



THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF

The Memorial Church of the Good Shepherd

July 8, 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

Greetings from Peterkin,

Currently I am looking over the lush green grass and trees that have just experienced quite a bit of rain. The rain has kept the temperatures cool at camp, and cool temperatures have kept the energy up. We have 25 campers for senior high school, which is an increase from last year. They are inquisitive and faithful and excited to be at camp. Hearing all thirty voices of campers and staff sing at the top of their lungs in Strider Chapel is soul reviving. This is probably the main element from camp that I would love to bring home: the exuberance for worshipping God with one another with a joyful noise.

Changes in music was one of the goals you had in selecting a new rector. I am so grateful for your willingness to try new things and learn new pieces. I have received so much feedback that the church feels even more alive. So keep it up. Show up to worship, share in the energy, and sing to the best of your ability.

Summer Adult Education

If you missed the first installment of our potluck discussion about The Two Popes, do not worry! You are welcome to join us at our second installment. There is no reading necessary. Next dates are July 22 at 6pm and Aug. 12 at 6pm. Bring a dish to share and know we will wrap up no later than 8pm.

Where in the world is Katie Beth?

She is at Peterkin this week working with Geoff Mackey as the camp clergy for Senior Camp. She will be back for church next Sunday and for all Sundays until mid-August.



Learning From London

Katie Beth, Brian and Linda met with Canon Chad Slater last week to discuss the *Learning From London* experience and possible next steps as we apply what was learned to our local situation. There were so many great ideas of ways to interact with our neighbors in a more intentional and cooperative manner. How can we leverage what we already do in ways that will have a greater impact, both for our neighbors and for our congregation? Stay tuned and keep praying.

Attention: Scholarship opportunity for current or entering college students due July 31



The Fred L. Davis, Jr. Scholarship is intended to be awarded annually to a recipient or recipients who exhibit good character, scholarly aptitude, Christian faith, and a community mindedness who are attending a West Virginia institution of higher education. **The application is available through the church office.** It calls for a 300-1000 word personal statement and two letters of recommendation. This scholarship is given in loving memory of Fred L. Davis, Jr. who was a respected Parkersburg attorney and who was actively involved in his church and multiple community positions before his untimely passing in 1990. His loving wife, Sally R. Davis, passed in 2024. His three adult children Debbie (Davis) Wright, John R. Davis, and Fred “Rick” Davis III share in his legacy both in their community involvement and through the administration of this scholarship.

Open Sky

Last Wednesday, July 1, Open Sky let us know they will not be hosting clubhouse activities at our church. They are anticipating 80+ kids, and the Escape has more space for what they are hoping to do. They will continue serving elementary age kids from 10 AM – 2 PM as they have done here in years past and serve kids 12 and up from 4 PM – 6:30 PM as they have done at The Escape before. The Escape is a year-round non-denominational ministry for middle school and high school youth located at 1404 13th St. While a move is sad for us, the fact they have 80+ kids is something to celebrate. The more youth impacted in our community the better. Please continue to pray for Open Sky and The Escape as they minister to the young people in this area.

We will welcome a few of the Open Sky staff members to church this Sunday, July 12. They plan to offer at liturgical dance as part of the service.

Online Giving

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.

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

Scan Me!



Altar Flowers

Several dates are available between now and the end of the year for your donation(s) in memory of loved ones or to honor special occasions. They are Aug. 16, Sept. 27, Oct. 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22 and Dec. 29. We enjoy the beauty and quality of the flowers we are receiving from Dudley's. The cost is \$40/vase. Please help us keep fresh flowers on the altar as we enjoy worshipping together. Call the office to reserve your date.



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 still could use more cookbooks, DIY books and other interesting non-fiction.

Shepherd's Closet Rummage

The June sale raised over \$500 and the July sale raised \$378. The next sale is August 7 and 8. 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.



UTO (United Thank Offering)

UTO invites individuals to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude.



Little blue boxes are 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 still looking for one or more tenants now that Head Start has left. We can be flexible about which spaces a future tenant could use. If you know of any businesses or non-profits 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.

Found on Facebook – interesting ideas for your contemplation

<https://www.stcolumbasinverness.org/the-soul-of-anglicanism-series>

(St Columba's is an Episcopal church in Inverness CA)

The Soul of Anglicanism



A Brief Survey of Anglican History

Join The Rev. Andrew Walmisley, PhD, as he presents a series on the Soul of Anglicanism. Fr. Andrew is surveying the history of Anglicanism while exploring its distinctive theological sources and unique characteristics. Is Anglicanism a tradition of compromise between Protestants and Catholics? Or one which comprehends elements of both as a “reformed catholic” tradition? This overriding question will become the lens through which to explore the distinctive characteristics of Anglican history, liturgy, sacrament, ecclesiology, and spirituality.

These presentations are especially crafted for anyone who wishes to make an initial foray into the study of Anglicanism. All who are considering baptism, confirmation, or reception into The Episcopal Church would find Fr. Andrew's presentations especially informative. All sessions have been audio recorded and uploaded to the St. Columba's website. There are currently recordings of 13 sessions. They vary in length from under an hour to almost 2 hours and there are lots of different topics.

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 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	Mary Gevas – healing	Marlene Smith- healing
Gene Allander – healing	Diane Cottrill – healing	Peter Gevas – healing
Ann Stevens– healing	John Curry – healing	Jone Johnson – healing/strength
Amanda Morris – healing	Larry Landrith – healing	Buck Harris – strength/healing
Marcia Doyle – healing	Jared Stephens – healing	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	Brenda Pugh
Ellen Faymon	Ben Buskirk			

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, July 26. 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:

July 13 – Bell Tower work begins
July 13-17 – Open Sky at The Escape
July 22 – Potluck Supper and part 2 of *The Two Popes*
July 26 – Last Sunday Supper
August 12 – 3rd and last session of *The Two Popes*



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:

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

Happy Summer!

