

THE Shepherd's Fold

July 16, 2023

7th Sunday after Pentecost

FIRST AID FOR THE SOUL

This past Monday, the staff of Good Shepherd spent a half day receiving updated first aid and CPR training. While the training may have been redundant for those in our staff with formal medical training, the entire paid staff was present (absent Emily) to ensure that we are up-to-date on the latest best practices. We commit this time every two years out of our love for our parishioners and all who come onto our premises. If there is an emergency, we want to be prepared to do all that we can to preserve life and health. In this training, we were reminded time after time that calling 911 is essential in all but the simplest cases. You see, we were being trained to provide the necessary first aid; the job of restoring the person to health is the task of the EMT's, doctors, and hospitals.

The concept of providing first aid is particularly appropriate for a church. There is a common description of churches as “hospitals for sinners not museums for saints.” I like that saying because it encourages humility within the church; however, the saying can be a little misleading. You see, Good Shepherd, like all other churches, is more of a first aid tent for sinners than a hospital. We, as Christians at our best, welcome our fellow sinners and share with them the Good News of the Gospel, but the healing is done solely by the Great Physician-Jesus. We do not have the ability to heal ourselves, much less heal others. That can only be done by Jesus. Our job is to stabilize and support each other—and the stranger—so that the real healing can take place. We are more of a first aid tent than a hospital because we are never fully healed this side of the grave. The church puts us on the path to that healing, but all of us suffer relapses at times, i.e. we remain imperfect. The true and complete healing is certain, but it is not present in this life.

While the staff at Good Shepherd need to update their first aid training every two years, we as Christians need to continually update our spiritual first aid skills. At Good Shepherd, we call that work “Christian Formation,” and it is a lifelong process. If we are to support our brothers and sisters in their Christian journeys, then we need to continually address our own formation as disciples of Jesus. In the coming weeks, you will hear of different opportunities for that “training.” Prayerfully consider what you can do to update your spiritual skill set for the care of us all.

 +

CLINIC LATINA UPDATE

Clinic Latina now known as Centro Medico William Salazar is a free, nonprofit medical clinic for individuals that do not have insurance or live below 200 percent of the poverty level. The clinic also provides interpreting services for Hispanic patients but sees patients from all ethnic backgrounds. The clinic has been run for several years on the campus of Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University with AU donating the clinic space. Centro Medico William Salazar has received financial support from Good Shepherd through the Community and World Ministries Commission for years. Also Good Shepherd's endowment fund has helped with funding for this ministry. The Clinic also offers educational experiences to persons that volunteer including PA, dental, and medical students.

The grand opening and dedication of Centro Medico William Salazar first freestanding clinic will be held at the new Location clinic on 904 Merry Street July 29th at 11:00am and the waiting room will be dedicated to Good Shepherd Episcopal Church of Augusta. Parishioners are invited to attend to support Good Shepherd's active outreach to this ministry. Supplies needed by the clinic include sunscreen, moisturizing lotion, bottles of OTC Tylenol, Advil, Aleve, or Benadryl, bandages, cleaning supplies, alcohol wipes, and latex or other gloves. These items can be dropped by the Church office in a designated box and will be taken to the clinic. ALAS Centro Medico William Salazar appreciates Good Shepherd's support of this ministry reaching out to those in the most need. For more information you can contact Lynn Tyson at 706-833-7415.

THE EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY PROGRAM

More than a Bible study, EFM takes a fresh look at life events in the light of church tradition and 21st century culture. Participants study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere. The Church of the Good Shepherd offers an EFM group on Thursdays at 6:30 pm. and will begin in late August. Everyone is welcome and we encourage those from all parishes to join us! Sign up is in July! For more information, contact Tom Smyth, **tom.smyth@icloud.com**. Details about the program are located at <https://theology.sewanee.edu/education-for-ministry/>.

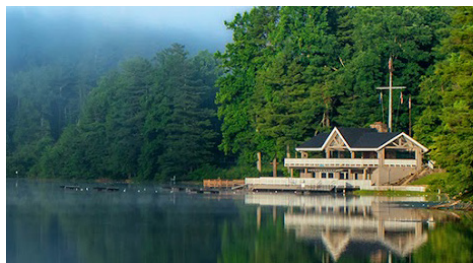
BREAKFAST TEAMS

Love to cook? Join a breakfast team! The commitment is only a few hours on Sunday morning every six weeks or so. For more information or to join a team, contact Harriet Deas at 706-373-0780.

WEDNESDAYS AT GOOD SHEPHERD

We still need a few teams for our Wednesday night suppers this fall! The time commitment consists of only a few hours each month. Teams plan and cook for our Wednesday night programming. This is a great way to get connected into the Good Shepherd community! For more information or to join a team, contact Mary Ashton Mills, **maryashtonmills@gmail.com** or (706) 267-9697.





KANUGA PARISH WEEKEND

Join us for a crisp, beautiful fall weekend in North Carolina September 29 - October 1! We will have activities for kids and youth, s'mores by the fire, a cabin crawl, drinks and compline on the lake, movie and game night, hiking, and more. Bring your tennis rackets as we will have a friendly round of tennis play on Saturday afternoon. This is a fun weekend that you do NOT want to miss. Pick up a form in the lobby or register online: bit.ly/gskanuga.

THANK YOU FROM SHEPHEARD COMMUNITY BLOOD CENTER!

Thank you to everyone who donated blood this past Sunday! Good Shepherd had 7 successful donations with 1 person donating for the very first time! Each unit donated can be separated into 3 blood components so we were able to provide live saving blood products for 21 of our Augusta neighbors! Please consider making a regular visit to Shepherd Community Blood Center. Eligible individuals can donate every 8 weeks - the process has been streamlined and, best of all, 100% of donations stay in Augusta!

YOUTH NEWS

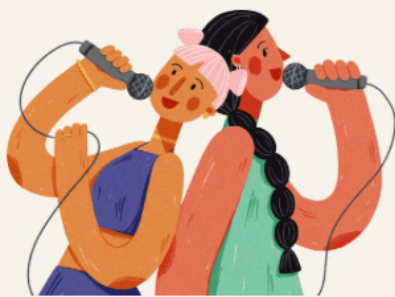
Head to the Shell Newsletter for details & to sign-up for up coming events. For any questions, email mgwynn@goodshepherd-augusta.org.

ACOLYTES

Thank you to everyone that has signed up so far! It has been a huge help. We still have a month left of the Summer Acolyte Schedule with a few spots remaining. Please sign up for Sundays you are in town now through August 13th.

CORNERSTONE EVENT

Grades 6th-12th: Join us this Sunday, July 16th, for a service-oriented Cornerstone Event as we join together for a Sing-A-Long for the residents at St. John's Towers Senior Living Facility. We will caravan to St. John's Towers from St. Pauls at 5 pm then gather back at St. Pauls for a cookout. Carpooling from Good Shepherd is available. Contact Mary Grace to reserve a spot. Hope to see you there!



Hello Summer Schedule

The Sunday summer schedule services are at, 8 am, 10 am & 6 pm. Sunday breakfast and Christian Formation will resume in the fall.



Servers of the Shepherd

Sunday, July 16, 2023

8:00 AM

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

10:00 am

Celebrant.....Joe Bowden
Preacher.....Ted Clarkson
Organist & Choirmaster.....Jim Nord
Verge.....Choppy Woodward
Lay Readers.....Andrew Austin, Lynn Smith
Acolytes.....Anabelle Wilkes, Lillian Wilkes,
Emma Sue Getchell
Ushers.....Paul Trotter, Jack Dugan

6:00 pm

Celebrant & Preacher.....Ted Clarkson
Organist.....Nick Lowery
Lay Readers.....Faith Moore, Yvonne Harrison

All Services

Altar Guild.....Team III
Vestry Person of the Day.....John Cates



FALL KICKOFF, AUGUST 13

We will bless backpacks at the 10 am service as we collect school supplies for Monte Sano Elementary School. After the 10 am service, we will gather in the Parish Hall for a lunch of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. On the church lawn, we will have games for all ages!