

Shepherd's Fold

March 26, 2023

Fifth Sunday in Lent

PREVENTIVE SPIRITUAL MEDICINE

For the last decade respected medical journals have reported that one of the most significant advances in health care is "Preventive Medicine." Of course, there is nothing new about that concept. In the Hippocratic School 2400 years ago, Hippocrates taught that it was much easier to prevent a disaster than to do damage control after one. Case in point, the simple act of hand washing introduced in 1847 markedly reduced maternity death rates from infection! It does seem a shame that it took those 19th century physicians about 3000 years to realize the benefits of washing as recorded in Leviticus 15:1-7.

The church spends a lot of time and energy dealing with "spiritual sickness," better known as sin. I submit that the church could serve US equally well by focusing on prevention, i.e., practicing preventive spiritual medicine! Just as there are numerous preventive health care measures that we take at various stages of our lives, such as well-baby checkups, exercise programs, dental hygiene, blood pressure, weight, and diabetes control, and mammograms, there are preventive spiritual care measures that will be appropriate at one time or another. I'm not going to offer an exhaustive list of spiritual health care practices, but here are a few that people of faith for centuries have found helpful in boosting their spiritual health. By the way, all of these came from Jesus.

Prayer: Take time to be quiet and be in relationship with God. Prayer time is a special opportunity to reflect on our lives and our life with God. As a fringe benefit studies have shown that people who pray regularly are, in general, healthier than those who don't.

Regular Bible Reading and Study: The Bible is the story of God and since God created us in His image and made us for himself, it is our story as well. With study, we realize that God's way is the only way to abundant life and health.

Serving Others: Reorienting our compasses from ourselves to others keeps us on the right spiritual tract. Jesus is the quintessential example of service.

It is important to keep in mind that preventive spiritual health practices are not ends unto themselves. The end is full relationship with God in Christ. That is abundant life and health.

Peace,



Join us Fridays in Lent at noon in the Parish Hall for Stations of the Cross.

VISIO DIVINA MEDITATION WITH THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

Plans are being made to offer an evening Visio Divina Meditation beginning Wednesday, March 29th at 6:00 pm. We are hoping that others will want to consider becoming a facilitator and helping with the planning and choice of illuminations from *The Saint John's Bible*. If you would like to help as a facilitator, please contact Penny Brown by phone or text. (706-399-3677)

THIS WEEK AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Please join our every morning at 7:30 am for morning prayer on Zoom.

Tuesday

Healing Service	11:00 am	
Brown Bag Lunch &		
The Saint John's Bible	12:00 pm	
Wednesday		
Holy Eucharist	7:00 am	
Sunday		
Services	8:00 am, 9:00 am,	
	11:15 am, & 6:00 pm	
Breakfast	8:40 am - 9:40 am	
Christian Formation	10:00 am	
Youth Group, Grades 6-8	5:00 pm	
Youth Group Dinner Grade	es 6-19 6:00 nm	

Youth Group, Grades 9-12......6:30 pm



MAY 28TH
Parish Picnic at
Flowing Wells

YOUTH NEWS

PALM SUNDAY & EASTER ACOLYTES

Holy Week is just around the corner! We still need 2 acolytes for Palm Sunday Service at 10am and 5 acolytes for the 11:15 Easter Service. If you are in town and can volunteer, please reach out to Mary Grace Wynn.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Mark your calendars for April 9th at 10 am for the annual Easter Egg Hunt! In preparation, we are asking for volunteers to provide filled Easter Eggs. To sign up, please head to the Shell Newsletter or reach out to Jinny Bradshaw.

YOUTH GROUP

We will continue with our regular Youth Group schedule this Sunday evening, March 26th. The schedule is as follows.

Youth Group, Grades 6-8
Youth Lounge, Rm 301......5:00-6:00 PM

Gather for Dinner, Grades 6-12 Small Parish Hall.......6:00-6:30 PM

Youth Group, Grades 9-12

Youth Lounge, Rm 301......6:30-7:30 PM Study Lounge is open from 4:30-7:30 PM.

HAPPENING

Please keep the candidates and staff of Happening #107 in your prayers this weekend, March 24th-26th, as they gather at Honey Creek!

Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY

April 2nd, 8:00 am, 10:00 am*

AND 6:00 PM

Monday in Holy Week

April 3rd, 7:00 am

HOLY EUCHARIST

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

APRIL 4TH, 7:00 AM

HOLY EUCHARIST

Wednesday in Holy Week

APRIL 5TH, 7:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 6th, 7:00 pm*, followed by All-night prayer vigil.

SIGN UP AT

BIT.LY/GETHSEMANEWATCH

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 7TH, 12:00 PM, 7:00* PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

AT 1:00 PM

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

APRIL 8TH, 7:00 PM*

EASTER DAY

April 9th, 8:00 am, 9:00 am*

11:15 Am*, 6:00 PM

EGG HUNT

AFTER 9:00 AM SERVICE

*LIVE STREAMS



READY, SET, MOVE!

Good Shepherd Episcopal, Reid Memorial, and Woodlawn United Methodist churches are again collaborating to present an in-person Vacation Bible School experience for children age 4 years through fifth grade. Get ready to follow Jesus here, there, and everywhere with Ready, Set, Move VBS! June 5-9, 9 am - 12 pm. Register at **bit.ly/GSVBS**. Deadline to register is May 12.

Servers of the Shepherd

Sunday, March 26, 2023

Preacher	8:00 AM	11:15 AM
Organist	CelebrantBunny Simon William	CelebrantBunny Simon William
Lay Readers	PreacherTed Clarkson	
9:00 AM Celebrant	OrganistWayne Lord	Organist & ChoirmasterJim Nord
Celebrant	Lay ReadersCamilla Davis, Lynn Tyson	•
ALTAR FLOWERS Contribute to the altar flowers at Easter by completing and returning the form below. Make your gifts payable to Good Shepherd marked as Easter Lilies. Forms must be received by March 31st in order to appear in the order of service. Name:	Celebrant	Lay Reader
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GETHSEMANE WATCH

All night vigil in the CHURCH

The Church will be open all night following the Maundy Thursday, April 6, service until Good Friday morning, April 7. Sit with Jesus before the altar. This profound, meaningful time brings you into the mystery of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. You can sign up for 30-minute slots at bit.ly/gethsemanewatch OR you can come anytime between 8 pm and 7 am.