

SHEPHERD'S TALES

June
2008



From the Rector

Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest;
Nay, let us be thy guests; the feast is thine.*
(from The Hymnal, 1982).

One of the unfortunate aspects of modern culture is that most of us keep a pretty full schedule. With all that we have to do (and want to do), it is difficult to accomplish everything on our list. One of the ways we cope with this, is to make priorities. What sort of priority might be appropriate for the corporate worship of the church?

For myself, I try to discern the things I have to do (obligations), and what I want to do (luxuries), keeping in mind that obligations are often things I like to do, and luxuries can be a burden. One of my obligations (must do) is my vocation/job. If I want to receive a paycheck, there are certain obligations that I must fulfill. I also have other obligations, but they are of a different sort. For example, when my mother was alive, I felt an obligation (should do) to call her (at least) once a week.

One of my obligations (must do) is to provide for the public worship of our Parish. One might ask to whom is this obligation? Is this an obligation to the people and vestry to have everything ready for those who wish (should do) to come and worship. Or, is it an obligation to the Lord that I gather, and lead the whole body (must do) in its worship to God.

There have been occasions when there has been literally 'two or three gathered together' for a service. Should we cancel such services because of low attendance? Absolutely not. If we were to do that, our worship of God becomes nothing more than a should do obligation. As an Episcopal Church however, we are governed by a set of expectations. One of these expectations is that at each worship service, part of the worship offering will be made by the clergy, and part of the worship offering will be made by the laity. Each of us has a specific role to play. If one of these parts is missing, the church cannot offer its worship. If one of our members is absent, we are offering to God less than what we are able, and less than what he deserves.

As we enter the summer season, we hope and plan for periods of rest and refreshment. It is my fervent prayer that each of you find time for both. I would ask you though, to remember your obligation to the church. Of course there are times when we are, for good cause, prevented from attending church, and that is ok. But do consider the following:

Q. What is the duty of all Christians?

A. The duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week; for corporate worship; and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God.

(from The Catechism – B.C.P. page 856).

In His love and service,

Worship & Study Opportunities

Sundays

The Holy Eucharist

8:00 a.m. at the Good Samaritan
UMC in Lake Wylie

10:30 a.m. in York

Morning Prayer is offered at 10:30
a.m. on the Third Sunday of Each
Month (York).

Children's Chapel

10:30 a.m. in York

Christian Education

Will Resume in the Fall

Wednesdays

11:00 a.m. Healing Service
(Parlor)

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Potluck

Saturdays

5:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist



Monthly Meetings

The ECW Meetings will resume at
6:30pm the First Tuesday in
September in the Parlor.

The Daughters of the King Will Not
Meet this Month.

The Vestry Meets at 7:00pm the
Third Tuesday Each Month.

(June 17)

Christian Formation

By: Tonya Whitehead

Christian Education Committee

There will be a short meeting following Sunday services, **June 8**. Call me if you have questions. Tonya 684-0273

Rainforest Adventure-VBS Planning

We will have our first planning meeting on Saturday, **June 7** at 9:00 am. I am asking everyone to attend who has an interest in helping. We will need several teachers (student age range is 4-10), a snack coordinator, a craft coordinator, and a music coordinator. We will also need individuals to help in the kitchen and with clean up each evening. All details will follow at meeting. Please pray and consider how you might be able to help. The VBS focus is on stewardship.

Choir News

Summer Choir Invitation

The summer months offer a time for those who cannot sing in the choir through the year to sing with us. During the months of June and July, the choir gathers on Sundays in the choir stalls in the church to rehearse at 9:30 a.m. sharp. (No Wednesday rehearsals) There will be someone you can sit with who knows your part well. This is an excellent opportunity to offer service and leadership in worship. Come Sing!

ECW

ECW will not meet in June, July and August. We will resume regular meetings on the First Tuesday in September. Don't forget Summerfest in August. We need everyone's help.

Altar Guild

We would like to thank Joyce Sanders, Libby Bradford and Gail Carter for wishing to join the Altar Guild. "Many hands make light work" and their addition to our guild is much appreciated. Anyone else wanting to serve the Lord in his house by way of this wonderful ministry, a.k.a. the "Silent Ministry", please contact Jeanne Ferguson or Shay Wilkerson. ---Jeanne & Shay

From the Parish Treasurer

Financial Update – April Results

Our Sunday school year has ended, graduations approach and school will soon be out. Let the summer vacations begin! Please remember to make your pledge payments throughout the summer months. As the saying goes, church expenses do not take a summer vacation.

Operating fund activity through April 30 shows total income of \$62,321.58 versus expenses of \$74,917.53. The deficit of \$12,595.95 is a little deceiving as the four month results include two months of quarterly payments for commercial insurance and pension billings. As you can see, keeping your pledge payments current is very much appreciated as we head into the summer months.

If you have not yet pledged for 2008 we would encourage you to do so. We continue to operate under tight budget conditions.

The principal balance owing on the building fund is \$42,728.26. Original amount borrowed was \$124,000. We have been fortunate in receiving two special non-pledge donations which along with pledge payments have allowed us to pay down the balance. Interest expense for the term of the loan so far is \$11,312.59.

Please continue to make your Walking-the-Way Building Fund payments. If you have not pledged and wish to do so, please call the church office.

Thanks for your continued support.

Randy Neff
Parish Treasurer

Parish News

WWW.GOODSHEP.NET

Have you visited the Good Shepherd web site lately? We have been working diligently keeping the web site updated as well as adding new features. We have created a "This Week" link which is a schedule of the week's events and activities. You can also view the prayer list and add names to the prayer list from the link. We also created a "Coming Up" link which includes information about upcoming events and activities. You can view the newsletter, schedule and calendar from the web site as well. The web site is filled with lots of useful information so check it out often.

Want to make it your homepage? Here's how: click on the "START" button, click on CONTROL PANEL, click on INTERNET OPTIONS, when the Internet Properties Box appears and from the General tab, type in www.goodshep.net under the home page section. Then click APPLY and click OK.

Time to Clean Out Your Closets

Our annual yard sale will be held on **June 14**, from 7-11. This will benefit the ECW Kitchen Fund. Please continue to bring in your yard sale items up through Friday, **June 13** at 7:00 p.m. If you drop items off at the side door and no one is at the church, please call 372-2433 and leave a message so that I know the items are there. We need help the day of the sale at 7:00 and especially around 10:30 to begin the clean-up process. We will be finished by noon. Thanks to all who have donated and those who will give their time on Saturday. Call Jill Neff at the above number if you have questions.

Kitchen Duties

Please be sure that if you use the kitchen remember the following:

- * wash and put away all dishes
- * take home all personal items
- * do not leave extra food in the refrigerator, unless it is for something, or someone specific
- * if you take something out of the cupboard, please put it back where you found it
- * if you borrow something, sign it out on the back of the door
- * there is no one that puts things away or cleans up except for all of us, so please help keep the kitchen clean
- * do not leave non-kitchen items in the kitchen, it becomes a catch-all for items that don't belong

Thank you for helping us out!

Sunday Morning Kitchen Supply Collection

We appreciate those of you who contribute to the kitchen supply basket on Sunday mornings, although donations have dwindled. This money is used to purchase coffee, cups, sugar, creamer, plates, etc. With these costs continuing to increase, please consider dropping a coin or two into the basket on Sunday mornings as you enjoy your coffee.

Angel Food Ministries

Last month our Angel Food ministry sold 157 boxes, almost double the previous month's sale. Other exciting news: soon customers will be able to order online, using credit or debit cards. We are still working on buying a trailer/box truck for distribution -- please see Bruce or Cheney Baltz if you have any leads. Thank you once again to all our wonderful volunteers! The great turnout this month made unpacking the trailer fast and smooth. The next distribution date is **June 21** at 3:00 p.m. Volunteers should report at 2:20 p.m.

Parish Register News

If you would like to move your membership to Good Shepherd, please contact the church office at 684-4021 or e-mail to sherryramsey@goodshep.net. We will need the name and address of the last church you were a member of.

Vestry Notes

The minutes from the April Vestry meeting are posted on the bulletin board across from the kitchen in the parish house. For your convenience, we have added the minutes to our web site under the Newsletter link.

Pastoral Care Committee

Companion Niches are available in our Columbarium

Please contact the church office at 684-4021 or sherryramsey@goodshep.net if you are interested in purchasing a niche.

Prayer Concerns

We continue to pray for the Episcopal Church.

Please pray for...

For the Shut-ins

Ed Warlick, Elsie Castle, Margie Miller, Mamie Miller, Bee Decker

For those with medical needs

Donald Beyer, Billie Gabbitas, Emily House, Nadja Hudson, Fred & Rita Heath, Sylvia Noble, Joanne Lentz, Patricia Rice, Vernon & Joan Sanders, Steve Cherry, Betty Bamert, Jack & Nita Callaham, Raynor Moore, Bobby Allen, Keby Johnson, Gary Maynard, Linda Tiblier, Jason Turley, Jack Morrison, Katie Gossett, Renae Waters, Jane Dressler, Rachael

For all serving in our military

Geoffrey Gibson

For those with special needs

York Place Board, Staff and Children, Kayleigh Edson

We pray for the repose of the soul of

Doreen Balster, Stephanie DeGange's aunt. We pray for Stephanie and her family as they mourn her death.

Cecil Brown, Jayne Burton's friend's husband. We pray for Cecil's family as they mourn his death.

We give thanks for

The dedicated Sunday School teachers and youth leaders.
The graduating High School Seniors, Grace Amer, Mary Afton Lee and Michael Tiblier.

Members of the Pastoral Care Committee will joyfully visit parish members who, due to illness or confinement, cannot attend regular church services. We want to make certain that no one in our church family is overlooked or neglected in their time of need.

To request a visit or phone call from the rector, please call or email the church office to provide some basic details & preferences or please make certain that a family member or loved one contacts the church on your behalf. Father Robert or Sherry will return the contact as quickly as possible, and make arrangements to visit or speak with you. The church office phone number is 803-684-4021. Our email addresses are: rector@goodshep.net or sherryramsey@goodshep.net. If you would like a visit or phone call from a member of the Pastoral Care Committee, please call (803-327-5582) or email (kpm@comporium.net) Kaye McMaster or Frank Van Leer (803-631-3543; k9cr8@comporium.net)

Finally, you can also contact any member of the Vestry; and they will make Father Robert aware of your needs.

In the Community

Dear Parishioners of Good Shepherd,

We are in desperate need of volunteers to help us at the Thrift Store which is located at 31 North Congress Street, York. We have had five volunteers become unable to work any longer, some due to health problems and one who passed away recently. Responsibilities include: hanging clothes, sorting clothes, and keeping the racks and shelves tidy. We also need men with trucks to pick up and help load heavy items such as furniture.

The store is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. We are closed on Wednesdays and are open on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. – Noon. We pray that some of you will have time to help us at the Thrift Store. Please call me if you are willing to help (628-0804). Any time that you can share with us will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jayne Ballard

Reminders

- ☑ Continue to bring empty INKJET printer cartridges – they are worth \$2 each to the kitchen Fund. There is a box in the hallway to deposit your used cartridges. Please be sure to place them in the box carefully, they will only be accepted if the tip is not broken.
- ☑ All activities that require the use of the building must go through the church office.
- ☑ Please fill out a Prayer Request form to add names to the prayer list. Forms are located in the bell tower. You may add names from our web site as well.

Things in General

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The church office is closed on Fridays.
This is the Rector's day off.

Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. Bulletin Deadline
20th of Each Month Newsletter Deadline

E-mail addresses:

The Rev. Robert Gaillard Kirkland, Rector
rector@goodshep.net

Tonya Whitehead, Interim D.C.F.
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Steven Aycok, Organist/Choir Master
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Sherry Ramsey, Parish Administrator
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Dona Van Leer, Newsletter Editor
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Scott Thielbar, Acolyte Master
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John Shiflet, Senior Warden
Vestry@goodshep.net

Randy Neff, Treasurer
Treasurer@goodshep.net

*Please visit our web site for a complete listing of
our e-mail directory.*

Our web site is: www.goodshep.net

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