

THE Shepherd's Fold

September 17, 2023

16th Sunday after Pentecost

MEMBERSHIP

I am frequently asked as to how one can become a member of Good Shepherd. I sense in the question some fear of an onerous process, denominations that require years of preparation or denominations that require a vote of the congregation to accept a new member. I am always happy to say that the Episcopal Church has only two requirements: having been baptized in a Christian church and asking to be a member. It is that simple. In the Episcopal Church we recognize that becoming a disciple of Jesus will always be a lifetime endeavor, so we welcome all at whatever stage they may be in that journey; we only ask that the person have been baptized (which we will offer to do if they have not.)

In order to participate fully in all aspects of the life of the church, there are a few additional requirements. For example, to vote at the annual meeting one must be a “member in good standing.” To be “good standing,” the canons of the church require that the person receive communion at least three times a year and be faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God. In addition, while not required for membership, it is the norm in the Episcopal Church for adult members to have been confirmed or received by the bishop. Confirmation is for those baptized as infants or children and who are now ready to make a mature affirmation of faith. Reception is for those who have previously made a mature affirmation of faith in another denomination but who are now joining the Episcopal Church. Members are confirmed or received by the bishop during his annual visitation where he will pray over them and lay hands on their heads. Having been confirmed or received is only required for those serving on the vestry and or serving as Eucharistic ministers (think layreaders).

For those who have come to Good Shepherd from other denominations and are interested in being confirmed or received, our bishop will be with us on **Sunday, November 12**. In preparation for confirmation and reception, the clergy will be leading a class on **Sunday mornings at 10:15 beginning on September 24** to discuss our particular traditions and understanding of the faith. This class is also appropriate for those who simply want to learn more about the Episcopal church and for lifelong Episcopalians who would like to refresh their understanding. If someone is interested in confirmation or reception and is not able to attend on the 24th, he or she should contact me, and we will make alternative arrangements.

The tagline of the Episcopal Church is “The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.” We are not an exclusive club but an inclusive gathering of the followers of Jesus. As I say at the offertory each Sunday: “all are welcome at the table of the Lord.”

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PARISH NEWS

Our thoughts and prayers are with Kathy, Robert, and Katie Grant upon the death of their step-father and grandfather, Fleming Norvell, September 10, 2023.

PARISH HOUSE UPDATE

We have replaced the Parish Hall roof and we are finishing up with replacing the HVAC units. Some spaces in the building are still without AC. If you have a question about a specific space, please contact the Church Office. Breakfast will be served this Sunday, **September 17th**. Thank you for your patience!

WEDNESDAYS AT GOOD SHEPHERD (WAGS) RESUMES SEPTEMBER 20!

Join us for our first WAGS on **September 20 at 6 pm** for a WifeSaver dinner of fried chicken, mac & cheese, green beans, and banana pudding for dessert. Then hear from Jamey Moss and Jenna Gauvreau from SafeHomes Augusta. Jenna is the Volunteer Coordinator at SafeHomes and oversees all individual and group volunteer efforts, as well as the in-kind donations. Jamey Moss is a Lieutenant with 23 years of service at the Columbia County Sheriffs' Department and is currently director of 911/RTCC (Real Time Crime Center). Since 2009 he has worked with SafeHomes to connect victims of domestic violence with needed services and has served three terms on the SafeHomes Board of Directors. You can sign up with the QR code!



BACK TO THE BIBLE (B2B)

Ten years ago, Good Shepherd started a program of reading the entire Bible in a year in the context of small groups. The program was a great success at the time,. Of course, many who are at Good Shepherd now were not here at that time, so we are going to offer B2B again, starting soon. Keep a lookout for more details!

BROWN BAG LUNCH

Bring your own "brown bag lunch" to enjoy as we reflect on a different illumination and scripture each week. **Tuesdays at 12 noon, September 19 - November 28**. Meets in the Conference Room.

PET BLESSING

Blessing of the Pets on **October 7th at 10 am**. Bring your cats, dogs, snakes, birds, or any pet at all to be blessed and receive a St. Francis pet medal. Pet and human treats provided. DNA (Dog Networking Agents) will be there with pups and kittens. Please bring your donations of puppy pads, small bites dog and cat food and kitty litter.

PARISH DIRECTORY

This is the **LAST** Sunday that Jerry Woods will be taking photos of parishioners. Join us in the church yard from **9 am until 12:30 pm Sunday, September 17**. If you are unable to be present for these times, you may email your family photo to either Toni (toniclay@goodshepherd-augusta.org) or Emily (emumford@goodshepherd-augusta.org). You may also stop by the church office to have your photo taken.

THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

Fall Schedule

Join us for the following events to reflect on scripture, enjoy fellowship, and dive into the abundance of spirituality found through *The Saint John's Bible*.

BROWN BAG LUNCH

Bring your own "brown bag lunch" to enjoy as we reflect on a different illumination & scripture each week.

- Recurring Tuesdays at 12pm, Conference Room
- September 19th through November 28th

VISIO DIVINA

Using the ancient meditative practice of visio divina, "sacred seeing", we will gather in the Chapel for prayer and reflection.

- November 1st, 8th, 15th, 29th
- 6pm, Chapel of the Resurrection

GROUP READING OF THE GOSPELS

Experiencing the practice of reading through each gospel in a single sitting, join us for a group reading using *The Saint John's Bible*.

- Gospel of Mark, September 14th, 4-6pm
- Gospel of Luke, October 18th, 3-6pm
- Gospel of John, November 14th, 3-6pm
- Chapel of the Resurrection
- We invite you to stop by the Chapel during the reading for a period of time or stay through the whole reading - depending on your own schedule.

For more information or questions, please contact the Church Office at (706) 738-3386 or mgwynn@goodshepherd-augusta.org.

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD | 2230 WALTON WAY, AUGUSTA, GA. 30904



Halloween Party
October 25th, 6pm
Food & Spooky Fun

Sunday, September 17, 2023

8:00 AM

Celebrant..... Joe Bowden
PreacherBunny Simon Williams
Organist Wayne Lord
Lay Readers Camilla Davis, David Lentz

9:00 am

Celebrant.....Ted Clarkson
PreacherBunny Simon Williams
Organist & ChoirmasterJim Nord
UshersPeter Martinez, Matt Matson
Verger..... Kathleen Bailie
Lay Readers Cissy Bowden, Katie Tracy
Acolytes..... Baker Daniel, Anne Harper Daniel,
Hub Wier, Chip Matson, Liam Selby

11:15 AM

Celebrant..... Joe Bowden
PreacherBunny Simon Williams
Organist & ChoirmasterJim Nord
Ushers Kevin McDougal, Alex Wier
Verger.....Choppy Woodward
Lay ReadersLynn Smith, Andrew Austin
Acolytes.....Frank Anderson, Jack Manton
Milly Manton, Helen Pritchett, Stella Chew

6:00 pm

Celebrant & Preacher.....Sonia Sullivan Clifton
OrganistNick Lowery
Lay Readers Carleton Vaughn, Jim Price

All Services

Altar Guild Team II
Vestry Person of the Day John Manton

YOUTH NEWS

Head to the Shell Newsletter for details & to sign-up for up coming events.

For any questions, email mgwynn@goodshepherd-augusta.org.

YOUTH GROUP

We look forward to another fun evening of fellowship this coming Sunday. Dinner will be provided by Katie Tracy and Leah Gaudin. For meal sign-up and the Youth Group schedule, head over to the SHELL.

KAYAKING TRIP

Save the Date! All youth in grades 6th-12th are invited to join us for a fun day of kayaking down the Broad River outside Danielsville, GA on **October 15th**. The kayaking cost is \$25 per person. Please RSVP to mgwynn@goodshepherd-augusta.org.

CORNERSTONE EVENT

Join us for our next Cornerstone Event on **Saturday, September 30th**, where we will be hosting a Pet Adoption with local, non-profit, Hands to Paws at St.

Augustines Church (3321 Wheeler Road) from 10:30 am-1:30 pm. This will be a fun opportunity for youth to engage with the community while helping rescue animals find forever homes! *(Cornerstone is an ongoing collaboration between Episcopal Churches in the CSRA to create and strengthen youth relationships throughout our convocation. Grades 6th-12th.)*

ACOLYTES

The new Acolyte Schedule that will run through September 24th. Please plan on being in attendance for Acolyte Training on **September 24th from 1:30-3pm** to be included in the Acolyte Program this year. Open to Grades 3rd & up! New schedule will be released after Acolyte Training. Please reach out to Lauren Hargrove with any questions.