

THE Shepherd's Fold

March 9, 2025

The First Sunday in Lent

HOPE FROM THE ASHES

What a special day this past Wednesday was in the life of the Church of the Good Shepherd! From 7:00 am to 7:00 pm there were six Ash Wednesday Services. Hundreds, young and old left those services with ashes smudged on their foreheads and these words ringing in their ears, “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” I’m pleased to report that many of those folks who joined us were from other denominations.

As I watched the many faces throughout the day, it seemed to me that many of them were seeking something more in the liturgy of the ashes than just a reminder of their own mortality and sinfulness.

I believe what they and I were looking for was hope.

These are the words of the prayer that the priests said over the ashes prior to imposition: “Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth: Grant that these ashes may be to us a sign of our mortality and penitence, that we may remember that it is only by your gracious gift that we are given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.”

And so, our 2025 Lenten journey begins. The grace that Jesus has given us for this journey is at the end of the Ash Wednesday Gospel:

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

This year Lent can be a treasure hunt for us. When we open that treasure chest we will find something more precious than gold. We will find life that is made abundant in right relationship with our awesome God and each other!

Peace,

Joe+

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Join us on Wednesday nights in Lent for a four-week Soup Supper series. Dinner will begin at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall, the nursery will be open for children under 4, and a program will be provided by the Good Shepherd clergy. Stay tuned for more details!

CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Saturday, March 29th, Elizabeth Gatter, our new Director of Music Ministries, will host a Choir Workshop for the St. Gregory and Good Shepherd Adult Choirs to get to know its members and kick off learning for the remainder of Lent and Holy Week.

The St. Gregory choir members will meet in the choir room from 11am-12pm, directly followed by a pizza party for the children and their parents. Parents of St. Gregory choir members are encouraged to attend lunch and get to know Elizabeth. The Good Shepherd Adult Choirs will meet from 2pm-4pm in the choir room.

The other date is Saturday, April 19th. We will hold a rehearsal from 10am-12pm in the church. If possible, the previous Wednesday rehearsal, the 16th, will also take place in the church. The same is true for the Sunday evening St. Gregory rehearsal on April 13th (if we have anyone in town.)

SAVE THE DATE: NEW STAFF RECEPTION

This month we have announced that we are bringing four new staff members to Good Shepherd. While their start dates are a bit staggered, we thought it would be fun to celebrate them all at once with a joint reception. Please join us to celebrate the new ministries of Elizabeth Gatter (Director of Music Ministries), Lauren Hargrove (Parish Nurse), Maureen McManus (Parish and Financial Administrator), and Ashley Williams (Children's Minister) on Sunday, March 30 after the 6pm service. We have much to celebrate!

WILD GAME DINNER

The EDS Association is excited to announce that the Wild Game Dinner will be held Saturday, **March 15**, at 6:00 P.M. at Episcopal Day School's Walton Way Campus. This much anticipated event is one of the EDS Association's most successful fundraisers. Proceeds are used to purchase items on the faculty "wish list" and provide curriculum support, enhancing our student and faculty experiences. This year, proceeds will be used for renovating and updating the teachers' workroom, as well as installing a permanent sound system in the gym to enhance our athletic events, chapel services, and school performances. The EDS Association cannot do it without your support, and are incredibly grateful for

parents, grandparents, and local businesses.

The event will feature unlimited food and drinks, with both a silent and live art auction that feature local artists who have collaborated with each grade for a one of a kind piece of art! Dress is casual.

(Please note, this event is for ages 21 and up!)

Wild Game Dinner Ticket \$75:

This ticket provides access to the Wild Game Dinner at 6:00 P.M. Enjoy an open bar, delicious food, and the silent and live auctions.

VIP Ticket \$125: This premium ticket will allow an hour of early access to the Wild Game Dinner with open bar, food, and premium tastings beginning at 5:00 P.M. Head over to the EDS website for more details.

LENT READING GROUP

Our reading group continues to grow and we are excited to announce our next meeting. Please join us on Sunday, **March 16** at 4:30pm in the Conference Room as we discuss two books. The first book is *Passions of the Soul* by Rowan Williams (former Archbishop of Canterbury); this is Bishop Logue's Lenten selection for 1Book1Diocese. The second book is *Lent* by Esau McCaulley. You can purchase copies of both books on Amazon. To shop locally, The Book Tavern has copies of *Passions of the Soul* on hand.

This group is open to all people and you can read one or both of the books. We hope to see you there!

CURSILLO ULTREYA GATHERING

Join us on **March 18th** at 6:00 pm, in the small parish hall. This invitation is for all those who have been to Cursillo at Honey Creek *and* for those who want to attend in order to learn more about Cursillo. If able, please bring a small, covered dish or appetizer. Please contact either Robin **839-273-0059**, robin.bailie@gmail.com or Kathleen Bailie **706-399-7449** to sign up. All are welcome!

EDS IS LOOKING FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Episcopal Day School is looking for part-time substitute teachers. If you want to work with children, set your own schedule, and, as a bonus, get paid, this is a great opportunity for you! Training is required, but we will pay you to complete the training. If this has you excited about your future as a substitute teacher at Episcopal Day School, please contact Mrs. Nina Tomlin, Assistant to the Division Heads, at ntomlin@edsaugusta.com or call the main office at **(706) 733-1192**. We can't wait to hear from you!

Servers of the Shepherd

Sunday, March 9, 2025

8:30 AM

Organist & Choirmaster Dr. Dan Hardin
Lay Readers David Lentz, Katie Tracy
Verger.....Gene Rollins

11:00 AM

Organist & Choirmaster Dr. Dan Hardin
Lay Readers Yvonne Harrison, Cheney Eldridge
Verger..... Rob Dennis

6:00 PM

Organist & Choirmaster Dr. Dan Hardin
Lay Readers Faith Moore, Mitzi McCoy

All Services

Altar Guild Team VI
Breakfast Ministry Team I
Vestry Person of the Day Lynn Smith

YOUTH NEWS

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

Youth Group continues this Sunday, March 9th. Youth in grades 6th-12th are invited to join us for a fun evening of dinner and fellowship! Youth Group schedule is as follows:

- **5:00 - 6:00 pm: Rite-13:** Meet in Youth Lounge
- **6:00 - 6:30 pm: Rite-13 & J2A:** Gather for Dinner in Small Parish Hall
- **6:30 - 7:30 pm: J2A:** Meet in Youth Lounge

