

# THE Shepherd's Fold

DISCOVER 150 YEARS OF PURPOSE

**September 8, 2019**

*A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.*

*--Mark 4:37-39*

In October of 2008, I huddled in the shower stall of the Bishop's cottage on the island of St. Thomas in the U. S. Virgin Islands. My head throbbed with the rise and fall of the air pressure shifts caused by the bands of storms that Hurricane Omar threw out over the territory. The drapes would be sucked out of the windows, then blown back in like the windows themselves were breathing. Everything I owned was in trash bags in the most central closet of the apartment, and all the drawers were emptied and put in bins in the basement. Everything that could be done had been done, and I began the long wait of seeing what the hurricane would bring. It was terrifying to hear the wind roaring outside, the slapping of rain against the hurricane roof, the creaking of the walls as the house flexed with each gust. Omar was a Category 2 hurricane, and I thought I'd lose my mind with the sheer intensity of the storm. Dorian was not a Category 2 as it ground the Bahamas to rubble this week.

When the twin hurricanes of Irma and Maria slammed through the Caribbean, they decimated the Virgin Islands. Entire hillsides were stripped of foliage, houses were stripped of everything not mortared in place, people died from injuries, drowning, and violence. Even with today's news coverage, it is impossible to describe the sheer power of these storms and the total destruction they bring to everything you love. The experience of living through a Cat 5 storm must be nothing less than traumatic.

As Christians, we believe that Christ Jesus is above the fear, the terror, and the power of the storm. We know that he has power to rebuke the storms of our lives, and with a word can return peace to our anxiousness, fear, and anger. I'm sure the people of the Caribbean, and the Bahamas, specifically, are crying out to God, "Don't you care if we drown?" We know that God will respond, because God always does.

But we cannot forget that we are the hands and feet of Jesus: our lives, our treasures, and our talents are all gifts from God that we steward to the advancement of the Kingdom. As I write this, the Speer's are preparing our house for the half-dozen visitors we'll have this week. As I call down to my friends on St. Thomas to pray and encourage and help plan recovery efforts, my heart aches. Good Shepherd prepares to host the Red Cross nurse volunteers who will in turn

care for those who have been evacuated from the coast. Your support makes all of this happen. Your time, talent, and treasure become the hands and feet of Christ, and we thank you for it.

If you'd like to financially support disaster relief, I invite you to explore Episcopal Relief and Development ([www.episcopalrelief.org](http://www.episcopalrelief.org)). This organization is excellent at pinpointing funds and needs to regions and I have seen firsthand the results of their work. If you'd like to get your hands dirty and feet wet, talk to me about visiting our friends in the Virgin Islands and helping with the continual rebuilding process they live every day.



Roger Speer  
Director of Youth Ministries

### ***The CSRA All-Stars Swing Benefit Concert***

Church of the Good Shepherd will be hosting a concert on Friday, September 6, at 7:30 PM, Featuring performances by David Brown--Piano, Travis Shaw--Bass, Patricia Childs--Vocals, and Members of the Augusta Big Band Aggregate. Proceeds will benefit the Augusta University Jazz Studies Program. A silent auction will be held with donations from local merchants and artists. Tickets are available through [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) or call 706-504-6763.

### ***Welcome Red Cross***

25 Red Cross Public Health nurses have been staying with us this week as they travel back and forth from the coastlands, caring for the victims of Hurricane Dorian. As always, we are most grateful to God for blessing us with an opportunity to be of help to those in need. Please continue to pray for all who may be in harms way.



### ***Christ Community Meal***

Good shepherd will serve Christ Community meal on Saturday, September 7th. For more information or if you would like to help, please contact Lynn Prather: [LBprather@goodshepherd-augusta.org](mailto:LBprather@goodshepherd-augusta.org)



### ***Wednesdays at Good Shepherd***

The series *Sweet Cherry Wine* continues this week with the topic: *I'm too Sexy for My Shirt: Dress for Success; Episcopal Haberdashery*. Dinner is served at 6:00 pm. Nursery and programs for children and students are also available.



## **Parishioners of the Week**

Jinny Bradshaw and Liz Griffin

The **St. Clare Guild** will be meeting for sewing beginning on October 7<sup>th</sup> in room 306



## **Shepard Blood Drive**

Help fight childhood cancer with Good Shepherd. We will host a blood drive Sunday, Sept. 8, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM on the Bloodmobile.

## **Seeking Nursery Greeters!**

Please contact Anna Burgreen or Jinny Bradshaw if you would like to help out greeting parents and children coming to the nursery for the 9:00 AM and/or the 11:15 AM service.

With enough volunteers, each person would serve once every two months.

Thank you to the volunteers that have served: Anna Burgreen, Winkie Hudson, Lisa Long, Dody Neely, Laura Rollins, Kim Pidcock, Nan Hausman and Terry Dennis.



## **Youth Group Paintball Night**

September 8. 2:30 PM-5:30PM.

Dinner afterwards. We will meet at the church.

\$25 per person.

Scan QR code to register:



## **Follow the Star:**

*Conversations about Faith, Family, and Formation --Our Kids: Under Pressure*

Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 6:00 pm Parish Hall

\$10 per adult. Childcare and supper provided

RSVP to the church office.

Catered by The New York Butcher Shoppe



# Servers of the Shepherd

Sunday, September 8

8:00 am

Celebrant.....Bunny Simon Williams  
Preacher ..... Robert Fain  
Organist.....Nick Lowery  
Lay Readers ..... Bob Nesbit, David Lentz

All Services

Vestry.....Katie Jones  
Altar Guild ..... Team IV  
Breakfast..... Ron & Jennie Haynes,  
Bea Atkinson, James Jones

9:00 am

Celebrant..... Andy Menger  
Preacher ..... Robert Fain  
Organist & Choirmaster ..... Jim Nord  
Choir ..... St. Gregory  
Verger ..... Kathleen Bailie  
Lay Readers ..... Tom Smyth, Anne Floyd  
Lead Acolyte ..... Madison Smith  
Ushers ..... Ed Enoch, Paul Dunbar

Monday, September 9

Morning Prayer.....8:00 am..... Eileen Mc Craney  
Grief Group.....6:15 pm..... Andy Menger

Tuesday, September 10

Morning Prayer.....8:00 am..... Mary Howard  
Bible Study .....10:00 am..... Andy Menger  
Healing Service ..... 11:00 am ..... Joe Bowden

Wednesday, September 11

Holy Eucharist .....7:00 am..... Lynn Prather  
Morning Prayer .....8:00 am ..... Sandy Vantrease

Thursday, September 12

Morning Prayer .....8:00 am ..... Allan Roy Andrews

Friday, September 13

Morning Prayer .....8:00 am ..... Claire Zealy

Saturday, September 14

Morning Prayer .....8:30 am..... Kathleen Barnhart

Readings

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 1,  
Philemon 1-21, Luke 14:25-33

11:15 am

Celebrant.....Bunny Simon Williams  
Preacher ..... Robert Fain  
Organist & Choirmaster ..... Jim Nord  
Choir ..... Good Shepherd  
Verger ..... James Jones  
Lay Readers ..... Jennie Haynes, Lynn Smith  
Lead Acolyte ..... Macie Wier  
Ushers ..... Chuck Evans, Woody Shuler

6:00 pm

Celebrant & Preacher ..... Robert Fain  
Organist..... Wayne Lord  
Lay Readers ..... Andrew Austin, Carleton Vaughn

## **Church Development Institute.**

Bring your ideas and your love for Good Shepherd and join the CDI team today! The Diocese of Georgia offers a wonderful training program for those interested in church growth through the Church Development Institute. Good Shepherd is looking for four or five interested people right now. Contact Bunny Simon Williams at [bunny@goodshepherd-augusta.org](mailto:bunny@goodshepherd-augusta.org) for more information!