

# News From The Good Shepherd



Dear Friends in Christ:

Recently a dear friend shared a quote which I believe appeared on Facebook. I really thought it was so good I wanted to share this with everyone. The author is Dennis Carpenter.

“Every minute someone leaves this world behind. We are all “in line” without knowing it. We never know how many are before us. We cannot move to the back of the line. We cannot step out of line. We cannot avoid the line.

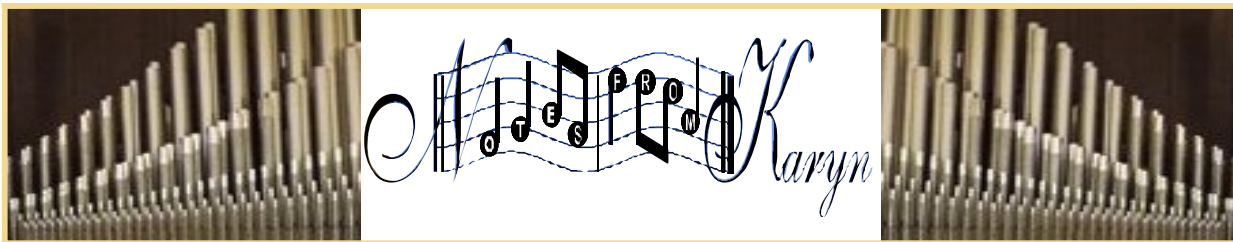
So, while we wait in line. . .

Make moments count. Make priorities. Make the time. Make your gifts known. Make a no-body feel like a somebody. Make your voice heard. Make the small things big. Make someone smile. Make the change. Make love. Make up. Make peace. Make sure to tell people they are loved. Make sure to have no regrets. Make sure you are ready.”

I would also add as a reminder that we exist to welcome and love God’s people with our gifts and abilities. Let us by our words and actions build each other up, by doing so we literally can change the world. What we say with love will help heal hearts, allow relationships to begin anew, share burdens, and build bridges of reconciliation and hope. And in all we say or do, may we be guided by the presence in our risen Christ in our midst.

Faithfully,





*"Sing to the Lord and bless his Name.  
Proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day."  
Psalm 96 vs. 2*

Our choirs are busily preparing for our liturgies and a concert!

The Junior and Teen Choir combined to form our **Youth Choir!** There are five members, and they form a wonderful Quintet! They are singing in parts which is challenging for young voices. We hope to do an anthem for All Saints' Day in which they sing two songs at the same time!! Our Youth are already looking forward to Christmas and planning what they will wear to be color coordinated!!

The **Adult Choir** will be singing an anthem soon by a favorite composer, John Rutter. We enjoyed a beginning-of-the-season party hosted by Larry and Sharon in their beautiful home on Lake Ontario. Many thanks to those who provided music in September. We look forward to more members returning to sing since summer commitments and health issues have prevented their participation at the beginning of this choral season.

The **Chime Choir** has grown to 14 members! We have combined the Family Chime Choir with the Adult Chimes. Currently the Chime Choir and the **Chime Quartet** are preparing for a concert at the Irondequoit Public Library on Tuesday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 8:00. Come, enjoy our Christmas music on that date! Hope to see you there!

### Update on the Organ

Matt Parsons reports that the console computer wiring, and mechanism is about 75% complete at their workshop. The organ chamber wires will continue to be run and wired over the next two weeks at the church. Parsons Organ Builders are currently expecting to begin the final testing and troubleshooting the week of October 16<sup>th</sup>. They are making great progress!

*"I will sing of mercy and justice.  
To you, O Lord, will I sing praises."  
Psalm 101 vs. 1*



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the Good Shepherd**

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**Bishop Provisional**

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Good Shepherd Webster



@FrLanceRobbins

## GOOD SHEPHERD VESTRY

By Diane Castle Babcock, Senior Warden

The vestry met on Tuesday, September 26th. Tom Curtin presented a marketing plan for Good Shepherd. The marketing committee will coordinate with Invite, Welcome and Connect (IWC) and the vestry regarding our strategic plan. The vestry's goal is to grow the parish by one percent by December of 2024. Our target audiences are young families, new residents, and lapsed members. The marketing committee will develop different key messages to each of these target audiences. We will use the IWC process to implement these strategies.

Bruce Dunn was absent but sent the following information regarding last month's income and expenses: Good Shepherd collected \$17,000 in August from pledges and rental income. We lost approximately \$5,000 on the Diocesan Investment account in interest last month but have gained \$23,700 YTD. Expenses exceed income year-to-date by \$1165. If you are not up-to-date on your pledge, please catch up as you are able.

Bruce and Dick Robinson have developed an Expense Management Process document to clarify the procedure for submitting and getting approval for expenses. I will share this document with ministry chairs through our vestry liaisons. I will also be amending the payment voucher form to coincide with this document. For those of you who make purchases for Good Shepherd, please contact Debbie (she will forward the information to Bruce) before you purchase and use the tax- exempt form when making a purchase.

The gutters for St. Andrews have arrived and will be installed this fall. Tom Yourch has agreed to do an evaluation of the structural work needed on the chapel, free of charge.

Chris Nuccitelli has been working diligently on the Columbarium. We have purchased two more units of twenty-four niches, which are being installed. The price for a niche is \$800. This includes a brass plaque with your name, birth and death dates. If you price burial plots in other locations, you will realize that this is a great value. If you are interested in purchasing a niche, please contact Fr. Lance.

We reviewed a proposal by Dunbar and Dunbar to clean the parish hall floor. We would like to get a second quote, itemized to break out the costs for the parish hall and the hallways, before proceeding with the project.

Tom Yourch and Annie Bishop have agreed to work on the kitchen clean-up. Once we have the kitchen cleaned, Pete Rothfuss will apply for a permit to allow us to use the kitchen for in-parish events. The permit is free of charge.

Thank you to all the vestry, Bruce and Chris and all the other parishioners who work tirelessly to make Good Shepherd a great place to worship.



Stitchers started in person with a wonderful turnout. We will continue creating hats, either by sewing from fleece or knit or crochet. Last year we made at least 90 fleece hats for charity. There is much to do to set up and organize our new space but we will concentrate on completing our hat project in October and November. We will continue to put together kits for both projects so they can go home and be sewn together as time permits. We will continue to gather ideas for charity so please bring your ideas and join us any Thursday morning starting at 10:00. If you have any questions please contact Pam Meyris at [pmeyris@rochester.rr.com](mailto:pmeyris@rochester.rr.com) or at 585-967-4670.

Stitchers Book Club meets the fourth Thursday of the month both at Good Shepherd and online. The next meeting is Thursday November 2 at 10 am in the Good Shepherd Library and on Zoom. We will be discussing *The Mountain Between Us* by Charles Martin.

+++ Please note the change in the date for this Zoom meeting AND the book choice.

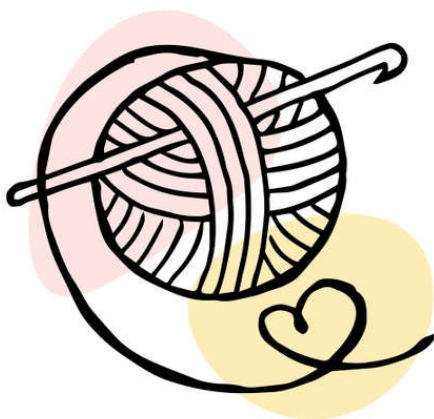
+++ As of right now, *Lessons in Chemistry* is proving to be hard to find for November. We will do that book sometime in 2024.

Just one more meeting remains for this year. We are looking for suggestions for our 2024 books so if you have read something interesting, please share that information with either Pam or Brenda. Contact Brenda at [Brenda.munch@gmail.com](mailto:Brenda.munch@gmail.com) or at 585-727-9330. We hope to have the 2024 schedule ready by the next newsletter.

Dec 7

*Mistletoe Promise* by Richard Paul Evans

If you want more information about the book club or want to get on the email list, please contact [brenda.munch@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.munch@gmail.com) or at 585-727-9330



RABBI PETER STEIN WILL SPEAK AT  
OCTOBER'S ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

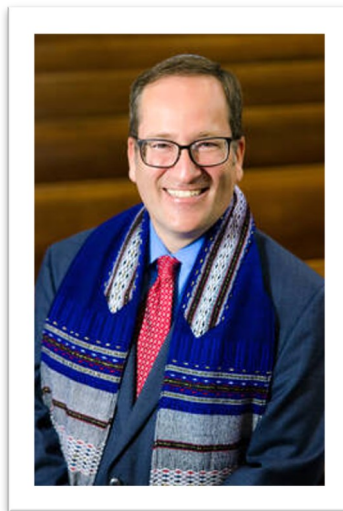
By Richard Reid

As part of a new connection to Temple B'rith Kodesh and the Rochester Jewish community, Rabbi Peter Stein will be with us at Good Shepherd on October 19 at 11:00am (the location in the church to be determined). The senior rabbi at Temple B'rith Kodesh, he did his undergraduate studies at Cornell University and completed the Jewish Leaders Program at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He was ordained and earned an MA in Hebrew Literature at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, studying in Jerusalem and New York City.

His presentation will offer an overview of Jewish history and an introduction to modern Jewish practice. This will be an opportunity to learn more about Judaism and to compare Jewish and Christian beliefs and practices. This session will serve as a foundation to engage in a conversation about the urgent crisis of antisemitism and what we can do in response. Antisemitism in Rochester and across the country is rising at a dramatic rate and there is a need for everyone to come together to stop the hatred and violence.

Rabbi Stein's talk will draw upon his work in Rochester with a number of community organizations, including serving as an adjunct faculty member at the Colgate Rochester Crozier Divinity School. He is a founding Steering Committee member of the Religious Action Center of New York, a part of the ROC ACTS Clergy Caucus, and a past member of Planned Parenthood's national Clergy Advocacy Board. He sits on several interfaith clergy associations and has had a longstanding engagement with issues of LGBTQ equality and poverty.

As a follow-up to his program, parishioners are invited to a tour given by Rabbi Stein and continued learning about Judaism at Temple B'rith Kodesh on November 10 at 5PM. Then at 6PM, you are welcome to attend the Friday night Sabbath worship. A third program to be determined is envisioned for sometime in Spring 2024. Please watch for details.





*Bishop Michael Curry Announces New Episcopal Evangelism  
Program Coming this Fall to Good Shepherd!*

By Dawn Wilkins and Tom Curtin

A letter from Bishop Michael Curry:

*Brothers and sisters,*

*We are about to embark on a journey of Invite Welcome Connect, a ministry designed to help Episcopalians engage in the deep work of evangelism. How do we define evangelism? I believe that this program of Invite Welcome Connect gives us a way forward.*

*As Episcopalians we tend to be shy and polite. We are not pushy—that's not our way. And I don't think that we need to pretend to be that way. We need to be who we are. Invite Welcome Connect is a way for God to guide people in sharing their stories in ways that are authentic and genuine.*

*I participated in this program as the bishop of North Carolina, and our diocese was very involved in the ministry. This is a wonderful program, but it's more than simply a program. It helps inculcate a way of life that reflects the way of welcome of Jesus of Nazareth, the Jesus who says, "Come unto me all ye who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest."*

*Invite Welcome Connect is something we as Episcopalians can do. It's a way of evangelism that reflects who we are, that doesn't have us trying to be somebody we aren't, but actually calls us to be exactly who we are in Jesus Christ, and to invite, and welcome, and connect others to that life-giving reality.*

*I encourage all Episcopalians to embrace Invite Welcome Connect as one way to live into the Jesus Movement. God bless you, God keep you, and let's keep this Jesus Movement going.*

*Michael B. Curry  
XXVII Presiding Bishop  
The Episcopal Church*

We are excited about bringing this vital ministry to life in our parish. As Bishop Curry says, it is about sharing our stories, our faith journeys, so that others can see themselves in those stories and find their way here. The steering committee met with vestry in August and we are now, officially, a ministry of Good Shepherd. This fits perfectly into the Strategic Plan being formulated by vestry. You will be hearing more as we move deeper into the ministry of inviting, welcoming, and connecting. Stay tuned for more details on the launch of Invite Welcome Connect.

The Invite Welcome Connect team.





**OUTREACH**  
*at Good Shepherd*

Art Mason, Vestry Liaison to Outreach

The summer has ended and this Fall the Outreach Committee is looking to support community groups that our congregation are involved with, organizations we are familiar with that do the Lord's work for our communities and also financially helping those in the greatest need.

If you are aware of any individual, group or organization that might need either financial or volunteer support, please contact a member of Outreach or Father Lance and we will see what we can do. One example is the wonderful volunteer work Ellen Ralston is doing with Webster Comfort Care. Good Shepherd also gives a financial donation to support the day to day needs of those in hospice and their families.

As we are all aware, the tragic fires in Maui took many lives and destroyed many homes and businesses. People lost everything they owned. Good Shepherd Outreach was able to send a significant donation to help aid in the recovery. We are willing, and able, to give more if requested. This is just another example of how our church and you- our members- do the Lord's work and help those in need locally, regionally and around the world. Thank you!

God bless you all.





Recovering from illness? Surgery? Losing a loved one? When you are struggling to do that one more thing – Meal Ministry will help! By preparing and discreetly delivering a meal to your doorstep, or if invited in for a visit, our volunteers respect confidentiality, and your wishes. Please call us if anyone from Good Shepherd could use these resources... or if you would like to join us in preparing meals, delivering & visiting, have a new idea for this ministry, or want to volunteer your help in another way!

We use an on-line organizational service called [takethemameal.com](http://takethemameal.com). Volunteers give their email address to Debra Nelson. When one of our church families need a hand, an email comes from [buttler1@hotmail.com](mailto:buttler1@hotmail.com) but you respond to the [takethemameal.com](http://takethemameal.com) website, choosing the date and recording the meal you plan to make. Ideas, addresses and phone numbers, dietary restrictions, and so on are all included on the site. You will also receive a reminder from [takethemameal.com](http://takethemameal.com) the day before.

ANYONE can contribute a meal. If you eat supper, you can bring supper! Our “guests” generally enjoy simple, homemade cooking, but if you would prefer to get take-out or buy a prepared meal – just make it easy and do whatever you are doing for yourself. It doesn’t need to be expensive or elaborate, either. One of our customers loves grilled cheese and tomato soup! We have helped people of all ages, from compound fractures to temporary elder care. It is a rewarding ministry when you have the chance to meet someone new and make their day much easier. And when you visit someone, you have known for years and renew the friendship.

If you want to try it out, send an email to [buttler1@hotmail.com](mailto:buttler1@hotmail.com) or call Debra at 585-671-5581 or 261-9570. Thank you!!

We have been running two Meal Ministries this summer. The families are so grateful for all the wonderful meals prepared by our meal ministers! This is from one of our families that needed a hand:

*Carol and I want to say thank you for starting up our Sunday meals again. The meals that you and your group bring us are wonderful. It's a real treat for us--and especially for Carol--because she gets a break from my attempts to cook! All we have to do is heat the meals--they are complete--sometimes with salads, bread or rolls and even dessert. We can't find the words to thank you and the Meal Ministry enough---may God Bless you.*

*Carol and Gary Richardson*

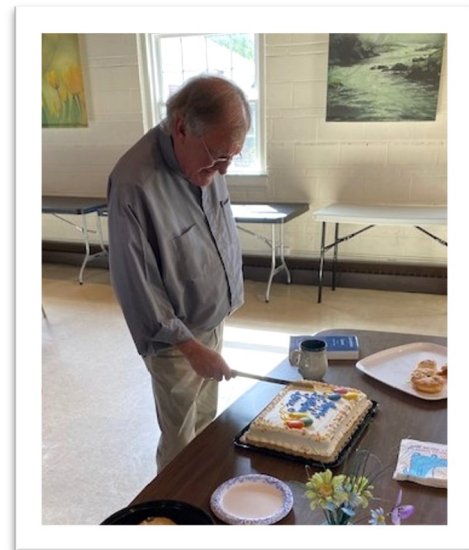


**AS SEEN AT  
GOOD SHEPHERD**



Family Sunday, October 1, saw the Youth Choir singing at the 10:15am service.

The parish celebrated Fr. Lance's birthday at the Coffee Hour on September 17



The Annual Blessing of the Animals was held on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Pictured (left to right) are camera-shy A.J., Deacon, Ella, and Lily with their pet humans and Fr. Lance.

## STEWARDSHIP: ROOTED IN ABUNDANCE

by Kris Murray



We are blessed with abundance at Good Shepherd...with faithful people, wonderful ministries, a beautiful space and a renewed sense of our vision to be more Christ-like in the world. And as we come to the close of our liturgical year, we find ourselves in a time of thanksgiving and reflection of all God's blessings in our lives, both personally and as a church family. We give thanks to God and to the family of Good Shepherd for the faithful and enduring responses of our church in our call to reach out to one another and to those outside our community with the love of Christ. We are blessed to be a part of a loving and accepting community dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel through mission and outreach in Christ's name!

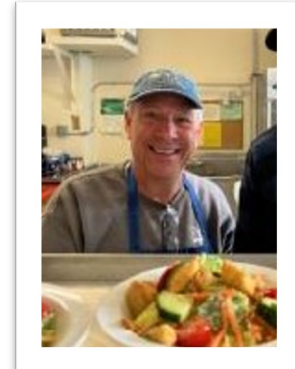
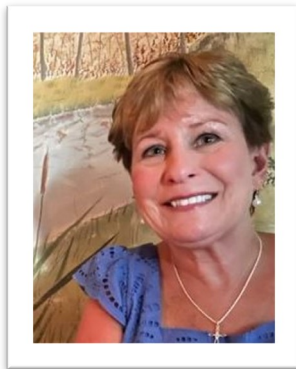
Giving thanks and reflecting on our blessings are part of the process of preparing for what God is calling us to do in the coming year. Together, we have given our time, our God-given abilities, and our financial resources generously to support our ministry efforts here at Good Shepherd. We are preparing now for how God is calling us to move forward in mission and ministry in our community and beyond in 2024. Through our faithful response, God continues to call us to reach more and more people with Christ's love in our broader community.

You will soon receive a pledge form. Please complete it and return it by a method of your choice, on or before Nov 19.

- a) mail it
- b) bring it to church and place it in the collection plate or pledge box
- c) skip the card and email your commitment to [bruce@eorsound.com](mailto:bruce@eorsound.com)

We will celebrate this generosity on November 19th with a pot-blessing meal of Thanksgiving. Look for information on that coming up in the update.

Questions? Contact Kris Murray [jmur56@aol.com](mailto:jmur56@aol.com) or Father Lance



The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd has been a part of A Meal and More for at least as long as Fr. Lance has been our rector (and that's a long time!). Right now, we have approximately 30 volunteers who support the soup kitchen at the meal services at Christ Church on Sundays and Wednesdays! Three of the volunteers, under the supervision of Board Member Lance Robbins and Board President Lois Jones, have stepped up to divide the responsibilities of the "Operations Manager" at the soup kitchen. John Kammerlein, also from our parish, has held that position for the past two years. As John steps back from this role at A Meal and More, Peter Rothfuss, Chris Nuccitelli, Fr. Lance and I are expanding our roles within the organization.

### **Debra Nelson**

I am the Volunteer Coordinator for A Meal and More. I will be in contact directly with the Group Leaders of each meal service to organize schedules and anything that directly relates to volunteers. I have been in this role for Good Shepherd's 30 volunteers for the past five years and I am a regular meal service Wednesday volunteer. At GS I also motivate full parish participation in A Meal and More by writing about AMAM activities, encouraging donations, conducting food drives, and writing about the volunteers and Staff in our newsletter. I also coordinate our Meal Ministry to serve those in our parish that need support for meal preparation during a family crisis and care for the gardens of St. Andrew's-On-The-Lake. You can usually find me on the right side of the sanctuary with my husband, Ken, at the 10:15 Sunday liturgy. We live in Webster and have been parishioners at Good Shepherd for about 15 years. We have three adult children who live in the Rochester area.

### **Peter Rothfuss**

I am currently serving on the Good Shepherd vestry as junior warden. My specific duties include facilitating the operation and maintenance of St. Andrew's Chapel as well as the development of our new strategic plan. I hold several roles at A Meal and More, including meal service volunteer, relief chef when the head chef is absent, in addition to serving as a special advisor to the board of directors. My advisory responsibilities currently focus on organizational operations, such as maintaining IT infrastructure and related digital assets, supporting kitchen inventory management and training kitchen volunteers in food preparation and safety procedures. I reside in Webster with my wife of 25 years, Stacey, and our two children, Jakob (19) and Madelyn (16, who also has served at A Meal and More). I have been employed in the geospatial technology and analytics sector for 27 years and have been the principal of my own boutique consulting firm for the past 14 years.

*Continued*

### Chris Nuccitelli

I am a former vestry member and Warden at Good Shepherd and now maintain and manage our buildings and grounds, including the Church on Webster Road and St. Andrews Chapel on the lake as the Sexton. I also designed and installed the live stream system at Good Shepherd and direct our video livestreaming and recording of the Sunday liturgy, diocesan conventions, and many other productions throughout the year. As a volunteer at A Meal and More, I have served meals for over five years and now coordinate the kitchen food and supply purchasing and bread runs. I am also the most recently elected member of the A Meal and More Board of Directors. I live in Ontario and have two adult daughters in the Rochester area. By the time this is printed I will have a brand-new baby granddaughter in my family.

### Thank you to Good Shepherd

We are all thankful to the fantastic support A Meal and More receives from all of you and our Outreach in food, monetary donations, and time. Thank you, especially, to our THANK YOU to members of our parish family who have recently joined the A Meal and More Team. **New volunteers at the soup kitchen include Bev Strohm, Greg Hartline, Yvonne Arnold, Serena Compitello, Cheryl Kuberka and Beth Wrisley.** If you are interested in substituting or joining us on a regular basis, please email Debra at [buttler1@hotmail.com](mailto:buttler1@hotmail.com) or call or text (585)261-9570.

### Chef's Requests

The Chef's requests for October include: deli meat, cheese, pre-wrapped snacks, bags of fruit (apples, clementines, pears) or one serving applesauce or fruit cups, juices boxes or water bottles, & brown bags. Please leave your donations on the A MEAL AND MORE table in the narthex. If perishable items are dropped off in the parish hall refrigerator or freezer, please leave a NOTE on the Narthex table. If you donate via gift card or check, please hand it to Fr. Lance or Debra Nelson or drop it in our mailboxes. Volunteers bring them to A Meal and More for you!



Patti Curtin	10/01		
Lenore O'Sullivan	10/01		
Ellen Ralston	10/02		
Pat Sweeney	10/04		
Ruth Johns	10/06	Patrick Murray	10/24
Trish Giudice	10/06	Laura Youngman	10/24
Jack McKelvey	10/08	Matt Daniels	10/24
Nial Cheney	10/08	Faith Verneti	10/24
Jeffrey O'Neil	10/10	Meghan Martin	10/25
John White Sr.	10/10	Payton Yelle	10/26
Robin Hess	10/14	Robert Semmler	10/26
Logan Lorenzo	10/15	Peter Dakin	10/26
Sharon White	10/17	Kara Curtin	10/28
Aimee Allen	10/17	Jessica Koneski	10/28
Chelsea Yourch	10/18	Bruce Dunn	10/29
Carrie Petrotta	10/18	Richard Orbaker	10/29
Nic Stones	10/19	Nancy Butler	10/30
Brian Markovitz	10/19		
Mailani Brennick	10/20		



## Bruce Mason Tournament

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Good Shepherd folks gathered for the 25<sup>th</sup> Bruce Mason Tournament at Webster Golf Club. The afternoon started out rainy, but the skies cleared and 28 golfers played a 9 hole scramble. Tournament winners were John Murray, John Norris, and Tom Curtin. Players then were joined by many more Good Shepherders for dinner. Several prizes were awarded, thanks to the generosity of Mary Lou Mason. It was a wonderful day of fellowship and fun!

