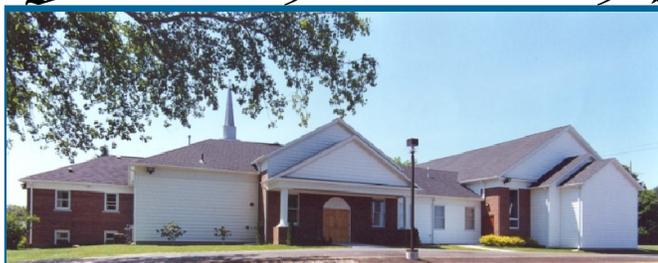


News From The Good Shepherd



Dear Friends in Christ:

I hope all had a grateful and blessed Thanksgiving. Now we look forward to the season of Advent which means “coming.” This year as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, we also have a very special occasion to celebrate, the 50th anniversary of our beloved music director playing on Christmas Eve.

To quote Karyn, “I’m excited about the upcoming Christmas Eve liturgies. I have played these liturgies since 1988 at Good Shepherd, but I began playing organ in church on Christmas Eve in 1975. This year marks 50 years of being an organist and I can’t think of a more wonderful way to celebrate than by playing carols for all of you to sing on Christmas night. That gives me the greatest joy! In Bach’s words. “Soli Deo Gloria.” To God Alone be Glory!”

Below is a picture of Karyn playing her first organ. It’s from 1978 a few years after her first Christmas Eve, she is playing at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wellsboro, PA.

What a gift and joy she has been to us all through these years. Thank you, Karyn, for enriching our lives through your beautiful music and sharing your many gifts with us. We are blessed indeed.



Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karyn" with a decorative flourish at the end.

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Good Shepherd**
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Good Shepherd Webster



@FrLanceRobbins

GOOD SHEPHERD VESTRY

By Kathy Stokes, Senior Warden

The Vestry met on November 18. Here are some highlights from the agenda:

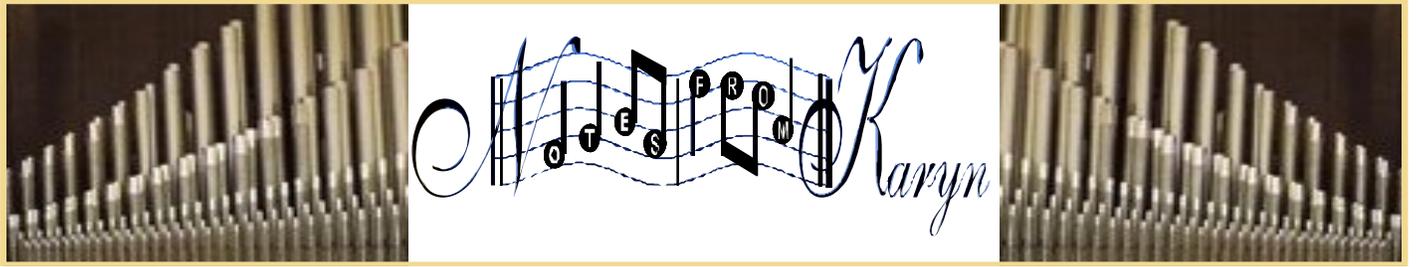
Our stewardship campaign has led to a good financial outlook for our 2026 budget meetings, which will take place in December. Thank you to all who have pledged! If you intend to pledge, and have not informed us of your commitment, it would be helpful for us to receive it soon, so that we can include the information in the 2026 budget. The budget will be presented by our Treasurer, Bruce Dunn, at our annual meeting in January.

Our Sexton, Chris Nuccitelli, has been very busy in the past few weeks. Two of the furnaces needed urgent repairs, and the humidifier system for the organ needed to be replaced. There are also a couple of trees next to the columbarium that need trimming to avoid damage to the building. Chris met and arranged the contracts with the companies performing these jobs. A future project will involve the removal of the large trees in the parking area near the Narthex entrance. We hired a new cleaning service in the fall, and Chris would appreciate feedback about the company's performance.

If you are interested in working with others to help keep our parish running, the Vestry is seeking 4 new members. You would be appointed at the annual meeting in January for a 3-year term. Please see any Vestry member if you are interested in this ministry.

It has been a blessing to serve as Senior Warden for the past year. Starting in January, John Trompeter will be leading the group. Our Good Shepherd family is truly a wonderful community!





Chime Choir Christmas Concert!!

Last year, many enjoyed our Chime Choir and Chime Quartet Christmas Concert, so, we decided to present one this year as well.

The Concert will be at Good Shepherd on Friday, December 12th at 7:00 pm.
We hope you can join us!!

The Chime Choir will be playing such favorites as “Deck the Halls” and “We Three Kings”. They also will play “The Little Drummer Boy”, a Spanish Carol called “Fum, Fum, Fum!” and the very fast “Trepak” from Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker Suite.

The Chime Quartet is preparing the German carol “O Come, Little Children” and the Austrian carol “Silent Night”. Of course, how can you have a chime concert without “Jingle Bells”!!

We plan to move the Chime tables to the front of the nave so you can comfortably watch the chimers play their carols.

Christmas Pageant and Youth News!!

Another December event occurs on Sunday, December 14^h during the 10:15 liturgy.

The annual Christmas Pageant, under the direction of Laura Rosato, will be presented that morning. The pageant is titled “The Time Machine Talk Show: A Journey to the First Christmas”. Be prepared for some fun surprises!! Everyone is busily preparing for the event. After the Pageant, the kids will have pizza and decorate the Christmas tree in the Narthex before they go Christmas Caroling.

Two members of the Youth Choir received high honors by attending All-State Choir and All-State Band on November 8th at Schroeder High School. Daniel Guerin sang and Leah Schinaman played her clarinet. Leah also received a special honor for Marching Band. She was named Rookie of the Year for Visuals which means for her dance moves while playing her instrument. Meanwhile, Daniel played the villain, Lord Farquaad, in Shrek at his middle school. Since Lord Farquaad is very short, Daniel played the role on his knees! Congratulations to both Leah and Daniel.

***We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Blessed New Year!!***



A MEAL AND MORE, INC.

A MEAL AND MORE, INC. serves Rochester city residents by providing homecooked meals in a safe, welcoming, family dining environment that promotes dignity, respect, and connection for anyone in need. It is located at Christ Church, Rochester. Volunteers set tables, assist with meal preparation, serve food, and help with cleanup. Volunteers 17-18 years old are welcome with an adult and a signed permission slip. Volunteers play an essential role! And we have a lot of fun working together! Good Shepherd needs volunteers on the **FIRST and THIRD Sunday of the month** and the **SECOND WEDNESDAY**. Call or text Debra at (585) 261-9570 or email amam.volunteers@gmail.com if you would like to join us!!

Much of the support in the form of **volunteers** is gained from area churches . Also, many corporations encourage their workforce to volunteer in their community. **If your workplace is one of those, please consider volunteering on a Wednesday every month – individually or with a team.** There are over 150 individuals volunteering at the community kitchen, but we need more to adequately staff our Sunday and Wednesday meal services. Each volunteer usually volunteers at least **once a month.**

Thank you for your consideration and future support.

**The A Meal & More, Inc., “Wish List” includes:
(please leave any contributions on the table in the Narthex)**

Food Donations:

Andies Candies or other chocolate/mint candy
 Starlight Mints
 Pasta Sauce – alfredo and red sauces
 Instant Mashed Potatoes
 Fruit Snacks
 Fruit Salad Cups
 Applesauce cups
 Onion Salt (from Trader Joe’s)

Personal Item Donations:

Individual Handi Wipes
 Hand &/or foot warmers

Gift Card/Donations: this gives us the flexibility to buy what we need

Wegman's
 BJ's
 PriceRite
 Visa/MC Gift Cards
 Walmart



Food For Thought! Feedback Appreciated!

By Dawn Wilkins

At a recent vestry meeting, the idea of purchasing an upright freezer for the parish was brought up and discussed. Some of the positive feedback included:

- We could store items for Coffee Hour. The thought behind this was to periodically hold “feed the freezer” Sundays. A “feed the freezer” date would be announced in advance. Parishioners would be encouraged to bring items ready to go into a freezer - properly wrapped and labeled. Items could be store-bought or homemade. As the freezer supply gets low, another “feed the freezer” Sunday would be announced. Ideally, this would be every few months. This would help especially on those dates when nobody signed up for Coffee Hour. Remember, Coffee Hour can be influential to greet visitors and help them to learn more about GS. It’s also a wonderful way we stay connected with each other.
- The freezer could be used to stock up on meals for those in need or help with meals, such as those sick or recovering from surgery. These items could be store-bought or homemade or could be made using leftovers from Community Dinners.
- Speaking of Community Dinners, items can be purchased in advance - such as when some things are on sale, frozen, and then assembled as needed. It could also allow for people to prepare in advance, freeze, then thaw when wanted/needed.
- There may be other positives, but these are the items that came quickly to mind.

More questions concerning feedback included:

- Where would the freezer fit? A couple of places were suggested, but with feedback, we may find others.
- If it’s downstairs, it may be too difficult to transport items from downstairs to the Parish Hall for use.
- Cost!!! A freezer would be expensive. Could we hold a “buy a share of the freezer” campaign or find appropriate funds in the budget? As stated, this was a new item for discussion at vestry and vestry would appreciate feedback.

Please share your thoughts and ideas with a vestry member. Current vestry members are: Kathy Stokes (senior warden), John Trompeter (junior warden), Annie Bishop, Kris Murray, Tom Nairn, Brenda Pierce, Mary Randall, Carol Wawrzycki, Dawn Wilkins, and Tom Yourch.

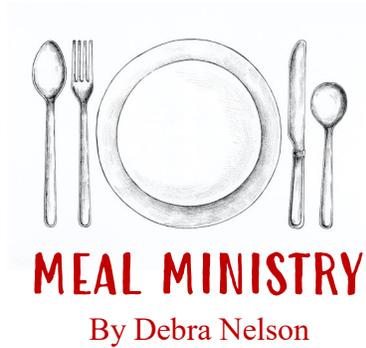
Looking forward to your input!

**AS SEEN AT
GOOD SHEPHERD**



Good Shepherd hosted a Thanksgiving Meal for parishioners that was prepared by the Vestry and held on Saturday afternoon November 22nd (so driving at night would not be an issue for some). Great food and fellowship. Thank you, Vestry members!





"Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security" (Jeremiah 33:6).

During the times when those closest to us are sick or hurt, sometimes we walk in circles wondering what overwhelming task to tackle first. Many a time, just the thinking is overwhelming. God promises that He will bring health and healing, peace and security. God has called our meal ministers at Good Shepherd to help Him help you with this task.

Sometimes cooking is the best way to help when a member of our parish family is house-bound due to an accident, surgery, or illness. We use an on-line organizational service www.takethemameal.com to set up a schedule for meal preparation and delivery. First, an email comes from buttler1@hotmail.com to the volunteers introducing the recipient, describing their situation, and outlining a calendar. Then, volunteers respond by choosing a date and recording the meal they plan to make. An automatic reminder to the volunteer arrives from Take Them A Meal. Be careful to check the box so you will not receive advertisements from the website.

The families who are receiving the meals can also access their meal schedule using a password. That way, they always know what food will be delivered each day. They can also contact the cooks with questions or write a brief note of gratitude via email, if they are able. Since their phone number is included, often the cook calls the recipient before they come over with the meal.

Please give me a **call or text** if someone you know needs this resource OR if you would like to join us and volunteer your help! Thank you!

Debra Nelson: (585) 261-9570

HOLIDAY CHIMES CONCERT

On Friday December 12 at 7pm, Good Shepherd's Chime Choirs offered a Holiday Concert to an appreciative gathering of about 50 listeners.

The Chime Quartet, consisting of Jill Daddis, Fr. Lance Robbins, Laura Rosato, and Bev Strohm, played three Christmas carols: "Jingle Bells," "O Come, Little Children," and "Silent Night." Then it was time for the dozen members of The Chime Choir (Cheryl Kuberka, Carol Markham, Livy Markovitz, Sara Markovitz, Meg Marsh, Lenore O'Sullivan, Joanne Palermo, Fr. Lance Robbins, Kathy Stokes, Rev. Keisha Stokes, Bev Strohm and Beth Wrisley) to perform a dozen mostly familiar songs, including "Deck the Halls," "What Child is This," "Joy to the World," "We Three Kings," and "The Little Drummer Boy."

After the concert, in the Parish Hall, there were delicious Christmas cookies for all. Thanks go to Chimes Choir Director Dr. Karyn Robbins and everyone who contributed to making it such an enjoyable and tasty evening.





By Maggie Markham & Brenda Munch

The Good Shepherd Stitches meet on the 2nd and 3rd Thursday of the month. We are now working on fleece blankets for Bavona center for those with many needs. We donated over 174 fleece hats for A Meal and More. As we continue to be a service-oriented group, we look forward to seeing growing interest in the group's efforts.

The Book Club, which meets at the same time as the Stitches, will be discussing **Mistletoe Secret** by Richard Paul Evans at its December 11th gathering. Below is the schedule for the book club for 2026.

On January 22nd, our book is **Gray Mountain** by John Grisham which focuses on a woman's fast track career at a huge Wall Street law firm —until the 2008 recession hits and she is downsized. An opportunity to work at a legal aid clinic for one year without pay, sets the crime plot in motion.

February 26's novel will be **The Secret Book of Flora Lea** by Patti Callihan Henry. The story concerns what happens when a woman discovers a rare book with connections to her past, long-held secrets about her missing sister and their childhood in the English countryside during World War II.

On March 26th, **The Four Winds** by Kristen Hannah is a story of survival, resilience, and a mother's sacrifice as she and her family face hardship, poverty, and prejudice, while also exploring themes of hope and the American Dream. The setting is California during the Great Depression.

Other planned titles for 2026 are: **The Silent Sister** by Diane Chamberlain (April 23); **Go as a River** by Shelley Read (May 28); **Long Way Gone** by Charles Martin (June 25); **Counting Miracles** by Nicholas Sparks (Aug. 27) ; **This Tender Land** by William Kent Krueger (Sept. 24); **Before the Swallows Come Back** by Fiona Curnow (Oct. 22); and **Christmas in Bethel** by Richard Paul Evans (Dec. 10). We hope you can join us.



**Special December services at
Good Shepherd & St. Andrew's Chapel**



**Dec. 24 4pm and 7pm liturgies
Dec. 25 10am at St. Andrew's Chapel
Dec. 28 Lessons & Carols at 10:15am**



By Ashleey Corson

Join us downstairs around 10am to sing along with Jack!

December 14th is our Christmas Pageant. You won't want to miss it! That afternoon we will be caroling and would love for your kiddos to join in on the fun!

Reminder: every 1st Sunday of the month is Family Sunday, and there is no Sunday school as the kids participate in the service.

And don't forget! We're looking for teacher volunteers. Even once a month would be helpful. If you're interested, please contact Ashley at 585-727-0496

Kathy Rivera	12/01
Jill Burch	12/04
Kim Yourch	12/06
Kaitlyn Koneski	12/07
Larry Therkildsen	12/10
Stephen Meyer	12/11
Gordon Wilbert	12/11
Debra Nelson	12/13
Jack Brennick	12/16
Madeline Peterson	12/17
Pam Russo	12/19
Kris German	12/19
Bill Comella	12/20
Pat Delperdange	12/21
Larry Howe	12/24
Andrea Lorenzo	12/25
Sherri White	12/27
Shayna Tokar-Schinaman	12/28
Lisa Robinson	12/28
Gary Richardson	12/28
Terri Edwards	12/31
Rolin Peets	12/31

