

Flock Quarterly



Good Shepherd's new magazine for parishioners by parishioners

Prayer for Ordinary Time

God of Eternity,

As I walk the path of Ordinary Time, help me to count the many ways you are present—

in the comings and goings of family, friends,
coworkers, and acquaintances;

in the sounds of summer and the beauty of your
magnificent creation;

in the daily routines and responsibilities that make
up the rhythm of my days.

Make all time extra-ordinary as I seek to become more
Attuned to your presence.

Amen

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Welcome to the Third Issue of
FLOCK QUARTERLY

Good Shepherd's new magazine for parishioners by parishioners

When to expect it . . .

Issues likely appearing in the third week of February, May, August, and November

Types of material . . .

Essays; Humor; Bible Reflections; Interviews with Parishioners;
Short Fiction; Original Photos & Artwork; Original Poetry & Prayers

Prepared by the staff of our monthly Good Shepherd Newsletter . . .

. Graphics Editor Laura Rosato and Content Editor Richard Reid

Remember: You're never too young or too old to contribute . . . material from our children and teens as well from adults of all ages are always welcome

Guidelines for Contributors

Text submissions in Word format or are handwritten - try not to exceed 1,800 words

Please do not send any material in the PDF format

Submit original photos and original artwork in the .jpeg format if you are able

If original artwork is 8 1/2" by 11" or smaller, it may be submitted for scanning into .jpeg

Issue Deadlines

February (by February 4th)

May (by May 4th)

August (by August 4th)

November (by November 4th)

Email to Richard Reid (writer2363@gmail.com or telephone (cell: 585-766-7254)

General themes for any issue to inspire your submissions

family; hobbies; your vocation; religion; the weather; people/things/places you remember; a great day; something/someone you're thankful for; current events (but let's avoid being overtly political)

Special issue themes that look ahead to the coming three issues to spark your creativity

August Issue Themes

Pentecost; Labor Day; autumn; back-to-school; Halloween

November Issue Themes

Advent; Thanksgiving; Christmas; the new year; the old year just ending; winter; Epiphany

February Issue Themes

Ash Wednesday; Lent; Black History & Women's History Months; Valentine's Day; April Fool

You are part of the Good Shepherd flock . . . please contribute to Flock Quarterly!



ESSAY

TIMMY AND JIMMY

(Another episode in the “Behind the Camera” series)

by Chris Nuccitelli

You may have heard of the adage in film and television, “Never work with animals or children.” I have found this to be true in the case of ‘children’. Let me explain.

In 1990 I was writing, directing, and editing programming for the Instructional Television Department (ITV) of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at RIT. A familiar place to many people in the Rochester area, NTID had a national reputation and scope, and was in the forefront of many technology advances for the deaf community, including the development of Closed Captioning and TTY telephone communications. It was a great job, allowing me freedom to create instructional videos for educational programs across the nation, write and direct several documentaries on deaf life, and embarrass myself daily with feeble attempts at American Sign Language (ASL). And it was also the place where I met producer Dave Conyer, who would become my best friend and collaborator on many projects over the next decade.

NTID was tasked each year with producing a media campaign for “Better Hearing & Speech Month”. Elements of the campaign included a photo shoot, thirty second public service announcements (PSA’s), print ads, etc. I remember it being a favorite project across all the departments involved as we looked forward to the travel and working with that year’s “Celebrity Spokesperson”. Previous years had seen spokespeople the likes of US Attorney General C. Everette Koop, Richard Dysart of *LA Law* fame, and President Ronald Reagan, to name a few. Our assignment in the ITV Department was to write and produce the PSA’s that would air nationally during Better Hearing & Speech Month. The announcement for that year’s spokesperson did not disappoint. It was none other than James Stewart! Yes, that’s right. George Bailey. Ransom Stoddard. Mr. Smith. Elwood P. Dowd... Jimmy freakin’ Stewart!

It was roughly 12 minutes after the announcement when elation turned to fear and panic set in. I have to direct this guy! A guy who has worked with Alfred Hitchcock, Cecil B. DeMille, George Cukor, Frank Capra, and John Ford! As I drove home that night, I was seriously thinking of how to back out and what I would say to Dave the next day. “No thanks, I think I’ll take a pass on this one!” “I have surgery that week.” “I never liked LA much anyway.” And then an idea came to me like an angel ringing a bell.

FADE UP on wideshot of a darkened movie theatre where the film “It’s a Wonderful Life” is being projected.

CUT TO fullscreen of little Zuzu explaining to her daddy, George Bailey, “Every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings.”

CUT TO a two-shot of Jimmy Stewart sitting in the theater next to Timmy (that year’s hearing-impaired child representative). With a bucket of popcorn in his lap and the glare of the projector over his shoulder Jimmy says, “It IS a wonderful life with better hearing and speech!”

OK. I know. It is not Billy Wilder or Francis Ford Coppola material! It is not even a very good commercial tag line. But at the time I thought it was going to work.

Now you probably thought I forgot about the “working with children” reference at the beginning of my story. Never fear! I will now introduce you to Timmy. Timmy is seven with freckles and a shock of bright red hair on top of his head. He has the whole Dennis the Menace image and, as I was to find out, this moniker would be well deserved. Maybe you should fear. Just a little bit.

Continued

But before we get to “Timmy the Terror”, as he was soon dubbed by the crew, I need to mention a quick note about the ancient days of analog video production, where most everything was done “live” and special effects were primitive at best. My amazing vision for this commercial required a movie projector and projectionist, an empty theatre near Beverly Hills, and a 16mm copy of “It’s a Wonderful Life” to be projected. All in real time. Today, you would only have to shoot the talent and dialogue and are able to add the movie projection and other effects in the edit room. But back then it was a technical challenge, with potential failure at each step. Regardless, Dave earned his producer credit and put all the pieces together. Within the month we were set up in the screening room at The Director’s Guild of America (DGA) on Sunset Blvd. with the Frank Capra classic projecting away on the screen!

Timmy arrived first with his mother in tow. He blew by everyone and went for the popcorn that we had accumulated earlier as a prop. His mom explained that he was “restless” today. I assigned a very capable production assistant (my wife, Donna) to take care of Timmy and assure he got made up and to the set on time. OK. One potential disruption averted.

James Stewart arrived next. I’d like to say how excited I was, or relate some witty remark that I greeted him with. But the reality was I was shocked by how frail he looked! We did some short introductions all around (“Please, call me Jimmy...”) and then he headed off to get made up. I’m not sure what happened in there, but Jimmy came out looking twenty years younger and with a bit of pep in his step! He told me he had read the script and he knew his lines (all seven of them!). He said he thought it was a nice concept and he appreciated the opportunity to deliver the message. Clearly, he hadn’t read the script closely enough! He must surely be a genuinely kind and generous fellow!

Once Jimmy was seated, and we ran some of the lines, my wife brought in Timmy. Timmy had no lines. All he had to do was sit there and look cute. Jimmy Stewart was doing all the heavy lifting. Jimmy’s a pro! He’s an Academy Award winner! He’ll knock this off in a couple of takes. We’ll get some photos together, and some autographs, and we’ll be in Santa Monica for dinner by six!

TAKE 1: “It IS a wonderful life with better hearing and speech.” CUT! “Timmy, sit up straight. And stop making faces while Mr. Stewart is talking. Just look at the camera and smile.”

TAKE 2: “It IS a wonderful life with better. . .” CUT! “Timmy don’t slide down the chair seat. The floor is dirty.”

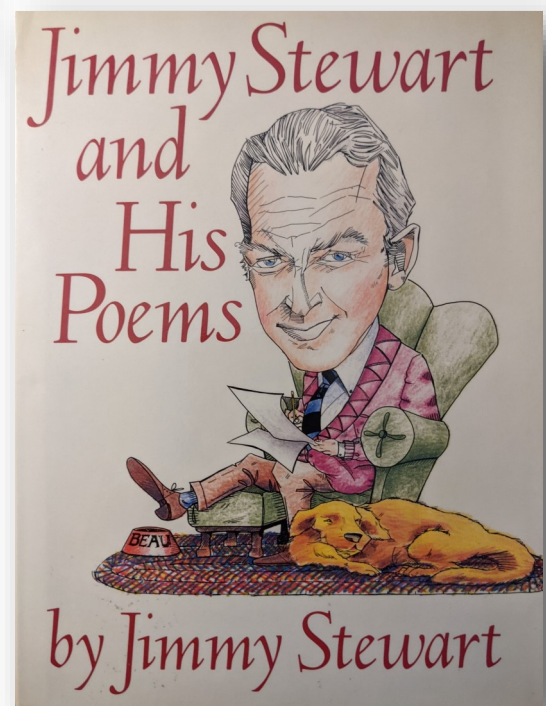
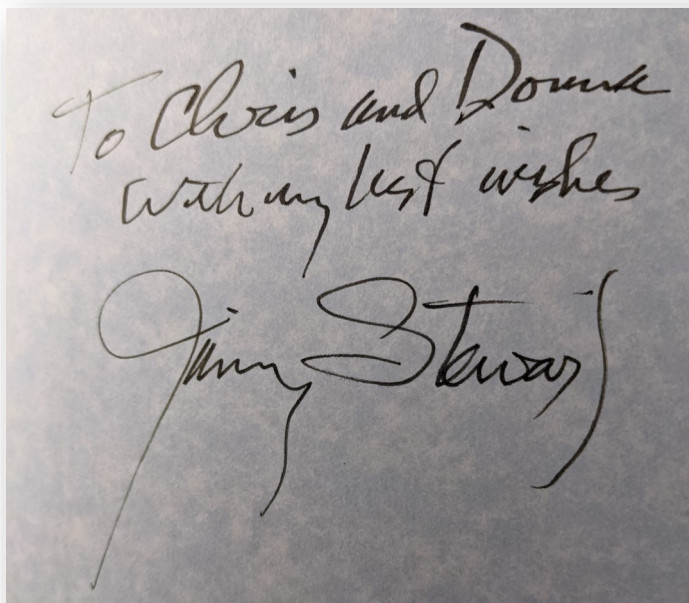
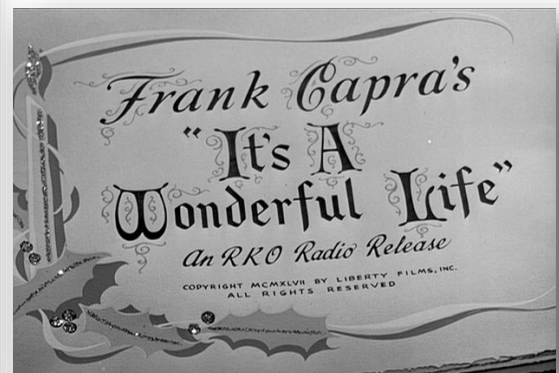
TAKE 3: “It IS a wonderful...” CUT!! “Timmy, take the bucket of popcorn off your head!”

You get the picture. So, I changed the script a little to eliminate Timmy from as many shots as I could. After about an hour we had about twenty takes in the can and were bearing down on the final shots. Please just let Timmy sit still for FIVE more seconds! “Roll projector... roll camera. Cue Jimmy.” Suddenly there was a popping sound and the theatre was thrown into darkness. We were told that the projector bulb had broken and that a replacement was at least an hour away! There was no way to shoot around the loss of the projector so we would just have to wait. What am I going to say to Jimmy Stewart, who had already been here much longer than anticipated? Clearly, he must be thinking this kid director is a joke!

When I gave Jimmy the news, he sat back for a moment and just chuckled softly. “Let me tell you about the time we were shooting, “The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance”. It was in the desert, you know. The director, John Ford, loved to shoot on location...” The man could not have been more gracious! I really believe he cared more about making all of us feel relaxed and comfortable than he did about his own situation. For an hour he told us stories from his film days and some stories from his experience in World War II.

I did not know it at the time, but Jimmy Stewart had served as a Colonel with the 2nd Combat Bombardment Wing of the Eighth Air Force, where he flew B-24 Liberator missions over Europe. What he would not reveal to us there was that the war dramatically changed his life. The lighthearted films that he made earlier in his career were no longer appealing to him. When he returned from the war, he peddled a darker film idea, about a man who wants to kill himself, but is saved by his guardian angel. He, and director Frank Capra (another WWII combat veteran) went out on a limb and made "It's a Wonderful Life" against all the advice of Hollywood. While a failure at the box office when originally released, it is now a beloved classic. This set the tone for his many dramatic roles in the future, including "Rear Window" (my personal favorite) and "Anatomy of a Murder", a film that earned him his fifth Academy Award nomination as Best Actor.

In the end, the projector was repaired, the PSA shooting was wrapped, and we were packing things up to get to a very late dinner. Rather than just running off, Jimmy Stewart walked over to Dave and me and handed us two copies of his first-ever book of poetry. He had just published it and was eager to share it with everyone there. Now, I'm no poet. In fact, I come to read poetry very rarely and reluctantly. But I thought this stuff was very entertaining. In hindsight, the technical difficulties turned out to be a blessing, as we had an unprecedented opportunity to sit at the feet of one of the greatest actors of the 20th century and hear his stories. His kindness, generosity, and graciousness were truly inspiring to this young director!



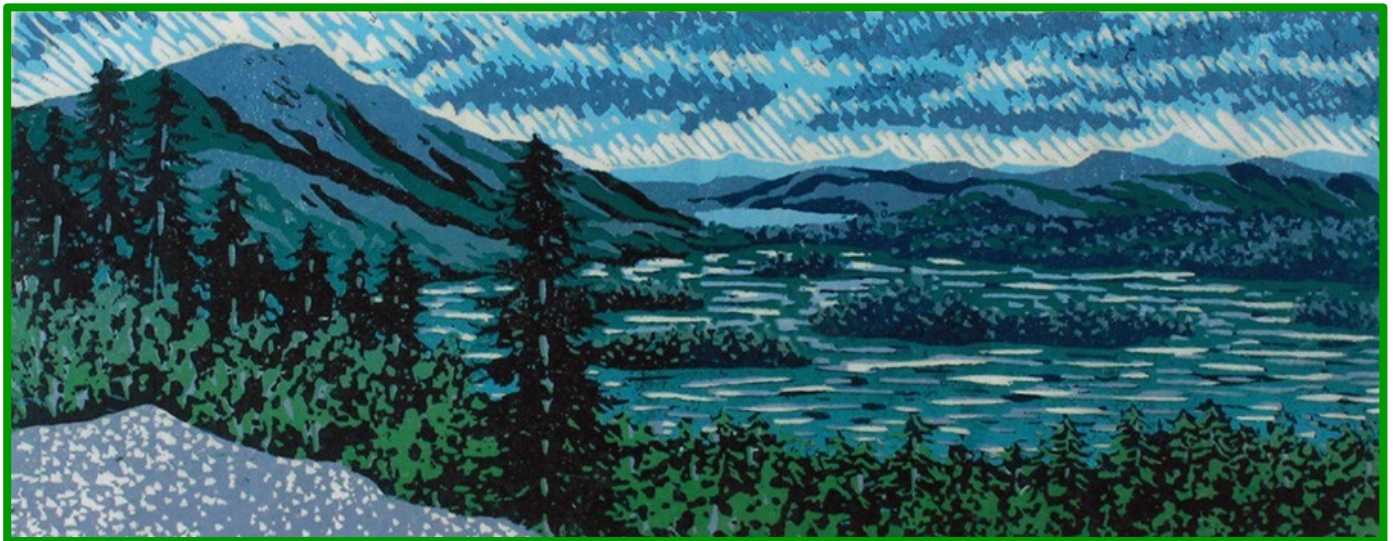
ART

Linoleum Block Printing

by Diane Babcock

This is an example of one of my prints with some of my tools and materials. I cut away from a piece of linoleum to create a stamp. I roll ink onto the raised area of the block and press the block onto handmade Japanese paper. Some of you may have done a block print in school and remember the process. Each color that you see on the finished piece is a separate carving and printing step.

Editor's Note: For those of you unfamiliar with Diane, check out her vestry member profile on page 4 of the April 2021 issue of the Good Shepherd Newsletter.



ART

PETER MARR'S NATURE PHOTOGRAPHS

Both pictures of these Bitterns were taken at Wakodahatchee Wetlands located in Delray Beach, Florida. This fifty-acre Wildlife Habitat was constructed in the Waste Water Utility Property.

These birds hide in dense vegetation, are superbly camouflaged, and are very difficult to see, let alone photograph. The American Bittern is fairly common but mostly recognized by its booming cry, so I was very pleased to capture this lovely bird in great detail.

I am very proud of the photograph of the less than one week-old Least Bittern Chick. It took me over three years of brief visits to this wetland to photograph this baby bird.

Both of these photographs represent that, extreme patience is often required to capture memorable images.



REFLECTION

Editor's Note: Besides writing a meditation on one or more of the Episcopal readings for the day, parishioners are invited to consider offering their thoughts on a favorite Bible passage which may only be a single verse or a short passage. Please consider sharing yours in a future issue of Flock Quarterly. Thanks.

A Favorite Bible Verse

by Kris Murray

Galatians 2:20 (English Standard Version Anglicized)

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

I think this passage in Galatians is kind of the crux of Christianity. Christians enter into a covenant with God thru Christ. Baptism and Eucharist fulfill this covenant within our journey with God. We are baptized with the Holy Spirit, and when we participate in the Eucharist, we bring Christ into us. He has chosen us as children of God. We either can accept Him or reject Him, but we don't choose Him.

I think if we accept him in us, we live each day with Christ in us. This helps to guide us in our decision making, and the way we treat others, ourselves, the creatures of earth and earth itself.

Many people understand that "good Christians read the Bible." They want God to like them, so they read the Bible out of trying to please God, out of a kind of guilt. This approach can see God as either punitive ("if I don't read, God will be mad at me") or almost like he is a "lucky charm" ("if I read, God will reward me"). Neither of these approaches will help you grow closer to God and grow spiritually. If we put no one before God in our daily endeavors and love our neighbor as ourself, we will grow closer to God and grow spiritually.



ESSAY

PSALMS FOR LIFE

by Patti Curtin

“Show me your ways O Lord, teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and my hope is in you all day long”- Psalm 24:4-5

I just love the Psalms and have found that, throughout my life, they have spoken to my heart and encouraged my faith in every possible situation.

My first awareness of and experience of God was through nature. I didn't grow up in a church-going family, but my father taught me to be still and listen for the quiet peace and beauty that hums throughout all of God's creation.

The Psalms immediately resonated with my love of nature when I was first introduced to them as a new Christian. At age 17, I went on a week-long backpacking and canoeing trip through the Canadian Algonquin wilderness with my friend's church youth group. Here, we carried our canoes across islands and paddled through pristine lakes. Each night we set up camp and sang praises around the campfire. In the early morning, we were encouraged to have a quiet time alone, and I found that the psalms really spoke to my poet's heart. Watching the sun rise gloriously over the water, listening to the haunting cry of the Canadian loons, I read Psalm 19, vs. 1 & 2: *“The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands... day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge”*, and Psalm 148: *“Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights above; praise him, sun and moon, praise him all you shining stars...”*

I was hooked... the evidence for God was all around me—in every created thing and in me! I read in Psalm 139 that God *“created my inmost being, knit me together in my mother's womb and is familiar with all my ways!”* I felt honored and blessed to be so intricately created and lovingly cared for.

As I grew in my faith, I found that there was a Psalm for everything that life could throw at me. When I faced a fearful situation, Psalm 27 affirmed: *“The Lord is my light and salvation-whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life.”* When I wandered astray, or acted selfishly, Psalm 51 brought me back: *“Have mercy on me O God, according to your unfailing love, according to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions...cleanse me with hyssop and I will be clean; wash me and I will be whiter than snow... create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me”*.

After I became a mother, I found comfort in praying Psalm 91 for my children whenever I was worried, especially once they hit the teen and college years: *“If you make the Most High your dwelling-even the Lord who is my refuge, then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”*

When depression clouded my perception, I cried out, as David did in Psalm 13: *“How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and every day have a sorrow in my heart? Look on me and answer me, O Lord, my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death.”* It was often when I was at my lowest, hiding in a cave of my own making or crying out over troubling circumstances beyond my control, that God's presence was felt most powerfully. When I had come to the end of me and came to him in complete surrender, his light and peace flooded my spirit like a balm.

Continued

I have found that any situation, no matter how dire, can be viewed from the shiny side, and can be approached with a heart of gratitude. Psalm 36, vs. 9 says it beautifully: *“For with you is the fountain of life, in your light we see light”*. And Psalm 40 echoed my thoughts, as the Lord picked me up, dusted me off and sent me out into the world: *“I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and the mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.”*

Whenever doubts creep in and I need to be reminded that the experience of knowing him can’t be understood intellectually, I silently repeat Psalm 46:10: *“Be still and know that I am God”*, asking him to quiet my mind and open my heart to receive his Spirit more fully.

Throughout the years, whatever the circumstances, the Psalms have reminded me who I am and to whom I belong. I am thankful to David and the other authors of Psalms for their humanness and for their honesty before God... that here, now, thousands of years later, these beautiful words still speak so eloquently and help us to grow in our faith journeys. Amen.

FUN FACTS

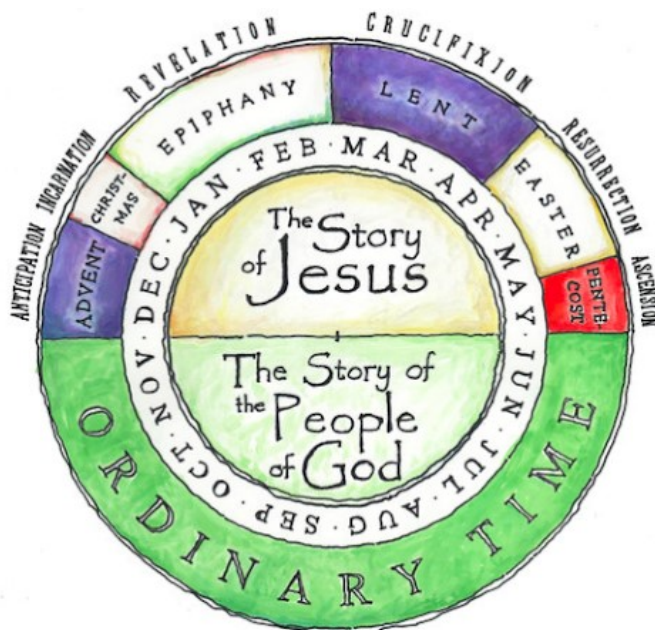
NOTHING ORDINARY ABOUT ORDINARY TIME!

Here are three ways to look at the “green season”

---Laura Rosato

DEFINITION: Ordinary Time is used to “indicate the parts of the liturgical year that are not included in the major seasons of the church calendar. Ordinary time includes the Monday after the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord through the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, and the Monday after Pentecost through the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent. A vigil or other service anticipating the First Sunday of Advent on the Saturday before that Sunday would also be included in the season of Advent. **Ordinary time can be understood in terms of the living out of Christian faith and the meaning of Christ’s resurrection in ordinary life.** The term “ordinary time” is not used in the Prayer Book, but the season after Pentecost can be considered ordinary time. It may be referred to as the “green season,” because green is the usual liturgical color for this period of the church year”.

(Source: episcopalchurch.org)



Source: standrewspc-usa.org



Season your pasta with ordinary thyme.

Source: [Episcopal Church Memes/Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/episcopalchurchmemes/)

INTERVIEW

GETTING INVOLVED ISN'T HALF THE FUN – IT'S ALL OF IT

An interview with parishioner Pauline Stebbins by Content Editor Richard Reid

Editor's Note: Since arriving at Good Shepherd during the summer of 2015, Pauline, a retired nurse, has gotten quickly involved with parish life, including the EFM (Education for Ministry) program. A talented member of the Good Shepherd Stitchers, she entered the GS leadership ranks in January 2019 when she was invited to join the Vestry. This January, she became Junior Warden. Recently she spoke a bit about her life's journey and some of her church activities which includes some of her creative efforts shown in the photos which accompany this article.

RR: In your Stewardship Reflection published in our Newsletter in 2017, you referenced a 1969 song by The Hollies, describing your road to Good Shepherd as one “with many a winding turn.” Has music held much interest for you?

PS: When I was younger, Rock & Roll and Folk were my favorite types of music. I loved John Denver, Peter, Paul and Mary. and Creedence Clearwater Revival. Now I like all types of music. I never played an instrument, though I would have liked to, had my road taken a different turn. I love drum and bugle competitions and have gone to quite a few over the years.

RR: For parishioners not yet familiar with you, can you tell us a bit about your early life and anything about your parents?

PS: I began life in the Boston area but by age five, my parents, my older sister, and I, moved to the northern section of New Jersey, living first in Patterson, then Clifton and finally Trenton where my sister still resides. (Until the pandemic, I regularly visited her there.) The move from Massachusetts was always explained as my parents' search for improved work opportunities. My mother worked in a cookie factory, Weston Biscuit until it closed. That was the only job she had. My father worked at Curtiss-Wright where they made airplane parts. He also picked up additional part time jobs over the years, such as driving a truck into Hell's Kitchen in NYC and back on the weekends, stocking a building supply store. He retired from Shulton's (where they made Old Spice after shave). Both of them had fabulous work ethics. No play until all the work was done! After graduating high school in 1962, I entered the nursing program at the Capitol District Hospital in Trenton. I'm not sure what attracted me to the nursing profession but I was fortunate enough to have obtained an all-inclusive scholarship to a diploma program, attending classes at Mercer City Community College which I completed in 1965. Nursing training was different back then. It wasn't until 1993 that I actually earned a Bachelor's degree in nursing from SUNY New Paltz. I long-held a goal to earn one, but being married with three daughters to raise, it just got pushed further down the road.

RR: What led you from New Jersey to New York State, and eventually to the Webster area?

PS: We moved to Wayne County from New Jersey in 1971. Later, my daughters and I moved to Seneca County where we lived until they went away to college. I then moved to the Hudson Valley because my Dad had died and I wanted to be closer to my mother. There, I was able to get a job, enroll in SUNY New Paltz and had military access to West Point for my military obligation. As to how I arrived in Monroe County in 1998, if I had to choose a single, summarizing word, it would be “family” although professional goals also played a part. All of my daughters work in the health care industry. Two are nurses and one is a physical therapist. Two of them were living in the area – one in Webster, one in Walworth – and a third daughter was living in Illinois when my

Continued

grandchildren started arriving and I was not going to miss that! In 1999, I decided to relocate to Webster. The really great news is that my Illinois daughter is in the process of moving to Irondequoit and will be working at an Episcopal Church home in the area so we'll finally all be close together, for a time at least. My two youngest grandchildren are graduating from high school this year so they will join the other four who are following their own winding roads at colleges and jobs. To where they all lead, only time will tell. No great grandchildren yet, but with God's blessing, I'll be around when they start arriving.

RR: I understand you retired about two years ago and when you did, you were not adhering to the common American practice of retiring in your mid-60s. I'll play the gentleman and not ask your age but I don't think you'll fault me for wondering why it took you so long?

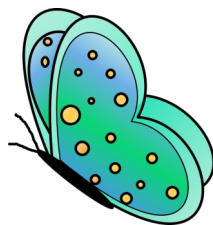
PS: I was quite fortunate to have found a profession that I found extremely rewarding. Since my health did not require that I retire, and since I wasn't at all clear about what I would do if I wasn't working, I put off taking that step for many years. Eventually I scaled back to per diem work. What really made up my mind to fully retire was the Church of the Good Shepherd which, I'm very glad to say, supplied the answer to my nagging question: if I retire, then what do I do?

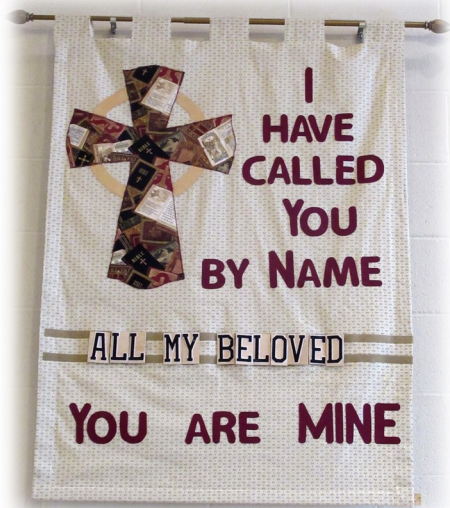
RR: That's amazing. How did you come to find Good Shepherd Church?

PS: I was not a cradle Episcopalian. My parents were Roman Catholic but for them, religion was more of a Christmas and Easter thing. Still, they sent me and my sister to church regularly and before too long, we liked it enough for me to say we attended church faithfully. My disenchantment with Roman Catholicism, particularly its exclusions of all sorts nagged at me for a long time. I did try a myriad of other practices over a long period of time, but none ever clicked like Good Shepherd. My experimentation first started within the military since our unit had two chaplains, a Rabbi and Baptist minister. It was never a matter of any doubts in faith for me. One day in Webster, I noticed a rustic building by Lake Ontario that reminded me of the church I had attended during summers at my aunt's cottage in Massachusetts so long ago. It was our St. Andrew's Chapel. As I had written in my Stewardship Reflection, "Between the beautiful setting and the warm, friendly welcome, I was hooked."

RR: So, what made you stay and what about GS helped you make that decision to retire?

PS: When you're a new person anywhere, your concern is always for finding the best ways to fit in. I soon signed up for the EFM program and almost immediately felt as if I had jumped into the deep end of the pool. The first two years were the hardest. I elected to repeat the year that covered the Hebrew Scriptures (i.e., the Old Testament). Thanks to lots of encouragement, I finally graduated the program in June 2020. I also became involved early on with the GS Stitchers group because I had some expertise to share with it. As a child, I first learned how to sew not from my mother but from Girl Scout leaders. In Junior High School classes (7th to 9th grade) for Home Economics, I had excellent teachers to advance those skills. I've helped to make banners at church such as the, "Everyone is Welcome" one. We've made altar vestments for Fr. Lance and Deacon Steve Robb, and more recently for Rev. Keisha Stokes, including albs, stoles, and chasubles. More recently, with Fr. Lance leading services for a streaming camera, I created an audience he could talk to while at the lectern. I've got ideas for a couple of more banners so that should keep me busy in the months to come. Vestry is a totally different concept for me. I like it very much, but there's so much I don't know and lots to learn. I'm so glad that the most recent turn in the road I've been travelling led me to getting involved at Good Shepherd. Involvement isn't half the fun – it's all of it. I feel so blessed.





*PRAYER**Prayer Beads—Three Prayers*

Submitted by Debra Nelson

A Prayer of Petition

Cross: Lord, you know well what I desire, if it be your will that I have it --- or if it be not your will – Good Lord, I want nothing save what is your will.

Invitatory Bead: God, of your goodness, give me yourself; for you are enough to me.

Cruciform Beads: Thy will be done.

I pray that I may be healthy in body, mind, and spirit.

I pray that my flesh and spirit be nourished.

I pray that I may love and be loved.

I pray that I may triumph over temptation.

I pray that I may live in peace and harmony with all your creation.

I pray that I may be your faithful servant.

I pray that I may live in you in this life and with you in the life to come.

Final Cross: And all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.

Praise for the Risen Christ

Cross: For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

Invitatory Bead: Death has been swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is thy sting? O Grave, where is thy victory?

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Cruciform Beads:

Christ is risen,

The Lord is risen indeed.

Christ is risen,

The Lord is risen indeed.

Christ is risen,

The Lord is risen indeed.

Christ is risen,

The Lord is risen indeed.

Christ is risen,

The Lord is risen indeed.

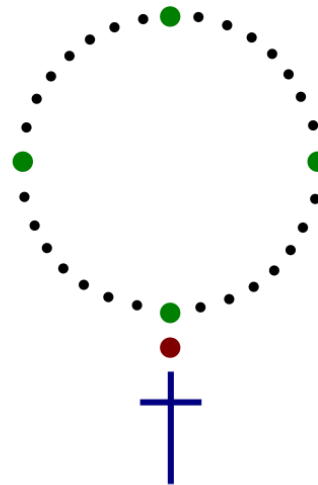
Christ is risen,

The Lord is risen indeed.

Christ is risen,

The Lord is risen indeed.

Final Cross: Amen

A Prayer for Ascension

Cross: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come in glory to judge the living and the dead, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

Invitatory Bead: Grant, Almighty God, that as we believe your only begotten son Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, may we also ascend in heart and spirit and dwell continually with him, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

Cruciform Beads:

Christ is all and in all.

Through you, O Christ, all creation has become divine.

Through you, O Christ, all humanity has become divine.

Help me, O Christ, to know you with all my being.

Help me, O Christ, to know you in all my being.

Help me, O Christ, to know you in your full humanity.

Help me, O Christ, to know you in your full divinity.

Transform me, O Christ, as you have been transformed.

Final Cross: Amen

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO MEET HOME COMPUTERS

By Richard Reid

For those of us who sometimes get frustrated by our computers, perhaps this bit of whimsy might amuse you. Bud Abbott and Lou Costello were two comedians whose heyday was in the 1940s and 1950s when they were the stars of movies, radio and television. Nearly everyone has heard even just some of their most famous comedy sketch, "Who's on First?" about the unusual nicknames of baseball players. But what if Bud and Lou were alive today, in a world of technology that never existed back then? Here's my affectionate tribute to Bud & Lou's verbal hijinks in the spirit of "Who's on First?"

ABBOTT: (Answering the phone) Super Duper Computer Store. May I help you?

COSTELLO: Yes. I'm setting up a home office and I need to buy a computer.

ABBOTT: Mac?

COSTELLO: No, my name's Lou.

ABBOTT: Your computer preference.

COSTELLO: I don't know which one I want to buy.

ABBOTT: Mac? Dell?

COSTELLO: I told you, my name's Lou.

ABBOTT: I'm Bud. What about Windows?

COSTELLO: I think they make a room less gloomy.

ABBOTT: Windows?

COSTELLO: Sure. I just opened them in my office. It's a warm and sunny spring day out there. Oh, it's so nice!

ABBOTT: Do you want Windows 10?

COSTELLO: It's a small office. I only have two windows. I don't need eight more.

ABBOTT: You don't understand. Windows is an operating system.

COSTELLO: Operating? I'm not a doctor. I'm not doing any operations.

ABBOTT: I never said you were.

COSTELLO: Look, let's start all over. Do you sell computers?

ABBOTT: Would I call myself the Super Duper Computer Store if I didn't?

COSTELLO: Good. I want to buy a computer.

ABBOTT: With Windows 10?

COSTELLO: Will you stop already with the windows!

ABBOTT: How can I sell you a computer if I don't know what you want?

COSTELLO: I just need something I can use to write proposals, track expenses and run my business. What do you have?

ABBOTT: Office.

COSTELLO: Yeah, for my home office Can you recommend anything?

ABBOTT: I just did.

COSTELLO: You just did what?

ABBOTT: Recommend something.

COSTELLO: You recommended something?

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: For my office?

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: Okay, what did you recommend for my office?



ABBOTT: Office.

COSTELLO: Yes, for my office! What do you recommend?

ABBOTT: Office.

COSTELLO: Yes. What do you suggest?

ABBOTT: I suggest Office with Windows.

COSTELLO: Are we back there again?

ABBOTT: Back where?

COSTELLO: At the windows, looking out!

ABBOTT: Well, you asked me.

COSTELLO: I told you I already have an office with windows! I don't need another one! I just want to buy a computer.!

ABBOTT: And I want to sell you one.

COSTELLO: Are you sure?

ABBOTT: Of course, I'm sure. Would I own a computer store if I didn't?

COSTELLO: Okay, good. Now let's say I'm sitting at my computer and I want to write a proposal. What do I need?

ABBOTT: Word.

COSTELLO: What word??

ABBOTT: Word in Office.

COSTELLO: The only word in "office" is "office".

ABBOTT: I'm telling you Word in Office is what you need.

COSTELLO: Which word?

ABBOTT: The Word you get when you click on the blue and white "W".

COSTELLO: I'm going to click your blue and white "W" really hard if you don't start giving me some straight answers!!

ABBOTT: That's what I'm trying to do.

COSTELLO: Well, try trying harder!!

ABBOTT: Alright. You don't have to yell. Stay calm, please.

COSTELLO: I was very calm until I called you.

ABBOTT: What else may I help you with?

COSTELLO: What about bookkeeping? You got anything I can use to track my money?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: That's right. What do you have?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: I need money to track my money?

ABBOTT: It comes bundled with your computer as part of Excel.

COSTELLO: What's bundled with my computer?

ABBOTT: Money

COSTELLO: Money comes with my computer?

ABBOTT: Certainly. No extra charge.

COSTELLO: You mean with my computer I get a bundle of money?

ABBOTT: No, no, you just get one copy.

COSTELLO: Isn't it illegal to copy money?

ABBOTT: Microsoft gives us a license to copy Money.

COSTELLO: Microsoft can give you a license to copy money? Does Uncle Sam know about this?

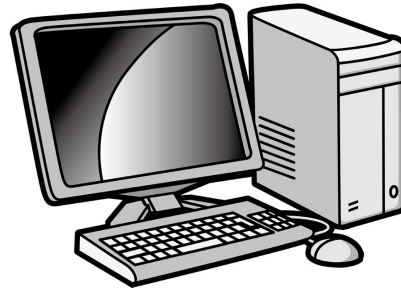
ABBOTT: As long as I pay my taxes and only make licensed copies, the government doesn't care how often I copy Money. Hello? Hello? I think I've been disconnected.

(A few days later)

ABBOTT (Answering the phone): Super Duper Computer Store. How may I help you?

COSTELLO: This is Lou. I just got a computer from your store. How do I turn it off?

ABBOTT: First, you right click on "START". Hello? Hello? Can you beat that, he hung up! I'm starting to think going into retail was a bad idea. I bet if I had taken my uncle's advice and bought that baseball team, I never would have to deal with jerks like him.



SHARE YOUR REFLECTION ON BIBLE PASSAGES IN OUR NEXT ISSUE . . . August 2021

Sharing spiritual insights is something we regularly do as members of the Good Shepherd family in our annual *Lenten Meditations* booklet each spring. Thanks to our magazine, *Flock Quarterly*, for the first-time, parishioners have the opportunity to share their spiritual insights for the non-Lent seasons of the church year. If you have written for the annual *Lenten Meditations* booklet, then why not also write a reflection for our upcoming issues this year?

In the May, August and November issues of *Flock Quarterly*, up to five reflections on Bible passages will be published in each issue. Parishioners who wish to participate should notify Content Editor Richard Reid (writer2363@gmail.com or home phone: 585-347-4839) of their intention to prepare a reflection for a certain date for the next upcoming issue. Once it is determined that no one else has already asked for that date, you are ready to work on your submission.

TO FIND THE READINGS

Go to the website, *Daily Prayer*, which is an Episcopal Church ministry resource of the Forward Movement.

https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/daily_readings_anytime.php

Once there, fill in the month, day, and year from the pulldown boxes and click “Get the Readings”

The full text of several readings for that day from the Old and New Testaments will appear. Decide if you wish to focus on a single reading or multiple ones indicated for that day. List the Biblical readings you write about at the beginning of your reflection then write your reflection. Please limit your text to no more than 600 words. There is a limit of one reflection per writer per issue.

Covered dates for reflections for the August Issue

Select any date between August 23, 2021 and November 22, 2021

BUT WAIT . . . THERE’S ANOTHER SIMPLER OPTION --

Write a reflection on any favorite verse or on a passage of a few verses from the Bible detailing what it means to you and why it’s your favorite. No website to visit. No multiple readings to reconcile. Easy peasy.

All submissions for the fourth issue (August 2021) should be sent to the Content Editor by August 4, 2021. If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Content Editor. Thanks for sharing!

