

THE Shepherd's Fold

June 25, 2023

4th Sunday after Pentecost

CHANGE AND CONSTANCY

Allison and I are back from our time in the North Carolina mountains. These past weeks have been an opportunity for me to slow down while at the same time realize how quickly time is moving on. As many of you know, cycling is important for me. It is good exercise and a prime opportunity to see the beautiful world of nature. Every year I look forward to my rides in the mountains where I have encountered everything from butterflies to bears. This year, I got something of a wakeup call. Somehow or another, the gradients of the mountain roads I have ridden for years have become steeper. Climbs that I used to handle easily have become much harder. In fact, I chickened out on riding longer climbs that I have ridden for years. The reality has set in: the mountains are not growing, rather I am getting older and my body cannot do what it once could. Time is moving on faster than I had realized.

While I have been away, another circumstance gave me a different point of view. My grandson turned one year old on June 4. I had a chance to spend several days with Charlie, and I became amazed at his developing personality and what a little boy he is becoming. I have never seen so many smiles in my life; smiles that reflected the love between Charlie and his mom and dad; smiles that reflect the timeless love between parent and child. Instead of me focusing on the change of becoming old, i.e. me, I was seeing the constancy of love; love that is a reflection of the perfect love God has for all his children

In truth our lives are always about change. That change can be hard at times, especially the aging variety. As Robert Fain used to say: "All change brings loss, all loss brings grief, and all grief brings pain." Yet in all the changes in this life, there is still continuity. Most importantly, God's love is always present: "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end." (Lamentations 3.22) Yes, I was grieving the aging of my body during my time away, but I was also seeing the constant love of God every time I saw the smiles between Charlie and his parents. If we can always keep in mind God's unchanging, unwavering, unconditional love for us, then we can weather the trials and tribulations of change that are inevitable in this human life. Never forget, it is ultimately all about love.

Peace,

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PRAYER BOWL WORKSHOP WITH THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

We invite you to join us for a Prayer Bowl Workshop on June 28th to discuss and appreciate the use of fauna and flora throughout The Saint John's Bible and to enjoy an evening of fellowship! Studying the illustrations and symbolism of fauna and flora found in the Bible, we will work together to create individual prayer bowls decorated with collected plant cuttings. No artistic abilities are needed. We hope to see you for this fun and meaningful evening! Please RSVP to mgwynn@goodshepherd-augusta.org so that we can plan food and wine accordingly.



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

BLOOD DRIVE - JULY 9

Shepard Blood Center is experiencing a critical shortage of blood. The Bloodmobile will be at the church on July 9th from 8am - 12 noon. Please consider donating a unit of lifesaving blood before or after the 8 am or 10 am service.



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

KAYAKING TRIP 2023!

Our day trip to kayak the Broad River in Danielsville, GA was a great success. Thanks to all that attended!



September 7-10th

Join us at our Diocesan Conference Center at Honey Creek for Cursillo #127.

August 20th

Christian Formation resumes.

**Join Our
Healing
Service**

**Every Tuesday
11 am to 12 pm**



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.



Sunday, June 25, 2023

8:00 AM

Celebrant.....Bunny Simon Williams
PreacherTed Clarkson
Organist Wayne Lord
Lay Readers Bobbie Ingenito, Lynn Tyson

10:00 am

Celebrant.....Joe Bowden
PreacherTed Clarkson
Organist & ChoirmasterJim Nord
Verge.....Ed Enoch
Lay Readers Yvonne Harrison, Cissy Bowden
Acolytes.....Adair Weston, Spencer Weston,
Annie Weston, Crawford McDougal
Ushers Lewis Baird, Matt Tracey

6:00 pm

Celebrant & Preacher..... Ted Clarkson
Organist Nick Lowery
Lay Readers Carleton Vaughn, Jim Price

All Services

Altar Guild Team II
Vestry Person of the Day Tom Smyth



Kickoff Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

We will bless backpacks at the 10 am service as we collect school supplies for the Boys and Girls Club of the CSRA. After the 10 am service, join us in the Parish Hall for grilled hamburgers and hot dogs, and on the church lawn, we will have games for all ages!