



**THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF**  
**The Memorial Church of the Good Shepherd**  
**May 21, 2025**

**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.

*Please check out the **church calendar** available on our website.*

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

**From the Rector:**

Easter season is quickly drawing to a close, and before we know it, “the green growing season” will arrive. More formally known as the season after Pentecost, you will see our church hangings shift to green. It’s no coincidence that our church makes this shift at the same time as our home gardens start to produce vegetation. Even the scriptures begin to reflect moments of creation or new beginnings.

Where do we see this growth reflected in our church? Here at Good Shepherd, we have a new roof for a new age. Soon we will have new plumbing and a renewed kitchen. As our worship, serve, and proclaim campaign is enacted in our very structures, pray with me about how we, as church, can live out this mission in our daily life. How can our sanctuary better be open for folks in our community? How can our kitchen better be of service to those in need? How can our bell bring joy to those around us? If you hear God whispering ideas to you, please come talk with me. May we all be in discernment on how the green growing season can challenge us to move forward together into a bright future.

Katie Beth+



**Capital Campaign – WORSHIP, SERVE, PROCLAIM!**

As of this week the total raised is: \$236,420.49. We are so thankful. This includes a grant of \$3000 for the kitchen project from the Parkersburg Area Community Foundation.

The roof work began early Monday morning with the domes over the bell tower and Narthex being re-shingled. It was all completed by late Tuesday afternoon. Thank you to everyone who prepared the church interior for the roof work by removing things from our worship space and covering everything else with plastic sheeting.

Kitchen prep work by the Thursday Work Crew will continue next week in preparation for the official start of that project on June 2. Let us pray that the kitchen work will progress as smoothly as the roof work did.

## June 8 – Pentecost, Youth Sunday, Picnic

Plan to be in church at 10:15 AM (no 8 AM service) on June 8 for Pentecost, one of the major festivals of the church year. Besides celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit, we will be celebrating our spirit-filled youth and enjoying burgers and hot dogs out on the playground after the service. There will be shade under the overhang, under the trees, and Alan Parks has arranged for a tent for more shade. We will have seating in the Christian Ed wing if it rains. There is a sign-up list in the Welcome Center for your contribution of a side dish, dessert, iced tea or water; we will supply the meat and buns. Hope to see everyone there for worship and fellowship.



## Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

We received 317 pounds of non-perishables from this year's local Letter Carriers food drive. This is less than half of what we usually receive due to a combination of factors.

We certainly are grateful for what we were given and hope the food drive continues successfully next year.

## Altar Flowers -we need your help

We need donations of money for flowers for summer Sundays. If you can sign up for a vase of flowers, it would be really appreciated. Due to supply issues the prices have gone up. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, our cost for one vase will be \$65 and both vases will be \$130. If 4 donors share a Sunday, the price will be \$32.50 each. Flowers for the Columbarium are \$30. You can donate your flowers in honor or memory of your loved ones, to commemorate a special event or in thanksgiving for something meaningful to you. If you donate by check, please put 'flowers' in the memo line. Be sure to include the details of your dedication or call Ginger with that information. Thank you for your help in keeping our altar filled with flowers this spring and summer.



## Bible Study



Wednesday Bible Study groups led by David Cooper meet most Wednesdays. There are two sessions. The group meeting from 4:15 – 5:15 PM is studying the 1 John, 2<sup>nd</sup> John, 3<sup>rd</sup> John, all short letters. The group meeting from 5:15 - 6:15 PM is studying 1<sup>st</sup> Kings. Both groups welcome new attendees. Let David know you will be there so he can let you into the building (304-494-8790). Bible Study will take a break in July and August.

## Blood Drive

The Red Cross Blood Drive at Trinity is scheduled for Tuesday June 3 from 11 AM – 4 PM. Whether you signed up or not, you must schedule your appointment time. Please call the Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 or go online to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) to book your time slot at Trinity on June 3.



## Shepherd's Closet Rummage



The next sale will be June 6-7. If you have donations you can arrange to drop them off during office hours, M-TH, 9-12, 1:30-3. If you have a lot, call the office and someone will meet you in the parking lot next to the Rummage Room. Household items always sell well. If you would like to help or have questions about donations, call Deb's cell (1-518-637-1734). As she recovers from her recent surgery, she will be especially appreciative of any help you can give her.

## Reading Camp – August 4-8

*Hop Aboard the Reading Railroad* for a fun-filled week helping area children refresh or improve their reading skills and self-esteem before they head back to another year of school.

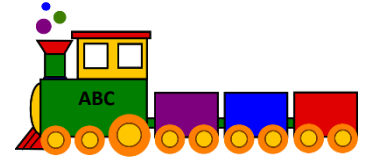
How can you help? We need both adults and teen assistance.

In the morning you could teach reading skills, mentor a small group of children as they move from one learning station to the next, help serve a light breakfast or daily snack, or listen to a child read in the Pleasure Reading Room.

In the afternoon you could accompany a small group of children through the afternoon activities (field trips, on site activities like braille, cooking, science and crafts), lead or help with an onsite activity, help serve lunch and an afternoon snack, and/or driving to field trip locations.

Do you know a local celebrity? We want to invite people to come share their favorite children's book with the kids at the end of the camp day. Please give us their contact information.

Can't help during the week due to work or other obligations? Come help us decorate on Saturday August 2.



## Staying Connected, Continuing to Serve

### Intercessory Prayers

During your prayer time please use the lists below to remember those who have asked for our prayers:



### Good Shepherd Parish Prayer List

The People of Israel and Gaza	Marcia Doyle – healing	Mary Gevas – healing
The People of Ukraine	Peggy Roberts - healing	Peter Gevas – healing
Diane Cottrill – healing	Ann Stevens– healing	Lynn Van Fossen – healing
Jone Johnson – healing/strength	David Cottrill - healing	Sandy Carpenter – surgery recovery
Deb Hepburn-McKinney – healing	Heyward Roberts - healing	Amanda Morris – healing
Vickie Dilley – healing/strength	Charles Sterchak – healing	Jody Landrith – shoulder replacement
Joyce Haynes –healing and strength	Dee Milhoan – healing	Buck Harris – strength/healing




### *Safety for all those serving in the Armed Forces*

Sterling Slusher, Lauren Fielder, Peter Keiser

### *Those needing healing from cancer*

Hal Foss	Julia Lee	John Stevens	Ellis Corra	Judy McCoy
Alana Dailey	David White	Chris Angotti	Doris Lowe	Gary Greer
Wendy Meridith	Colleen Parsons	Lois Switzer		

## Outreach Programs


- ♥ **Donuts** - We make day-old donuts available to our neighbors and the homeless. Thank you to McHappy's and to those who make sure the donuts are picked up each week. 
- ♥ **Little Free Library** – Filling the church neighborhood with books to read. Your donations are always welcome or help yourself to a book if you spot a good one – they are there for anyone and everyone. 
- ♥ **Last Sunday Supper** – The next meal will be this Sunday, May 25. Come help set-up and cook beginning at 1 PM or come help serve and clean-up at 5:15 PM. We begin serving at 5:30 and continue until 6:15 or earlier if we run out of food. We are usually out of the building by 7 or 7:15.
- ♥ **Food Pantry** – If you would like to help handing out food bags to the unhoused or preparing food for our hosed clients in the pantry, the current need is someone on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. We also need substitute helpers when someone is out of town or ill. Contact Linda if you can serve a few hours weekly or just as needed. 

## Inreach Opportunities



We show our care for other members as we listen to each other, spend time together, support each other in our church ministries, share a hug during the peace, help in times of need and celebrate special moments. Those who can't be here in person are also valued members of our congregation. If you or a loved one would like a card, a visit, a meal, or a home communion, please call the office and we will connect you with someone who would love to be asked to help.



- ♥ **Pastoral Care**  
Someone is in the office Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you need pastoral care outside office hours, contact Toni DeVore or Linda Crocker (see below for our contact information). Katie Beth now has a dedicated phone number for pastoral care emergencies for members of the congregation to use. If you would like to have that number, please call the office to obtain it. It will not be printed anywhere so that when Katie Beth gets a call, she knows it is from one of us and not from a non-member. Additionally, the Eucharistic Visitors can offer a visit and/or home communion to those who can't come to church – just ask!
- ♥ **Prayer Chain**  
We have a group of people who pray for those having emergency situations – surgery, accidents, or other crises. Linda Crocker makes the calls using the One Call system when she is notified by a church member of an immediate need. If you want to be added to the prayer chain let Linda know (304-210-5591). **God hears all our prayers** – you don't need a special gift to pray for healing and comfort for those in distress. All prayer chain calls remain confidential. 

## Calendar Dates

May 25 – Last Sunday Supper  
 May 26 – Memorial Day, Office closed  
 June 2 – Summer office hours begin: 9-12 and 1-3:30  
 June 2 – Kitchen work begins  
 June 8 – Pentecost and Youth Sunday (one service only) followed by Picnic  
 June 15 – Summer Sunday services at 10:15 AM only. 8 AM service will return in late August  
 July 14-18 – Open Sky  
 August 4-8 – Reading Camp





## Anyone recognize this gentleman? Dave Johnson met a former member

You probably have seen this fellow tooling around Parkersburg & Belpre in his souped up "car". He would likely have his headlights and flashers on.

His name is

### **Jimmy Hodgson**

(pronounced Hodson). He stopped to talk to me Sunday night while I was setting out the barricades for the roofing project.

Turns out he is a former parishioner at Good Shepherd during the time of Frank Wade. He was an acolyte---the first handicapped acolyte as far as he knows. His job was to bring in the Am. Flag. He would hold the flag while another acolyte pushed him. He mentioned Frank Wade, Ann Kinney, Jerry Shaw, Gary Dunn and a couple others as being very important during his youth.



I invited him back and told him we have a Sunday service at 10:15. He said that it would be very hard for him to get moving and drive over here in time for that service. I told him about the 1pm healing service on Thursdays. He said that would be more doable. I also invited him to our Last Sunday Supper. He had come to one during Lou's time and might be back.

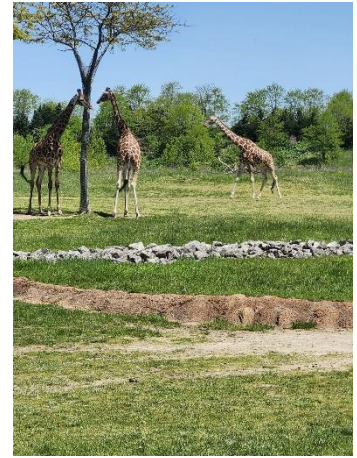
So, keep your eye open for him and welcome him back.

### **Contact Information:**

The Rev. Katie Beth Miksa	304-428-1525, ext. 4	<a href="mailto:rector.goodshepherdwva@gmail.com">rector.goodshepherdwva@gmail.com</a>
Ginger Smith, Parish Administrator	304-428-1525, ext. 1	<a href="mailto:gingersmith.goodshepherdwva@gmail.com">gingersmith.goodshepherdwva@gmail.com</a>
Linda Crocker, Parish Ministries	304-428-1525, ext. 5	<a href="mailto:LLBC100@msn.com">LLBC100@msn.com</a>
Toni DeVore, Senior Warden	304-991-2259	<a href="mailto:drtld51@gmail.com">drtld51@gmail.com</a>

**One Call system 1-877-698-3261** This is the number to call if you need a message from the church repeated. If you are not receiving messages, contact Linda to be added to our call list.

## Youth Group Visits the Columbus Zoo

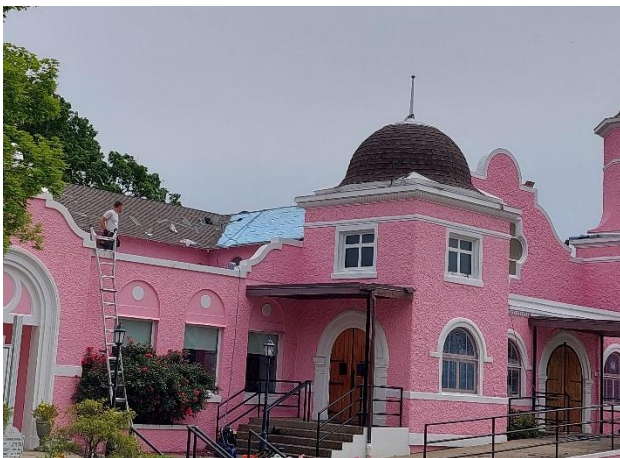


## The Roofing Project



**Sunday: Inside all covered with plastic**

**Monday Morning:**  removing old shingles from the domes



**Tuesday Lunchtime: Domes done,  
roof partway finished**

**Tuesday at 4PM: All done!!!** 

