

# News From The Good Shepherd



Dear Friends in Christ:

During this month we celebrate three important events in our life together. All Saints' Day, Veterans Day and of course, Thanksgiving. I thought a prayer for each and a brief comment on the day at the end might be in order.

## All Saints' Day

"Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we can come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever." Amen BCP 245

## Veterans Day

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord." Amen. BCP p.839

## Thanksgiving Day

"Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever." Amen. BCP p. 246

With grateful hearts we remember all the many men and women who were our guides along the way in our spiritual journey. They were truly "saints" to us and to many others. May we also assist and help guide others as well.

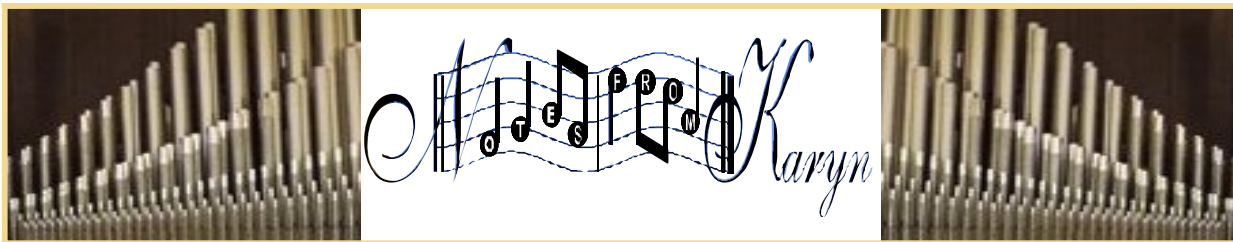
In deep appreciation we lift up and celebrate those who so faithfully gave of themselves to serve our country and preserve our precious freedoms. May they never be taken for granted or forgotten.

And for the resources, gifts, people, and events that come from our gracious and loving Lord, let us give heartfelt thanks. We remember that "all things come from Thee, O Lord, and of thine own we giveth back to thee." Let us strive to be good and wise stewards of all that has been entrusted to us.

So grateful for all of you.

Faithfully,





## *Prayers of Gratitude*

As Thanksgiving draws near our hearts and minds turn in gratitude to God for our many blessings. This month in your devotions, you may want to use some of these prayers taken from our hymns and anthems.

*"Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation,  
Give us thankful hearts, that we may see:  
All the gifts we share, and every blessing,  
All things come of Thee!"*

(In "Look to the World" by John Rutter.)

*"Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days.  
Bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ.  
All to Thee, our God, we owe,  
Source whence all our blessings flow."*

(Hymn #288 by Anna Barbauld)

*"All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.  
Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love."*

(Hymn #291 by Matthias Claudius)

*"Thank you for the world so sweet. Thank you for the food we eat.  
Thank you for the birds that sing.  
Thank you, God, for everything."*

(Children's anthem with traditional lyrics.)

And of course....

*Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voices.  
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices.  
Who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way,  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

(Hymn #397 by Martin Rinckart; tr. Catherine Winkworth)

*"We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks,  
calling upon your Name  
and declaring all your wonderful deeds"  
Psalm 75:1*

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the Good Shepherd**

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Good Shepherd Webster



@FrLanceRobbins

## GOOD SHEPHERD VESTRY

By Diane Castle Babcock, Senior Warden

The vestry met on Thursday, October 19th. Bruce Dunn was absent but sent the following information regarding last month's income and expenses: Good Shepherd collected \$13,655 in September from pledges and rental income. We lost approximately \$10,000 on the Diocesan Investment account in interest last month but have gained \$13,622 year to date.

The following requests were made from ministries regarding the 2024 budget:

Altar guild requested additional funds for new altar linens. Pam Meyris said that stitchers may donate an altar linen in memory of Janet Maier. The healing prayer group would like money to purchase a sign for the comfort room.

On October 25th, Tom Yourch will meet with Chris Nuccitelli and Martha Knope at St. Andrews to do a structural review of the building.

Last month we reviewed a proposal to clean the parish hall floor. Chris secured a second quote from Dimensional Services, which included cleaning the parish hall and the music room floors. This quote was more reasonably priced. The vestry approved this expenditure, contingent upon consulting with Bruce regarding funding for this work.

The vestry also approved \$850 to be used to repair the fascia of the steeple. This repair is covered by an insurance claim filed last spring. We approved a snow plow contract for the coming winter as well.

Pam Meyris and Kris Murray have completed a thorough inspection of the prayer books in the sanctuary. They concluded we needed forty-five hymnals and eighty prayer books totaling \$3188. The vestry approved the expense and would like to use some of the undesignated memorial money to pay for the books.

Save the date! November 19th is an in-gathering Sunday. Please send your pledge cards in by that date, so the vestry and treasurer can prepare the budget for 2024. There will be a thanksgiving turkey dinner after the 10:15 service that day.

We have so many things to be thankful for at Good Shepherd. I am grateful for Fr. Lance's spiritual guidance, Dr. Karyn's inspiring music, and all the people who make this an exceptional place.



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

by Kris Murray



It has been wonderful hearing all of the stories that parishioners have shared. We are so blessed to have such great “family” members.

Stewardship is more than financial. It is about the sharing of our abundant gifts. But it is important to talk about our Church finances. We are a church of abundance and generosity but we still need to budget what will be needed for the upcoming year.

Just like in our home budgets, sometimes expenses increase and our income does not. We all hate it when we have to cut Netflix, or not sign our children up for their travel sports, or we have to postpone the trip to see a friend or a relative. It is part of life and not a pleasant one.

Bruce, our Finance Chair, is only able to use what is pledged to create the budget. If we don’t pledge for a variety of reasons, but our contributions are regular, or not, that money can’t be used for budget purposes because it is not pledged. We are then in a position to have to cut programs which is not what anyone wants. I can’t think of one ministry or program here that I would be comfortable having to cut. I remember several years ago, the message was just pledge...even if it is \$5 a week, just pledge.

There are some repairs coming up and some general maintenance jobs due. Bruce expects utilities to show a substantial increase. We are actively working on columbarium updates and that is very expensive. We have some music department commitments coming up and a new welcome committee budget added. (More on that coming soon.) Cleaning and snow plowing numbers have increased and did you know we have 9 heating units? HVAC service is crazy. Worst of all, we may have to hold salaries as is. Projected Expenses are \$344,420. So far, 27 families have pledged for a pledged total of \$61,295. Those numbers are on track for early November.

Sunday November 19 is Pledge Sunday. If you haven’t already done so, please bring your pledge form and place it in the collection plate when we (wait for it) pass the plate...that’s right, it’s back. Of course, you can just email your pledge amount to Bruce Dunn. Don’t forget to consider the ministries, where you may be able to provide your gifts, on the back of the form, as well. Do you need envelopes? Please jot that down on your pledge form as well. Include your envelope number if you have one.

After the service we will celebrate this generosity with a turkey dinner with all the fixings. There will be turkey and ham and rolls and all of your great salads, side dishes and desserts. 8:00ers, please come back. So, last name beginning A-L will bring appetizers or desserts, M-Z will bring side dishes or salads. All are welcome, because you are all welcome at God’s table.

As we round out the Stewardship season, we will keep you updated on pledge totals and budget information. Fr. Lance will be back and raring to go, just like the Bills for those of you waiting.

Peace people.



The Stitches are feeling very comfortable in our new room. A few shelving units have been ordered and installed along with some storage bins for all of our fabric and supplies. The group continues to work on our fleece hat project. By our next meeting we should have completed it. It was so great to see everyone work together because some of our members have never sewed but they were eager to learn to cut out and assemble the hats for those who do sew. Great work that will be enjoyed by many.

As we start the holiday season, we have a few new ideas for our next projects. Maggie Markham has assembled kits for us to sew Christmas trees. We are looking forward to getting the sewing done so that the trees can be distributed to our parish shut-ins and those in nursing homes. Also, one of the hospice care homes likes our prayer cards/prayer squares that we have created so we will be sewing and knitting more of those for distribution along with some prayer beads that Maggie has created for use. I would like to give a HUGE thank you to Karen Reiber for her donation of knitted hats with gloves to match. We are grateful to you and your creativity.

As a reminder, we meet every Thursday in the basement of the church (unless it is Book Club week) and we love anyone who is interested in joining us. We have many things that do not require sewing and it would be great to see all who are interesting in helping. It is not all work, we love to chat too. Thank you all for all you do to help us. If you have any questions please reach out to Pam Meyris at [pmeyris@rochester.rr.com](mailto:pmeyris@rochester.rr.com) or at 585-967-4670.

Speaking of the Book Club, our last meeting for the year is Thursday December 7 to discuss *Mistletoe Promise* by Richard Paul Evans. That's our last book for the year and we will have the 2024 schedule soon.



By Dianna Guerin

Sunday school is off to a great start! The kids recently celebrated Halloween and are starting to prepare for the Christmas pageant. Thank you to all of the families for your support and participation. All children are welcome to join us during the 10:15am service. And if you're interested in helping out with Sunday School, please contact [Dianna.guerin@gmail.com](mailto:Dianna.guerin@gmail.com).





## OUTREACH

*at Good Shepherd*

by Art Mason

As we enter the holiday season, there are often requests from needy individuals and organizations for financial donations or volunteer time. The Good Shepherd Outreach Committee has a long history of assisting anyone we can, with a focus especially on those requests that are familiar to our church or congregation.

One example that we anticipate will take place is a presentation by staff at Webster Comfort Care. For those who are not familiar with this hospice home, Outreach has donated funding and has members of our parish who offer to volunteer their time to help those who use their services. On Sunday, December 10th, Ellen Ralston is hoping to coordinate an informational presentation by their staff between the 8 and 10:15 services. Please watch for further information in the weekly service program and postings in the Narthex.

As always, if you know of a person or organization in need around the holidays, please contact someone on the Outreach Committee (Father Lance can tell you who!) so we can get more information.

If you are interested in joining the Outreach Committee, we would love to have you. Just let us know!



## Sharon White Earns Distinguished Service Award from Rochester District Golf Association (RDGA) by Tom Curtin

It was a distinct pleasure for me to be at the Ravenwood Golf Club on October 10<sup>th</sup> a few weeks ago. The RDGA was thanking its volunteers, sponsors, and special guests for another successful season of high-profile golfing events featuring our best local amateurs, college stars from all over the world, and nationally ranked amateurs.

As an RDGA volunteer, I had been a live scorer (taking scores as players came off the green and uploading them to the electronic leaderboard); and a starter on the first tee where I welcomed the players to the event and reviewed the ground rules for the day. I really enjoyed being an integral part of the events and getting to see some great golf.

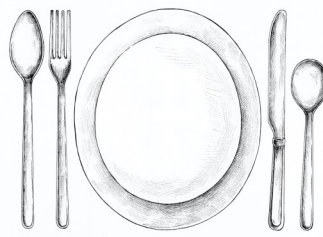
I had been recruited to the RDGA by our own Sharon White. Sharon is a Board of Director member and oversees the effort of recruiting and then assigning volunteers for each event. If you know Sharon, you know she brings a lot of energy to all her endeavors. Sharon knew of my passion for golf and invited me to join her crew. She doesn't take 'no' for an answer and I'm glad for that.

The day consisted of a round of golf, drinks and hors d'oeuvres with a brief program to honor some of the RDGA's best and brightest. The unexpected highlight of the day for me was watching Sharon get acknowledged for all of her hard work with an RDGA Distinguished Service Award.

Well done, Sharon!



Good Shepherd's own Sharon White accepts her RDGA Distinguished Service Award at Ravenwood Golf Club, October 10, 2023.



## MEAL MINISTRY

by Debra Nelson

Please call Debra Nelson at (585)671-5581 if you know of anyone in our church family who needs to have their meals prepared and delivered to their home AND/OR you are interested in preparing OR delivering meals to those in need.



*Dear Good Shepherd Members: You are the Body of Christ*

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.  
(1 Cor. 12:27)

We recently went through a very challenging time. Carol fell in July and broke her femur and was unable to bear any weight on her right leg for over eight weeks. Bob was the 24/7 caregiver for much of this time and found that one's age is more than a number. He also had two cataract surgeries during this period. We made it through relying on the Lord and all of you and especially your prayers. Without your support we're not sure what we would have done. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

You fed us marvelous meals three times a week, through the meal ministry coordinated by Debra Nelson. We can't tell you how much this helped by giving Bob a break from meal preparation a few times a week. God has blessed the many great cooks in the parish. Having helped cook meals for others in the past, it was a real eye opener for Bob to realize just how helpful this ministry can be.

You provided transportation for Bob for his cataract surgeries and a few trips to the store during periods he could not drive.

When Bob became exhausted, you provided personal care for Carol for a few weeks, many early mornings, and other times, which constituted love in action beyond the call of duty. Special thanks to Karyn Robbins and Bev Stohm for their love and devotion. Father Lance also gave Bob some TLC while he lived with the bending and reaching restrictions after cataract surgery.

We are grateful for your love and sacrifice during this time. Carol is now doing well after 11 weeks and outgrowing the cane. We are blessed to be part of the body of Christ that is Good Shepherd.

Blessings and Love,  
Carol and Bob Markham





## Holiday Food Drive

**Are you looking for a fun way for your family to learn the spirit of giving? Why not make a new Christmas tradition putting aside something at each meal? Help us fight hunger in Rochester! Please share your blessings with A Meal & More by filling an "Advent Box!"**

**Please bring your week of donations to church each Sunday. All donations go directly to serving the marginalized and homeless our Good Shepherd team serves at A Meal & More. If you have any questions, please call at 585-671-5581.**

**The following items are needed: 80 mens and 25 women's deodorants**

Juice boxes, water bottles, or other individual drink containers for bagged lunches

Fruit juices (Bottles of apple, orange, cranberry-apple)

Beef and chicken broth, chicken noodle soup, vegetable soup

Frozen or canned vegetables such as green beans, corn, peas, mixed vegetables – commercial size is recommended

Canned fruit – applesauce, mixed fruit, peaches

In addition to food, we need personal items such as soap, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, shampoo, socks and gloves

**Perishable foods are needed, too!**

(please put a post-it on the table in the Narthex telling us your perishable donations are in the FREEZER in Fellowship Hall)

Deli meat such as turkey, ham, bologna ... and cheese for making sandwiches

Holiday HAMS & Turkeys

**\*Large or commercial sizes** are preferred, but all donations will be gratefully accepted.

**\*Gift cards** to BJ's, Wegmans, Walmart, (or Visa or MasterCard) are also accepted and appreciated! Please put them in Chris Nuccitelli's or Debra Nelson's mailbox or hand them directly to them.

**LET'S MAKE THIS OUR BIGGEST HOLIDAY DRIVE EVER!!**



## INVITE WELCOME CONNECT

by Dawn Wilkins



In Isaiah 43:1 we read, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine". This is a Biblical quote that we have heard for many years. God knows us and calls us by name. Many, as long time parishioners, already know some names. As a welcoming community, we are encouraged to help know and to comfortably call each other by each person's chosen name.

To help this process, your Invite Welcome Connect steering committee is moving forward with getting new nametags for everyone. Each individual or family member, including children, will be able to choose a name tag style that is preferred. The choices will be with a pin, a magnet, or with a lanyard. The lanyards will be imprinted with "Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd" on a red ribbon. Each nametag will be an approximately 3"x4" clear sleeve with an insert that will have each person's name.

Over the next few weeks, please be looking for a display in the narthex or a message via an email. You will be asked to choose your preferred style and also how you want your name to appear - for example Kris or Kristine. To help facilitate the use of nametags, a storage/display board is being built, so we don't leave them at home or in the other purse/car.

Full implementation of nametags isn't expected to happen until very early 2024 but we want to be ready. Please stop at the display and choose your style. You can also respond via an email that will be sent. Our thanks to Tom Curtain and Roch Whitman for helping to facilitate this process.



<b>Gerald White</b>	<b>11/01</b>		
<b>Frank Barbato</b>	<b>11/02</b>		
<b>Adam Brashich</b>	<b>11/02</b>	<b>Jason Kuberka</b>	<b>11/17</b>
<b>Ellen Uhal</b>	<b>11/02</b>	<b>Bernie O'Sullivan</b>	<b>11/18</b>
<b>Carol Markham</b>	<b>11/04</b>	<b>Mackenzie Whitman</b>	<b>11/19</b>
<b>Nicole Peets</b>	<b>11/04</b>	<b>Ryan Yourch</b>	<b>11/19</b>
<b>Jaye Nitschke</b>	<b>11/05</b>	<b>James Cheney</b>	<b>11/20</b>
<b>Brady Giudice</b>	<b>11/05</b>	<b>Dianna Guerin</b>	<b>11/20</b>
<b>Paul Pfrommer</b>	<b>11/08</b>	<b>Sarah Mason</b>	<b>11/21</b>
<b>Joe Interlicchia</b>	<b>11/08</b>	<b>Natalie Martin</b>	<b>11/22</b>
<b>Marilyn Nuffer</b>	<b>11/09</b>	<b>Carol Reid</b>	<b>11/23</b>
<b>Ann Duke</b>	<b>11/10</b>	<b>Bev Verbridge</b>	<b>11/26</b>
<b>Aliyah Giudice</b>	<b>11/12</b>	<b>Elizabeth H. Ellison</b>	<b>11/27</b>
<b>Katie Crosby</b>	<b>11/13</b>	<b>Gwen Brennick</b>	<b>11/27</b>
<b>Ben Geloso</b>	<b>11/15</b>	<b>Sara Markovitz</b>	<b>11/27</b>
<b>Allison Mayer</b>	<b>11/15</b>	<b>Janet Dakin</b>	<b>11/28</b>
<b>Andy Ragan</b>	<b>11/16</b>	<b>Mary White</b>	<b>11/29</b>

## ***UPDATE on the ORGAN!***

by Karyn Robbins

Matt Parsons and members of his crew have been very busy at Good Shepherd. The following pictures tell it all.

The photos were taken in the basement under the organ. The organ solid-state computer is new. They will be connecting all the cables to this device.

Many wires are bundled within each cable. The last photo is the blower which was installed in 2000 when the organ arrived from Atlanta. It is deceiving, but the blower is huge! To install it, John Norris brought some of his mechanics from SeaBreeze with special equipment to hoist it into the basement.

Currently, Parsons Organ Builders are putting cables filled with wires under EVERY pipe! That's over 2,000 pipes!!! As soon as they receive all the materials that are being held up on the supply chain, they will be able to complete the project.

