

# Shepherd's Fold

March 10, 2024

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

### CAMELLIAS

Camellias are my favorite flower. They are easy to grow, have a very long blooming season, and bloom when almost nothing else in the garden is blooming. In every house that Allison and I have lived in for the last 35 years, camellias have been the anchor of our garden landscape. Inside of our home, we have more paintings and prints of camellias than any other subject. Simply put, I love camellias. This year my admiration for camellia japonica has grown even more because of what my camellias have demonstrated of God's love for us and all of his creation.

Last winter (2022-23) brought Augusta the most extreme cold that we have seen in over 30 years. Camellias ordinarily tolerate our winters, but that cold event damaged many of my camellias, almost killed one, and did kill most of the buds such that there were few blossoms the rest of the normal blooming season. This year, however, has been radically different. Out of the destruction of last winter, my camellias (and those of others around Augusta) have been more prolific than at any time in my memory: more and bigger blossoms and a longer than usual blooming season.

Scripture tells us that we can learn about God by observing his creation (see, e.g. Romans 1.20). In my camellias, I see God's love for his creation such that, after a very difficult winter in the garden, God ultimately provided a blessing for his creation. We all go through rough patches at times, but that does not mean that God is absent. In truth he is present with us in those times and looks to bless us as we come out the other side. You have to look no farther than the Passion. The Father was with Jesus on the cross even if Jesus felt forsaken at the time and then was the source of his resurrection on Easter morning.

As you go around Augusta this week and see the multitude of beautiful and prolific camellias, just remember that out of the deepest and darkest winters comes the most beautiful spring, even if it takes a year for that spring and its beauty to return.

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### DCCM FOOD PANTRY

Our next COGS outreach will be on **March 16** at Downtown Cooperative Church Ministries Food Pantry whose mission is to "feed the hungry in our community." Volunteers should arrive at the St. John UMC parking lot (736 Greene Street) between 8 and 8:30am. Plan to park on 8th St. or across the street on Telfair since the parking lot is used for the drive through and walkup distributions. The food distribution generally occurs between 9am and 11am. Please go to the Good Shepherd on-line home page for complete information and instructions on how to sign up.

### BACK TO THE BIBLE

For the monthly readings pick up a bookmark or navigate to our B2B page: goodshephepherdaugusta.org/b2b.





### **BIBLE STUDY - LETTING GO**

Lent is about letting go of past hurts, grudges, and resentment. It is about selfexamination and forgiveness. Forgiving others. Forgiving self. And sometimes even forgiving God. Starting **March 6th**, join Bunny for a Lenten Bible study on forgiveness. Wednesday mornings at 10 am in the conference room.



### WAGS

Keeping with the theme of Lent, WAGS this Lent will focus on the story of *Les Miserables*, an epic tale of sin, forgiveness, and redemption. We will be watching the movie in five parts (there will be five WAGS suppers in Lent), and then discussing the themes illuminated in the portion of the movie that we just watched. Whether you know it by heart or have never encountered it, Victor

Hugo's examination of what it means to be Christian is more instructive to us today than ever. Sign up with the QR code. Dinner is lasagna, salad, and dessert.



### EASTER EGG HUNT

Mark your calendars for **March 31st** at 10 am for the annual Easter Egg Hunt! In preparation, we are asking for volunteers to provide filled Easter Eggs between March 1st and 25th. Empty eggs are available to pick up from the Church to fill. Please return filled eggs to the Church Office. To sign up, head over to the Shell.

### **CLOTHING DRIVE**

Patrick Broome, is a Freshman at Richmond Academy. For his IB project, he is collecting clothes for The Dream Center's Clothes Closet to help people in our community. The Dream Center distributes around 50,000 articles of clothing per month to people in the CSRA! The greatest need for the free clothes closet is youth sizes for boys and tween sizes for girls (for example 10/12, 12/14, 14/16). Before donating, please check sizes and make sure clothes are in ready-to-wear condition. We will be collecting clothing until **March 8th.** Thank you for your contribution!



### **GETHSEMANE WATCH**

The Church will be open all night following the Maundy Thursday, **March 28th**, service until Good Friday morning, **March 29th**. Sit with Jesus before the altar for 30 minutes to an hour. 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.

### WILD GAME DINNER

You are invited to attend the EDS Annual Party! **March 16th** at 6:00 at the Walton Way Campus. This year's theme is a Wild Game Dinner. 9 chef teams are grilling, fying, and cooking all of the food, including our parishioners. Ellis McCutcheon and Kevin McDougal are frying quail, Jim Wynn, Rob Wynn and Lucas O'Meara are doing a crawfish boil. David Perkinson, EDS Head of School, is frying fish. And that's just a sample of the delicious cuisine! This is going to be a fun casual night, and we would LOVE for you to join us to support EDS, a mission of Good Shepherd. Tickets are \$75. You can buy tickets at *www. edsaugusta.com/current-families/theeds-association/annualparty/*. If you can't make it, please consider buying a raffle ticket for a cash prize. Tickets are \$10, and one winner will win half the proceeds! You do not have to be present to win. For more information email Katie at **katiewynn92@gmail.com.** 

### SAVE THE DATE

Parish Retreat at Good Shepherd, **September 20-22, 2024**. Registration coming soon!

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us every Friday in Lent at 12:00 pm in the Parish Hall.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS 12:00 pm Fridays in Lent

PALM SUNDAY

March 24th, 8:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:15 am, and 6:00 pm

Monday in Holy Week March 25th 7:00 Am Holy Eucharist

TUESDAY IN HOLY WEEK March 26th, 7:00 am Holy Eucharist

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK March 27th, 7:00 am Holy Eucharist



### Servers of the Shepherd

### Sunday, March 10, 2024

### 8:00 am

Celebrant	Ted Clarkson
Preacher	Joe Bowden
Organist	Wayne Lord
	David Lentz, Lynn Tyson

### 9:00 am

Celebrant	Ted Clarkson
Preacher	. Joe Bowden
Organist & Choirmaster	Jim Nord
Lay Readers Kelley Norris, 0	Cissy Bowden
Ushers Jonathan Adams	s, Lewis Baird
Verger	. Robin Bailie
Acolytes Frank Anderson, Mary D	ennis Trotter
Wiley Trotter, Bridges Trotter, Mallory Morgan	

### 11:15 am

Celebrant	Ted Clarkson
Preacher	Joe Bowden
Organist	Jim Nord
Lay Readers	Lynn Smith, Yvonne Harrison
Ushers	Jack Dugan, George Sancken
Verger	Fred Palmer
Acolytes	Jackson Evans, May Roche
-	Anne Ross Roche, Si Williams

### 6:00 pm

Preacher & Celebrant	Sonia Sullivan Clifton
Organist	Nick Lowery
Lay Readers	Anne Floyd, Mitzi McCoy

### **All Services**

Altar Guild	Team III
Breakfast Ministry	Team I
	Sada Huggins

## **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.

### YOUTH GROUP

Due to the Lock-in on Saturday, we will not have Youth Group or Christian Formation this Sunday, **March 10th**. We will resume with both the following Sunday, **March 17th**.

### EASTER EGG HUNT

Mark your calendars for **March 31st at 10 am** for the annual Easter Egg Hunt! In preparation, we are asking for volunteers to drop off filled Easter Eggs from now until **March 25th**. Empty eggs are available to pick up from the Church Office to fill. Please return filled eggs to the Church Office.

### EASTER ACOLYTES

Acolytes are needed for the upcoming Easter services: Saturday Easter Vigil (7pm) and Easter Sunday (9am & 11:15am). Please head to the Shell Newsletter to sign up! Thank you for volunteering!