

## THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

[www.goodshepherdwv.org](http://www.goodshepherdwv.org)

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

Ginger Smith, Parish Administrator  
March 24, 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,

I write this just as we are about to enter Holy Week which makes us ready for the most important day of the Christian year—Easter. Everything depends upon Easter: It is the day Jesus rose from the dead thereby changing everything that had gone before. Death could not hold him.

Easter Day is special and yet it is the same as every Sunday. Every first day of the week, the Day of Resurrection, we gather around the Lord's table to remind ourselves of who won the ultimate victory and of that who and what we are because of that victory.

We come to be fed at that table from the midst of struggles in our own lives. Each of us has our own "battle story" to tell. There are those whose battle with leading an ethical business life in a world of "cut throat" competition. There are those who have to force themselves to overcome some physical pain each morning just to get out of bed. There are those who find that trying to hold the line with young children is almost too exhausting to be worth the effort. There are some who have to fight their own fears and dark memories to go and visit members of their own families. At the "time of trial," (as the contemporary version of the Lord's Prayer renders "temptation"), it is all too easy not to remember who it was that won that victory for us.

The Christian faith is the story of our human struggles with life focused on one person—Jesus the Christ. Christians are convinced that Jesus' struggle is representative of all our struggles. What happens to us, happened to Jesus and what happened to Jesus is what is intended to happen to us by God's grace. So how the battle came out for Jesus is how the battle will end for us: That is why Easter is so important, the power of death has been broken. More than that, Jesus has made it possible for those who share his life to be alive forever more. There is no one else in the world saying that except the person in Christ.

As we gather around the Lord's table on Easter morning and the great 50 days following, listen closely to the accounts relating to Jesus' appearances to his followers: Mary in the garden, the two on the road to Emmaus, the ten in the upper room, Thomas, Simon Peter, the scene by the Sea of Galilee. Always there is amazement and joy as they recognize the risen Lord. That joy is because of what Jesus has done.

It was the Holy Spirit that brought Jesus from the tomb. It is that same Spirit that opens our eyes to see and acknowledge that Christ is alive and at work in our midst. And because we are united to Christ by our baptism and therefore raised with Christ, we can be the means by which that good news is injected into our world which desperately longs for release from cynicism and despair.

Remember who won that victory and to whom you belong. Rejoice and celebrate. Happy Easter.

Faithfully yours,  
John+

### GENTLE REMINDER

Remember when giving money to the church to always write a separate check for your pledge. Easter Flowers, Easter Offering, Roof pledge, Manna, etc. are deposited into a different account from your current year pledge. Thank you.

### PALM SUNDAY CONFIRMATION AND BISHOP'S VISITATION

Bishop Klusmeyer will be visiting with us this Sunday for his annual visitation and confirmation. Following the 10:00 Eucharist, there will be a luncheon in the Great Hall honoring the confirmands. Please come join us.

### EASTER FLOWERS

This Sunday, **March 28**, is the deadline to have your Easter Flower giving included in the insert in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Please let the office or Judy Peters know of your intention. You may call Judy at 304-422-8334 or put your "Easter Flower Envelope" in the collection plate on Sundays. Please be sure to write your intentions on the back of the envelope. You may also call the office or e-mail ginger at [ginger\\_smith@goodshepherdwv.org](mailto:ginger_smith@goodshepherdwv.org) with your request.

### SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Rector Search Committee has completed the profile for a new rector. We appreciate your help by participating in the surveys and praying for us and the process. Now we need to complete a brochure about Good Shepherd to send to prospective candidates. We want to include lots of photos of Good Shepherd people and parish activities. Please email your photos to Toni DeVore: [drtld@suddenlink.net](mailto:drtld@suddenlink.net) ASAP. The sooner the brochure is done, the sooner we can accept names.

If you know someone you would like the Search Committee to consider, you need to contact the prospective candidate yourself, see if the person is interested and, if so, ask him/her to contact The Ven. Faith C. Perrizo, Archdeacon: [fperrizo@wvdiocese.org](mailto:fperrizo@wvdiocese.org) to be added to our list. Contact any member of the Search Committee if you have questions. Members are: Alan Parks (Chairperson), David Cooper, Linda Crocker, Toni DeVore, Bob Flinn, Hal Foss, Abbey Justice, Trish Pritchard, Dianna Quick and Larry Tarrant.

### EASTER EGG HUNT AND PIÑATA SMASHING

The YMC is again offering an Easter Egg Hunt and Piñata Smashing for children on Easter Sunday after the 10 a.m. service. The EYF is reminded to come to the Crockers' home on Saturday March 27 at 10 a.m. to make the Piñatas and again Saturday April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 a.m. to paint them and dye eggs.

### PINK CHURCH WALKERS – JOIN THE TEAM

This year's Relay for Life in support of the American Cancer Society will be Friday-Saturday May 14-15. Now is the time to sign up as a member of the team. We need people to walk the laps at City Park. Our team is registered on the Wood County Relay for Life website - just do a Google search and you will get there easily. Alternatively, contact co-captains Suzanne Anderson or Linda Crocker to sign up using a paper application. The registration fee is \$10 - you need to raise an additional \$50 before April 22 to get a Relay t-shirt. Survivors can register without joining a team. If you can't join us to walk, please support Relay by sponsoring a Pink Church walker, making a donation to the team, coming to the Birthday Bash for Cash and/or purchasing luminaria in honor or in memory of loved ones (forms at church after Easter).

## SENIOR WARDEN'S CORNER

By Wendy Tuck

In our EfM (Educating For Ministry) class, we used standing in line for a roller coaster ride as a symbol for life. We identified many feelings – excitement, fear, the pit in the stomach, deciding to trust the operators, giddiness, anticipation, and embarrassment at being afraid when young kids are fearless. We then saw that the waiting was very similar to what Gideon (Judges 7) felt while assembling 300 men with torches and clay jars to attack a huge army in the valley below. They, too, felt anticipation, excitement, an awareness of danger as well as God's power in their midst. We roughly compared God and Gideon's victory to the thrill of survival when you step off the roller coaster. You can't get to the victory if you don't get in the line.

Deciding to get in line is one way we express our faith. In the EfM materials, theologian Karl Rahner, talked about his feelings about faith. He said "We are often discouraged, sad at heart almost sour, or at best glad if the world shows signs of still putting up with us." Shortly after that, a new voice came from Pope John XXIII, who said we can recover confidence because the church lives by the power of Christ. Theologian Bernard Lonergan continued that idea, and stated boldly "that it is possible to reflect on human experience and discern signs of the transcendent (God) in the world. He pointed to the fact that amid tragedy and suffering, joy and fulfillment, we may discern the presence of the transcendent. There are signs of God's concern for us. Sin is a reality, as are our human limitations, but God has given us the gift (grace) to detect in our relationships with one another and in the course of our lives, meaning, and the possibilities of a deeper and richer life." Seeing the hand of God in dry, shriveled bulbs turning into the crocuses of spring, in the face of a newborn, in participating in Zac Drennan's ministry with Elewana, in a hand that grasps yours during prayer, and in cards and dinners we send to our fellow Christians after surgery, are signs of the transcendent. So are the "aha" moments, little glimpses of meaning and understanding. We are able to see that there is something beyond this physical, material life, something kind, something intelligent, something visionary, just, merciful, and free.

We, and the church, regardless of our fears and trepidation, can be confident, without arrogance, because we live by the power of Christ. We see signs of Christ all around us, in the sacraments, in creation, scripture, other people, sometimes in our own hearts, inspired by Christ's grace and love. We are already in the line to join Christ where He is. We can take the ride, because we know He cares- passionately and eternally - about the earth and its people, about Good Shepherd and our neighbors, and is with us always, even to the end of the age.

### THE PINK CHURCH WALKERS

invite you to

**Celebrate More Birthdays**

**A Birthday Party For Everyone**

aka **The Birthday Bash for Cash**

**Sunday April 18th 11:30 a.m. Great Hall**  
Games, Lunch, Silent Auction, Birthday Cake

Support Relay for Life by coming to the party!

It's a birthday party so bring a gift. Gifts will be auctioned off so don't wrap them. Gifts can be items or services, anything you think someone else would be willing to pay for. Do you have a talent you could share or use to make something? Did you receive a great gift that just isn't you? If your gift is a service write up a short explanation (4 hours of gardening, 3-course dinner for 4, 3 hours of babysitting, 1/2 day of handyman repairs, etc.). Include your name and contact information.

## PETERKIN SUMMER CAMP

If you are planning on attending any of the camps, the early registration deadline is **April 30, 2010** in order to receive a discounted camp fee. Registration forms are available in the parish office as well as a nice brochure explaining each camp.

Good Shepherd has scholarships available and will pay 1/2 of the discounted fee. Just let Ginger know in the parish office if a scholarship is needed. This information is kept confidential.

### PETERKIN CAMP SCHEDULE

Junior Camp	June 20-26
Senior Camp	June 27 – July 3
Beginner Camp	July 5 – July 8
Mini Camp	July 8 – July 11
Family Camp	July 11-17
Hallelujah Hike	July 17-24
Creative Arts	July 18-24
Intermediate Camp	July 25 - Aug. 1

### WATCH VIGIL

The sign-up sheet for the Watch Vigil is on the wall beside the door from the office area into the worship center. It is our hope to have at least one person praying or meditating in the nave from 9:00 PM on Maundy Thursday until 3:00 PM on Good Friday.

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### **PASSION SUNDAY, MARCH 28**

At our **8:00 AM** Eucharist the lesson for Palm Sunday and the blessing of the palms will be read from the narthex and then the “altar party” will process. Palms will be distributed during the procession.

The congregation for the **10:00 AM** Eucharist will gather in the Great Hall where we will hear the lesson for Palm Sunday and the palms will be blessed. We will process from the Great Hall outside and up the ramp into the church where we will begin Eucharist for Passion Sunday. The gospel lesson is done in parts. During this Eucharist, Bishop Klusmeyer will do Confirmation. Immediately following the Eucharist we will proceed to the Great Hall for the Confirmand Reception, where lunch has been provided for us.

Bishop Klusmeyer will meet with the **Vestry** at approximately 1PM after the reception.

### **HOLY MONDAY, MARCH 29 through** **HOLY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31**

There will be Eucharist with homily each evening beginning at **7:30 PM**.

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1**

Our Eucharist with homily at **7:30 PM** begins with a silent processional. After Eucharist the altar, sanctuary, and chancel are stripped in preparation for Good Friday. The **Watch Vigil** begins immediately after the stripping of the altar.

### **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2**

The Watch Vigil ends at 3:00 PM. Our Tenebrae Good Friday observance begins at **7:30 PM**.

### **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4**

Holy Eucharist with sermon will be celebrated at our normal worship hours, **8:00 A.M. and 10:00 AM**. There will be a wire cross at the chancel steps to receive your flowers to help transform it from its plain form into a wonderful flower cross.

Following our 10:00 Eucharist, children will be dismissed before the rest of the congregation so they may participate in the Easter Egg Hunt and Piñata festivities.

The **offering** from our Easter Eucharists will be gifted to Elewana and the Children's Home Society for working with 18 year olds who are leaving the foster care system.