



THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

The Memorial Church of the Good Shepherd

June 24, 2026

Our mission: To **Worship** God, to **Serve** our neighbors, to **Proclaim** the Good News

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

www.goodshepherdwv.org

From the Rector

Learning from London

William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, which began in London, famously declared, "I am not waiting for a move of God; I am a move of God." And while the Salvation Army was not on the list of faith communities we visited, I find this quote to be an accurate description of what Brian, Linda, and I discovered. Each site we visited was a worshipping community within the oversight of the Church of England, our Anglican forbearers to the Episcopal Church, and each site embraced a movement for God in its own unique way. We experienced churches that came across as what we might call non-denominational or evangelical, with 30-45 minutes of standing praise music followed by a 30-40 minute message. We experienced churches that were Anglo-Catholic, with incense wafting as we walked in and icons and statues everywhere. And we experienced the broad church, something entirely in between: envision an art deco cinderblock building with one or two statues and an ambry but also crocheted prayer flags (Nepalese style) and food pantry storage cabinets lining the walls.

For me, what all these worshipping communities had in common was a clear sense of joy. There was joy in both serving God and in taking risks to see where God might be moving. There was also a sense of urgency that now is the time—we don't have time to wait. If we are going to fail, no worries, just fail fast and move on to the next opportunity. God is alive, so there is no sense in trying to water dead leaves. What does this mean for us and our context? That is a great question. We brought home copious notes. We plan to meet with Canon Chad Slater (who also participated in the course) to discuss what we learned and discern with him what might be great next steps to bring to our vestry and eventually the whole congregation. We are more than aware that we have finite resources of time, talent, and treasure, and we want to prayerfully discern where God might be calling us next before we leap. Your team is so grateful for diocesan support in this process. Please know that we and the vestry will continue to keep you apprised of how we can all Learn from London.

Katie Beth+

Learning from London photos



The group in front of the altar area in St Francis at The Engine Room, Tottenham Hale



Evening Praise Service at St Mary – Le Bow



In the garden at Holy Trinity, Leytonstone



Stations of the Cross
St Francis at The Engine Room, Tottenham Hale



The Highbury Centre – our home away from home



Westminster Abbey

Where in the world is Katie Beth – the finale?

Not quite. She is back from London, back at work in the office and back at both the Thursday service tomorrow and Sunday. Coming up - the week of July 5 Katie Beth will be at Peterkin for Senior Camp.



Online Giving – in case you missed it

Our members, guests, friends, and the wider community can now donate to support Good Shepherd via online giving. To try it, scan the QR code below with your smart phone or go to the Give section of our website and click on the GIVE button.

You will be taken to a secure site where you can use the pull-down menu to choose to donate towards your annual pledge, your Capital Campaign pledge, our food ministries, non-food outreach or 'other'. You can use the memo option to give us more information as necessary (i.e. you wish your 'other' donation to go towards the parish discretionary fund, or you wish to have your 'non-food outreach' donation go to Adopted Families). You can make your donation using your credit card or checking account information. There is a small fee for using this service. The fee is optional, however we hope you will include that with your gift, so we have use of the entire donation.

Of course, you can continue to give by check or cash and use your pledge envelopes. We expect this online option to be especially useful for visitors and occasional donors.

Scan Me!



Altar Flowers

July 26, August 2 and August 16 are available for your donation(s) in memory of loved ones or to honor special occasions. We continue to enjoy the beauty and quality of the flowers we receive from Dudley's. The current cost is \$40/vase. Please help us keep fresh flowers on the altar as we enjoy worshipping together this summer. Call the office to reserve your date.



Summer Adult Education

There will be three opportunities to enjoy a potluck meal, activities and discussion this summer. The topic is *The Two Popes* (screenplay turned into book). The first session is next week on Wednesday July 1. The meal will begin at 6 PM and the evening will finish by 8 PM. Plan now to bring a dish to share and spend a relaxed evening with your church family. The following dates are July 22 and August 4.

Books for the Little Free Library



We are in good shape for kids for quite a while - thank you! We also have an abundance of religious/spiritual books including the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series, so we don't need more of those right now. We could use cookbooks, DIY books and other interesting non-fiction.

Shepherd's Closet Rummage

The June sale raised over \$500! The next sale is July 3 and 4. We appreciate your donations, but we **Do Not Need** any more hangers, baseball caps or shoes this month. We do welcome more donations of household items and summer clothing



Juliets

This dinner group, which is open to the women of Good Shepherd and Trinity, meets monthly on the first Tuesday at various local restaurants. There is no agenda other than to eat and chat. Please make plans to attend and let the office at Trinity know you are coming. That number is 304-422-3362. The next dinner is July 7th at Las Trancas, on the southside in front of Kohl's.

UTO (United Thank Offering)

UTO invites individuals to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. Little blue boxes are distributed so as you recognize people, events or things that you are grateful for, you can drop a coin or bill in your box – a physical, tangible acknowledgement of God’s grace in your life.

UTO uses the money collected from Episcopalians across the country to support ministries throughout the Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

Here at Good Shepherd the boxes available in the Welcome Center for your use from now through the end of August. You can read more about UTO here: <https://unitedthankoffering.com/>



Rental space available. Any ideas?

We are looking for one or more tenants now that Head Start has moved out. We can be flexible about which spaces a future tenant could use. If you know of any agencies or services that would be a good fit for us, both in terms of mission and space needed, please pass your suggestion to a staff or vestry member or ask the agency/program to contact the church directly so we can provide further details.

Prayers of the People

After experiencing some heartfelt prayers from some of our members, we have decided to offer this opportunity once a month from June through the end of the church year (November). If you would like to write some prayers to be used during the service on the 2nd Sunday of the month, please let Linda know so she can put you on the schedule. You can speak with Katie Beth or Linda if you need any guidance but we welcome a variety.. We need prayers prepared for August through November. You can read your own prayers during the service, or they can be read by one of our intercessors if you prefer.

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. 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 3:30 p.m. (summer hours). If you need pastoral care outside office hours, contact Toni DeVore or Linda Crocker (see below). 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.



♥ Intercessory Prayers:

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



Good Shepherd Parish Prayer List

Victims of war and violence

Ann Stevens– healing

Diane Cottrill – healing

Buck Harris – strength/healing

Emma Kellison – stroke recovery

Marcia Doyle – healing

Marlene Smith- healing

Peter Gevas – healing

Amanda Morris – healing

John Currey - healing

Mary Gevas – healing

Gene Allander – healing

Jone Johnson – healing/strength

Deb Hepburn-McKinney – healing

Safety for all those serving in the Armed Forces
Donovan Burns, Sterling Slusher, Peter Keiser

Those needing healing from cancer

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|------------|
| John Stevens | Alana Dailey | Gary Greer | Lois Switzer | Rudi Miksa |
| Faith Beha | Mirtala Smith | Everett Gilmore | Charles Sterchak | |
| Ellen Faymon | Rudi Miksa | | | |




A prayer for our nation on Independence Day

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace. Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

--The Book of Common Prayer, page 258



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 daily. 
- ♥ **Little Free Library** – Filling the church neighborhood with books to read. Your donations are always welcome. 
- ♥ **Last Sunday Supper** – The next meal will be Sunday, June 28. Come help set-up and cook at 1 PM or come help serve and clean-up at 5:15 PM. We begin serving at 5:30 and continue until about 6 (or earlier if we run out of food). We are usually out of the building by 7 or 7:15.
- ♥ **Food Pantry** – If you can help handing out food bags to the unhoused or preparing food orders in the pantry for our housed clients, the current need is someone on Monday afternoon and Thursday morning. We also need subs occasionally. Contact Linda if you can serve a few hours weekly or just as needed. Also, **we need your used bags**, doubled if possible. 

Coming Up:

June 28 – Last Sunday Supper
July 1 – Potluck Supper and Learning Activities
July 3 & 4 – Rummage Sale
July 12 – 17 Open Sky



One Call system 1-877-698-3261

This is the way we notify our members of important announcements.
Caller ID will say that the call is from Good Shepherd, but it is really from One Call.

Call the number above if you need a message from the church repeated.

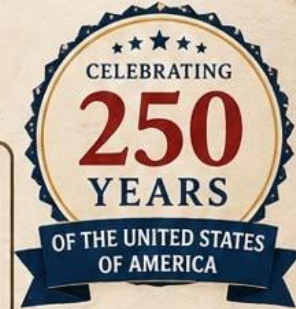
If you are not receiving messages, contact Linda to be added to our call list.

Contact Information:

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|------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| The Rev. Katie Beth Miksa | 304-428-1525, ext. 4 | rector.goodshepherdwva@gmail.com |
| Ginger Smith, Parish Administrator | 304-428-1525, ext. 1 | gingersmith.goodshepherdwva@gmail.com |
| Linda Crocker, Parish Ministries | 304-428-1525, ext. 5 | LLBC100@msn.com or text 304-210-5591 |
| Toni DeVore, Senior Warden | 304-991-2259 | drtld51@gmail.com |

"Love Letter to America"

a Writing Workshop



WEDNESDAY
JULY 1, 2026

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM



PHELPS-TAVENNER
HOUSE

2401 Camden Ave
Parkersburg, WV 26101

Join writer and workshop facilitator **Wendy Tuck** as she guides participants in writing a "Love Letter to America" using imagery, music, history, memories, and personal family experiences.

No skill or expertise is necessary—just a desire to explore and put into words the thoughts and feelings one has toward

"This Land That I Love."

Love can be deep and complex, it can fill our hearts as well as break them, and on the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America, come find your own words and put them in the form of a love letter to America.

About the Facilitator

Wendy Tuck

holds a BA in Elementary Education and an MA in Special Education.

Her work has been published in two anthologies, and she has led numerous workshops on journal writing and personal storytelling.



REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE PROVIDED BY
The Wood County
Historical Preservation Society



FREE AND
OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC



★ **RESERVE YOUR SPOT!** ★ Please call, text, or email to reserve your spot.



304-488-3810



wendytuck5@gmail.com

Space is limited. Advance registration is encouraged. ♥