



Worship & Study Opportunities

Sundays

The Holy Eucharist

8:00 a.m. *Lake Wylie*

10:30 a.m. *York*

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

Christian Education

9:30 a.m. for Everyone

Wednesdays

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

6:30 p.m. BCP Study (*Doug*)

Beginning March 4...

7:00 p.m. Anglicanism (*Fr. Mills*)

Saturdays

5:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist

Ash Wednesday Service

February 25

Noon and 7 pm (*York*)



Monthly Meetings

Next ECW meeting: Tuesday,
February 3, 6:30p.m at
220 E. Liberty St., York
(Cheney Baltz's home)

The Vestry Meets at 7:00pm the
Third Tuesday Each Month.
(February 17th)



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

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Prophet Jeremiah writes "This is what the LORD says: 'Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man boast of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts, boast about this: that he understands and knows me.'" (Jeremiah 9.23-24).

In his great priestly prayer from the seventeenth chapter of John, Jesus says: "This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent" (John 17:3).

On our own, it would be impossible for us to know God. He is, after all: "God almighty, the maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen." The prophet Isaiah, speaking for God, puts it like this: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,' declares the Lord. 'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.'" (Isaiah 55:8-9).

As Christians, we believe that this God is a personal God. When the Bible tells us that we are made in his image, it is not to tell us that we look like God. It is to tell us that we are made to model the Trinity, which is to be in relationship with each other and with God. In order to do this, He has to reveal himself in a way that we can understand. And he has done this through the words of Scripture and most supremely through the person and work of Jesus Christ.

At the same time, we cannot know everything there is to know about God. Paul writes: "We know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears" (1 Cor 13:9-10).

A friend of mine says there are secret things that belong to the Lord. In other words, there are things that we can not understand this side of heaven. We can know that the universe was created out of nothing because God spoke and it was so, but we cannot grasp how that came to be. We can know that Christ will return to earth to judge the living and the dead, but we do not know when that day will be. We do not know why God allows suffering. We can know that God is Sovereign and that we have free will. But, we cannot know how they can both be true at once. We can know that God is three persons in one substance, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but we cannot grasp how three is one and one is three. In terms of the Bible, we can know that it is the providential work of the Holy Spirit and at the same time know that it is clearly the work of human authors. How this is true though is a mystery.

By now, most of you know that both Doug & I are passionate proponents of the Holy Scriptures. They are the bedrock of our faith. And, this IS the Episcopal way – one need only to look at *The Book of Common Prayer*, *The Ordinal* and the *Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion* to see that the Bible alone is the supreme authority of the church. Beloved, if our Christian faith really is true, it is the biblical truth or it is nothing at all.

In Christ's love and service,

Dear Friends,

I am looking forward to giving a series of talks on Wed. nights in Lent. My plan is to present material during the first half hour (or so!) and then open things up for discussion. Of course, you would be free to comment or ask questions at any time. The program will be scheduled from 7 to 8 p.m.

My topic will be the Anglicanism from the Reformation to the present. There are five Wednesdays between Ash Wednesday and Wednesday in Holy Week so I propose to divide the material as follows:

- March 4 Overview. Clarification of Terms. Relation of the Episcopal Church to the Church of England and other provinces within the Anglican Communion.
- March 11 The Reformation and the Elizabethan Settlement. The early Books of Common Prayer and other 16th century documents; influence of continental Protestantism.
- March 18 17th Century: The Reigns of the Stuarts and the Caroline Divines; the rise of Puritanism and the Cromwellian Protectorate...The Non-Jurors (deposed bishops) and the loss of the Catholic element.
- March 25 18th century rise of deism and Methodism and the 19th century rise of science and biblical criticism. The re-emergence of Catholic emphases with the Oxford Movement and the influence of Anglo-Catholicism.
- April 1 20th century Churchmanship, compromises with the Catholic and liberal elements dominating the BCP, evangelical interpretations. Dramatic changes in liturgy and ordinations. 21st century Anglicanism?

Of course, we can only touch on the high spots but I do hope we can all get a better feel for the continual changes and challenges that our part of the Christian church has faced. I hope both new Episcopalians and cradle Episcopalians will come ready to learn and to share. I am going to do some homework so pray for me in these days ahead.

Peace,
Fr. Joe

Comings and Goings

Just like in Washington, we have some comings and goings...

Many thanks to John Shiflet, Jeanne Ferguson and Randy Neff who have completed their term on the Vestry.

Welcome to our newest Vestry members Libby Bradford, Cynthia Edson and Mary Anne (Andy) Lowry.

At our recent Vestry retreat John Ness was elected Senior Warden, David Sims was elected Junior Warden and Cynthia Edson was elected Clerk of the Vestry. Randy Neff was elected as Treasurer of the Parish. Randy is considered an ex-officio member of the Vestry with seat and voice.

We also made assignments (either as chair or Vestry Liaison) to the standing committees of the Parish:

Building & Grounds: Libby Bradford	Christian Formation: Carolyn Amer
ECW/Men's Club/Parish Life: Sue Nance	Finance: Church Henry
Hospitality and Concierge: Andy Lowry	Lake Wylie: John Ness
Missions and Outreach: Kaye McMaster	Stewardship: Libby Bradford and Cynthia Edson
Worship: Davis Sims	

We hope to have all the committees in place prior to the February Vestry Meeting.

The Vestry also appointed the following as our Diocesan Convention/Convocation Delegates: Henry McMaster, John Ness, Rick and Phillips Norment. Please keep our delegation, Vestry and its various committees in your prayers.

Christian Formation

Children's chapel is scheduled to begin **February 15** at 10:30 a.m. The children will then enter the adult service during the Peace. Adults and older children are encouraged to participate in these services. Doug Clark will officiate.

We are also in need of Sunday school teachers, especially those who consider themselves wiser and seasoned citizens. The youth need to learn from their grandparents' generation.

Finally, we want to hear from you regarding upcoming adult studies. Please let Doug know what things you would like to consider in future studies. We wish to have relevant discussions about God and Scripture that can be applied to our lives.

Parish News

Supper Club Returns

Tables need to be filled with hungry, affable guests. Our next dinner engagement will be **February 21**. The deadline to RSVP is **February 9**. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the parish hall or you may call a member of the Parish Life Committee to reserve your spot.

Members of the Parish Life Committee are:

Sudy Dressler 684-2494
Libby Bradford 684-9300
Susan Mason 366-8627
Debbie Shiflet 628-2760

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

The annual Pancake Supper, sponsored jointly by the Men's Club and York Place, will be on **February 24** from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the York Place dining hall. Volunteers are needed to help cook, serve and clean up. Sign up sheets are in the narthex or you may e-mail the church office at sherryramsey@comporium.net if you would like to help and/or if you are planning to attend. Please RSVP by **February 15**. The meal is a drop-in and it's FREE! Bring the entire family.

You are invited to attend the York Place Chapel service at 4:00 p.m. or Compline at 7:00 p.m. in the York Place Chapel. Questions? Call Andy Whitehead 684-0273.

Storage of Items:

Please do not store any items in the attic of the parish house. Per the Fire Marshall, we cannot use this space for storage. If you have something stored in the attic please find another place to store the items.

Pre-Lenten Clergy Retreat

The clergy will be attending the Pre-Lenten Clergy Retreat February 9-11, 2009 at Kanuga.

Angel Food Ministries

Order Deadline: **February 14**
Distribution Day: **February 28** 1-2 pm
at Good Shepherd

Menus are available in the Angel Food mailbox which is located outside the office door in the parish house.

Volunteers are needed for Distribution Day and should report to the parish hall at 12:20 p.m.

ECW News

Remember, all women of Good Shepherd are members of the ECW. We would love to see you at our next meeting! There are many exciting events coming up . . . please join us.

* Next ECW meeting: Tuesday, **February 3**, 6:30 p.m. at 220 E. Liberty St., York (Cheney Baltz's home). There will be a potluck and a brief business meeting. RSVP to Cheney (628-4064 or cheneybaltz@hotmail.com)

* ECW Convention: Saturday, **February 7**, at St. Francis of Assisi in Chapin. We are hoping to get a great turnout for the convention -- it's always fun! We often carpool, so don't hesitate to ask for a ride. There will be coffee hour with fellowship, a business meeting and Eucharist with the bishop. If you'd like to attend, call Cheney Baltz (628-4064) or Silva Davis (684-0733) as soon as possible.

* Mark your calendars for **May 9** -- we're hosting a garden tour and lunch. The public will be invited to tour five beautiful gardens in downtown York, then eat lunch at the church. There will be vendors, a plant sale and more. Jeanne Ferguson is organizing -- if you'd like to join in or want more information, call her at 684-6020.

* Marietta Morrison has kindly agreed to be in charge of the Summerfest Antique Show!

Altar Guild News

ALL Altar Guild members are encouraged to attend the Altar Guild workshop with Fr. Kirkland on Saturday, **February 7** at 10:00 a.m. in the church.

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.

Prayer Concerns

We continue to pray for the Episcopal Church.

We pray for His Grace, Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury, His Holiness, Benedict XVI, the Bishop of Rome. His All Holiness, Bartholomew I, the Archbishop of Constantinople and Ecumenical Patriarch, Katherine, the Presiding Bishop, Dorsey, our Diocesan Bishop; Charles and Rogers our assisting Bishops, Alice, our Dean; Robert, our rector; Scott and Joe, our priest associates.

We pray especially for the sick Billie Gabbitas, Emily House, Nadja Hudson, Sylvia Noble, Joanne Lentz, Patricia Rice, Vernon & Joan Sanders, Donald Beyer, Bettie Matthews, Rachael Gleason, Linda Tiblier, Judy Tomes, Gara Brown, John Cowan, Parpi Von Chrismar, Pam & Ken Jernigan, Jenkins Mikell, Hazel Sims, Kensley James, Allen Aycock, Shawn Gibson, Mary Lou Jordan, EJ Carico, Joe McCorkle.

We pray for those with special needs especially, York Place Board, Staff and Children, Kayleigh Edson, Mark House.

We pray for those serving in the military, especially Geoffrey Gibson, Jonathan Morrison, William Stanley, John Kerns, Tom Klauer, Travis Eusted, Ken Roberts, Paul Mishoe.

We pray for our shut-ins, especially Bee Decker, Elsie Castle, Margie Miller, Mamie Miller.

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.

Stewardship 2009

The Stewardship 2009 campaign received additional pledges since the last report. Total pledging to the operating fund for 2009 now totals \$176,428 with 83 families pledging. This compares to the 2008 pledge total of 85 families pledging \$180,472. All of the pledges are very much appreciated. We are in better shape heading into 2009, but we will still be operating on a tight budget. If you have not yet responded in some way, please do so soon. Thanks to all for your support.

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.

Pastoral Care Committee

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.

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd York, South Carolina				
	2008	12 months ending 12/31/08		
	Annual Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance
INCOME				
Pledge Income	185,000.00	194,370.94	185,000.00	9,370.94
Plate Offerings	4,000.00	3,682.47	4,000.00	(317.53)
Special Offerings	2,000.00	1,331.55	2,000.00	(668.45)
Interest Income	150.00	244.70	150.00	94.70
TOTAL INCOME	191,150.00	199,629.66	191,150.00	8,479.66
EXPENDITURES				
Worship & Parish Ministry	111,625.00	112,489.18	111,625.00	(864.18)
Diocesan Pledge	33,043.00	32,400.00	33,043.00	643.00
Mission & Outreach	3,700.00	4,200.00	3,700.00	(500.00)
Christian Formation & Continuing Education	15,361.00	11,361.02	15,361.00	3,999.98
Facility Costs	39,180.00	39,065.93	39,180.00	114.07
Supplies & Miscellaneous	5,900.00	7,038.02	5,900.00	(1,138.02)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	208,809.00	206,554.15	208,809.00	2,254.85
INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(17,659.00)	(6,924.49)	(17,659.00)	10,734.51

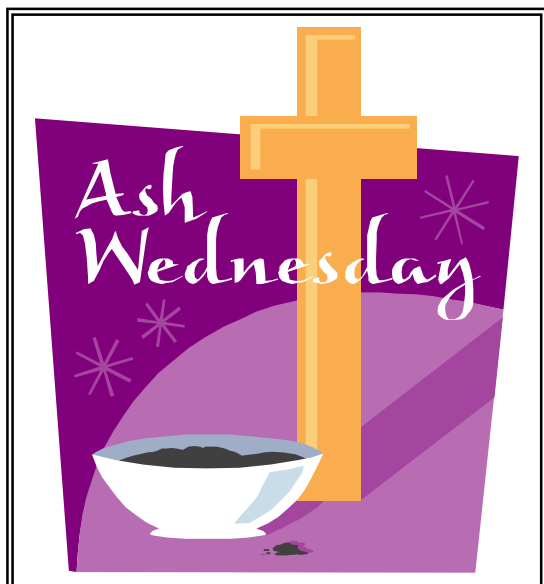
Things in General

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

Doug Clark, Director of Christian Formation
dougclark@goodshep.net

Steven Aycock, Organist/Choir master
stevenaycock@goodshep.net

Sherry Ramsey, Parish Administrator
sherryramsey@goodshep.net

Dona Van Leer, Newsletter Editor
shepherdstales@goodshep.net

John Ness, 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

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
108 East Liberty Street
PO Box 437
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February 2009