet for little kids. It doesn't surprise me at all that David went on to be such a wonderful music teacher and mentor for children. That first delegation trip left a profound impression on all of us, but it was David who volunteered the very next summer*



*with an organization called Living Waters. For 3 months, David served others by helping to dig wells in poor, often remote communities so they would have clean drinking water. David's tremendously positive experiences in El Salvador over 20 years ago inspired us to take dozens of youth from Good Shepherd on subsequent delegation trips.*

*Back home, David's life became centered on his love of music and teaching. He was my son Alix's first percussion instructor and he was always happy to share his talents at Good Shepherd when a particular liturgy called for it. Though I didn't see him much in recent years, I will always hold these memories dear and be grateful that our paths crossed.”*

Rafael Pupo



**Howard Walter Kuenzler**, 81, passed away on Sunday September 18th as we were praying for him during the Sunday service. He was the much loved husband of Carole Kuenzler for 57 years and loving father to

sons and daughters-in-law Glenn and Rebecca Kuenzler of Beachwood, OH, and Richard Kuenzler and Ana Espila of Framingham, MA. He was also Papa to Maxwell, Leo, Samuel, Luis, and Daniel, his grandchildren.



Howard graduated from UFL with a B.S in Electrical Engineering (1964) and a Masters in Oceanography from MIT(1968). Served in the USAF for 4 years at AF Cambridge Research Lab in Lincoln, then worked designing equipment for seismic studies at Weston Observatory and Weston Geophysical. In 1987 he returned to Hanscom to design equipment to study the Ionosphere and its effect on communications.



He retired in 2004 to spend time with his family, pursue his passion for tennis, and travel to the Caribbean (where he was an avid deep sea diver.) Howard was a lifetime naturalist, often seeming to know everything about the living world, including how to pet stingrays! He knew about plants as well as animals and thoroughly enjoyed the things of the natural world. He enjoyed parenting and loved to teach his boys, working his own knowledge about engineering into “how to build a winning Soap Box Derby car”, to astronomy and the night sky, as well as supporting all their athletic events – apparently he was great with a video camera in the



day. He also could often be found in Carole’s family’s home in Falmouth.

Howard was a kind and gentle spirit, very intelligent, and very much a regular at church – not only on Sundays, and when we needed his help, but at events too. He was quiet, but so many of us have had simply wonderful conversations with him. He loved good times and his family and welcomed everyone. I remember him still coming up to the altar to receive communion several months ago. My heart was powerfully touched by his faith and commitment to being alive in the world as long as he was of this world. You added so much to Good Shepherd, Howard, and we will miss you here.

*“Remembering Howard. Howard was always a quiet, steady presence in the life of Good Shepherd; a kind and gentle man.*

*I didn’t really know him well except as a friendly and obviously nice person until I found myself sitting next to him in the Parish Hall. I asked the age old question “How did you and Carole meet?”*



*And he told me of their amazing love story; how he saw her crossing a bridge between two buildings at Woods Hole and used every pretext he could think of to enter offices until he found her! He went on to share stories of growing up in Florida in a hardworking family. He fixed all kinds of things and earned workarounds (destined to be an engineer), helped with chickens raised for eggs to sell, kept the snakes away. It was a gift to me to have a glimpse into a loving and very well lived life.”*

*“not an end but a beginning. Another beautiful soul has flown Home”*

Kate Ogle

## Burial

**James Kinicki**, son of Robert & Rachel Kinicki, and brother of Daniel and Sarah, was laid to final rest on Saturday, September 24.