

# THE Shepherd's Fold

January 21, 2024

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

## YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'VE GOT UNTIL IT'S GONE

"You don't know what you've got until it's gone." As I am drifting into my 80's, this line from Joni Mitchell's 1970 hit song, *Big Yellow Taxi* pops into my head more often than I would like. The truth of the matter is that for most of us aging brings various degrees of unraveling of our bodies. The poignant scripture from John 21:18 sums this up, "The truth is, when you were young, you tied your own belt and went where you wanted. But when you are old, you will put out your hands, and someone else will tie your belt. They will lead you where you don't want to go."

We all want to postpone physical loss as long as possible. We all want to age "gracefully." Now there is no shortage of web sites that will tell you exactly how to do that. Their advice is usually accompanied by some anti-aging product that is guaranteed to make you live longer.

Research has shown that walking carries the most long-term health benefits. Actually, just some sort of moving every day is helpful. The legendary Satchel Paige, who could have pitched in the big leagues well into his 60's, once made this observation, "Keep moving and don't look back. Something may be gaining on you!"

What I'm saying is "use it or lose it!" All of these things about physical loss can be said about loss of faith. Frederick Buechner writes that faith is better understood as a verb rather than a noun, as a process rather than a possession. Looking at faith as a verb and a process opens up a whole new world. Faith as a verb implies that it, like our bodies, must be fed properly and must be exercised to reach its full potential.

The obvious exercises are attending and engaging church, regular Bible study with friends, regular prayer, and generous giving, but wouldn't it be fun to just let our imaginations guide our "faith exercises?"

I'll leave that up to you all!

Peace,



## PARISH REGISTERS

Carol Ann Libby passed away, January 13, 2024. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

## WAGS RESUMES!

**January 24**, we begin our program, "The Light of Christ." We begin on the 24th with a hymn-sing focusing on hymns of light. On **January 31st**, we will focus on the role of light in Holy Scripture, and on **February 7th**, we will discuss the role of light in sacred art. Join us for these 'light' sessions that are both fun and informative! Dinner: 6 pm, Program: 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm. Cost is \$6 (ages 11 +), \$4 children ages 4-10, children 3 and under eat free. The family max price is \$25. Youth meet in the 3rd floor Youth Lounge after dinner. Children meet Jinny in the Parish Hall after dinner. Pk-2nd Grade will go to Room 209 and 3rd - 5th will go to Room 302. Sign up with the QR code. Dinner is Picadillo with salad, cornbread, and dessert.



## SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Search Committee is delighted to report that we have received nine applications from candidates interested in our Rector position. We have started the process of reviewing each application. We expect to conduct our initial interviews with these candidates over the next few weeks. After those interviews are completed, it is our hope to narrow the field to a small group of finalists. We will keep you informed as we move forward. Please continue to pray for our church and the Search Committee as we begin

this exciting next phase of our search.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

We have closed out the books for 2023, and our fiscal year ended with a surplus of \$24,971, even after we replaced the large flat roof on the parish house and all of the HVAC units on that roof. Thank you for your generosity! 20% of our budget supports outreach in Augusta and in the wider community, and 23% supports our program ministry, which includes Christian formation for youth and children. We are truly blessed at Good Shepherd. To read about how we use your gifts, go to: [goodshepherd-augusta.org/give](https://goodshepherd-augusta.org/give).



Groups are now fully formed and meeting. For the monthly readings pick up a bookmark or navigate to our B2B page: [goodshepherd-augusta.org/b2b](https://goodshepherd-augusta.org/b2b).



*Scan me*

## ASH WEDNESDAY

Join us for one of our Ash Wednesday services, **February 14**, 7:00 am, 12:00 pm, and 7:00 pm.

## FEAST AND FELLOWSHIP

It is time to kick off Feast and Fellowship reorganization for 2024. Please join us Sunday, **February 11**, at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall for dinner. You are welcome to bring a favorite dish to share. Fried chicken, wine, iced tea, and water

will be provided. We will reform small groups during dinner so that you have an opportunity to meet and plan your first dinner. The purpose of Feast and Fellowship (originally Foyer Groups) is to meet and get to know newer parishioners or catch up with Good Shepherd friends in a casual, relaxed setting by sharing a simple meal. Everyone is welcome to join whether you are single or joining as a couple. Traditionally the dinners have been held in each group member's home rotating to a new host each month until everyone has hosted. But there is no set format and can be held many different ways according to each group's or host's situation. For example, each time may be a shared potluck, a picnic at a park (weather permitting), meeting

at a local restaurant, partnering with another member or couple. Saturdays may work better for those still working or who have children in school. Be creative!

We will discuss this in further detail at the dinner and appreciate your input. If you are interested in participating, but can't join us on the 11th, please email Jan Jackson [infauxcus2001@gmail.com](mailto:infauxcus2001@gmail.com), Laura Rollins [lhrollins@icloud.com](mailto:lhrollins@icloud.com), or Bobbie Ingenito [bobeee8@gmail.com](mailto:bobeee8@gmail.com). We will add you to one of the small groups. Include your name(s), email, street address, and phone numbers for contact information. Looking forward to seeing you then. Bring friends!

# YOUTH NEWS

**Head to the Shell Newsletter for details & to sign-up for up coming events.** For any questions, email Mary Grace Wynn at [mgwynn@goodshepherd-augusta.org](mailto:mgwynn@goodshepherd-augusta.org).

## YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group continues this Sunday, January 21st! We look forward to a fun evening of fellowship, games, and dinner! To sign up for meals, please head to the Shell Newsletter. We are still looking for volunteers for **3/17, 3/24, 4/28, and 5/5.**

**5:00 - 6:00 PM: RITE-13:**

Meet in Youth Lounge (Room 303)

**6:00 - 6:30 PM: RITE-13 & J2A:**

Gather for Dinner in Small Parish Hall

**6:30 - 7:30 PM: J2A:**

Meet in Youth Lounge (Room 303)

## ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

new acolyte schedule has been released! Check the Shell Newsletter and save your assigned dates. The new schedule runs from now until the end of March.



# Servers of the Shepherd

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**Sunday, January 21, 2024**

**8:00 am**

Celebrant..... Joe Bowden  
Preacher .....Ted Clarkson  
Organist ..... Wayne Lord  
Lay Reader .....Lynn Tyson, Camilla Davis

**9:00 am**

Celebrant..... Joe Bowden  
Preacher .....Ted Clarkson  
Organist & Choirmaster .....Jim Nord  
Lay Readers ..... Kelly Norris, Cissy Bowden  
Ushers ..... Ed Enoch, Zim Trulock  
Acolytes..... Anabelle Wilkes, Lillian Wilkes  
Hub Wier, Liam Selby, Savannah Selby

**11:15 am**

Celebrant..... Joe Bowden  
Preacher .....Ted Clarkson  
Organist .....Jim Nord  
Lay Readers .....Andrew Austin, Yvonne Harrison  
Ushers .....Jonathan Adams, Jack Dugan  
Acolytes..... Jack Helton, Hamp Helton, Lucy Roche,  
Anne Ross Roche, May Roche, Darby Martin

**6:00 pm**

Preacher & Celebrant.....Ted Clarkson  
Organist .....Nick Lowery  
Lay Readers .....Faith Moore, Jennie Haynes

**All Services**

Altar Guild ..... Team VI  
Breakfast Ministry ..... Team II  
Vestry Person of the Day ..... Beth McCutcheon

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