

THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

www.goodshepherdwv.org

The Rev. John C. Seville, Interim Rector
Paula Hoffman, Ministries Coordinator

Ginger Smith, Parish Administrator
January 6, 2010

MISSION STATEMENT: Good Shepherd is growing in: Faith and knowledge of God, ministry in our neighborhood, love for one another and support for those seeking Christ.

Dear Parishioners,

Bishop Klusmeyer will visit Good Shepherd Church this coming Palm Sunday, March 28th to administer Confirmation. Confirmation is a mature commitment to Christ made by those who have already been baptized and after receiving instruction in the Christian faith.

Confirmation classes will begin on Sunday February 7th at 2 p.m. in the Great Hall and continue meeting the following Sunday afternoons (except February 14th!) until March 21st. Those interested in being Confirmed should speak with the Interim Rector.

Faithfully yours,
Fr. John+

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING JANUARY 24

The vestry will meet on January 11 and finalize the budget for 2010. After the vestry votes on the budget, the treasurer presents it to the congregation at our annual budget meeting. That meeting will take place after the 10:00 Eucharist on Sunday, January 24. Please plan to attend this meeting.

RUMMAGE SALE FEBRUARY 4th and 5th Hours are 8:30am to 3pm

The Basement Gang is working on putting the first rummage sale of the New Year together. We welcome your gently used clean clothes, curtains, towels, sheets, knick-knack's, household and kitchen items that are in working order and small furniture. Handyman and Garden Tools always in demand. Remember to bring us your St. Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day and Easter items for this sale. Please make sure the puzzles you bring have all the pieces and the boxes are taped close.

Items we CANNOT accept: Encyclopedias, Newspapers, Paper Reader's Digest, Used Coloring Books, Stuffed Toys, Computers, Printers and Bed Frames with no mattresses. (If your bed frame has a mattress, we are eager to accept it.) We know you love your pet but the old couch you moved to the basement for Fido...we can't accept that couch or overstuffed chair either!

The Gang works every Monday beginning at 8am until 10:30-11ish. We can always use help even if it is just for one day. If you can put clothes on a hanger we have a job for you.

We try to have the basement clean and ready for business the week of the sale so for this first sale, we ask for you to donate all items before Feb 1st.

If you plan to donate something, please call the church office to arrange for a drop off time. Items left outside the door are discarded. The cat population around the church leaves items well marked.

Thank you for helping with each sale...all money goes to the Adopted Families Christmas Project. Nelma & Greg Berry, Joan Snyder, Janet Farley, Becky, Chuck & Ken Winans, Nancy & Al Marlow, Karl Hannan, Bob and Joan Lanyon, Darlene Slusher and most often the Wed. Work Crew. Come join us if you can!

ADOPTED FAMILIES Carole Doughty

I would like to thank everyone for their help in making the Adopted Families Christmas Project a success. We helped 75 families with toys, underwear, socks, hats, gloves, crayons, coloring books, books, personal care packets, cookies, potatoes, gently used items from downstairs, help with shoe cards (130 pairs) and a food basket if requested. This project would not be possible without the assistance of all of you at Good Shepherd as well as assistance of many other individuals, churches and organizations.

The organizations that helped us this year include: Belpre Dental Solutions, Coldwater Creek, Community Service Council, Dayton Foundation, Fairlawn Baptist Church, First Baptist Church – The American Baptist Women, First Christian Church, First Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Good Shepherd EYF, Lubeck Lucky Clovers 4-H Club, PAMS, Inc., Parkersburg Lion's Club, Parkersburg Woman's Club, South Parkersburg K-Mart, St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Church, St. Monica's Catholic Parish, Trinity Episcopal Church, USA Martial Arts, Zonta Club.

Each year we are again dependent on the Lord and for over twenty years the Lord has faithfully blessed this project and provided the support needed to allow us to be his hands and heart to needy families in this community.

If you would like to help plan this year's project or have ideas, let us know.

THE SENIOR WARDEN'S CORNER

I watch the snow, softly falling on the ground, laying down a gentle coat of white. Ah, the decisions – to stay by the heater and drink hot chocolate, or to go out and feel the brisk air on my face.

[Some people, I have discovered really like winter, and some don't. God doesn't seem to take our likes and dislikes too much into account, as He designed this cycle of temperatures for His own reason and pleasure.]

Our church has its seasons, too. But just as the earth hunkers down to get through its winter, so can we. Trees let go of their leaves, and use nutrients stored in the roots. The nutrients stored in our roots of faith will carry us through – prayer, scripture, the sacraments, faith in God, in each other, in the church itself. We keep living in winter; we keep worshipping when rectors change and people come and go. Winter is a good time for conversation – time to get to know each other, in gracious and compassionate listening, seeking to understand other points of view besides our own. Christ is the Good Shepherd, leading us into the next season of our life together. We can trust our God, our priest, each other, and this process. After winter, spring. After Gethsemane, the Resurrection. God is Faithful. And so are we. Amen.