



Friday Bulletin

Good Shepherd E-News

5 May 2023

**The Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd in Athens, Ohio**

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This Upcoming Sunday

Fifth Sunday of Easter

7 May 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Order of Worship (Bulletin)

Service: Holy Eucharist B

Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

Lector: Alex Buckley

Eucharistic Minister/Acolyte: Owen
Buckley

Eucharistic Minister/Prayer Leader:
Gregory Proctor

Altar Guild: Sally Spero

Coffee Hour Host: Lois Wagner

LESSONS for Fifth Sunday of Easter

New Testament – Acts of the Apostles 7: 55-60

Psalm – 31: 1-5, 15-16 (Sung)

Epistle – I Peter 2: 2-10

Gospel – John 14: 1-14



Reflection



Now What?

Wisdom in Commencement Speeches

In his commencement speech given to Philadelphia's University of the Arts in 2012, award winning writer Neil Gaiman confessed his regret of not listening to the advice given to him by author Stephen King: "Enjoy this." Gaiman said he was so consumed with worry over the question '*Now What?*' – what was he going to do now? Where was his next idea going to come from? – that he was not able to enjoy the people he met or places his writing took him. It took him a while to learn King's advice was good and Gaiman learned the more he enjoys the little unexpected side quests his work takes him on, the less he worries, the more he grows, and the more exciting projects he gets involved in.

In her commencement speech to Sarah Lawrence College in 2006, novelist Ann Patchett also addressed the power the question '*Now What?*' had over her throughout her life and education. She experienced anxiety whenever someone asked her that question and worried about what she was going to do next instead of being present to the moment she was in, which is what she needed to do in order to become a professional novelist. For Patchett, it wasn't until well after her formal education ended that she realized, "Even if you have it all together, you can't know where you're going to end up." Once she accepted this, she was able to achieve her goals.

University and college graduates aren't the only people who face the question, "*Now What?*" On Sunday I announced a big change for myself and for Church of the Good Shepherd as I have accepted the call to be the next rector of St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Minocqua, Wisconsin and will be leaving Athens in June. Immediately, I began hearing the worry and anxiety laced question, "*Now What?*" It is a legitimate question to ask. But just like the Ohio University graduates who will be facing that same question this weekend, if we spend our final weeks together stressing over the myriad answers to that question, we will miss out on an opportunity to be grateful, appreciate each other, and prepare for both our new transitions before I leave.

Now What? I can tell you: my last Sunday at Church of the Good Shepherd

will be Sunday, June 4. On Sunday, June 11 the Rev. Can. Michael Spencer, Transition Minister for the Diocese of Southern Ohio will be your supply priest and he will want to meet with the vestry after the service. He will have more information at that time to help you with the next steps.

For Now we have four more weeks together. During these four weeks I will continue to preach and celebrate on Sundays. I will chair the vestry meeting on May 18. I will be meeting with the wardens, working with Malin Irwin on starting up CrossRoads Café again. I will officiate at Julie Nehl's funeral service on May 24. I am available if you want to talk, just email me, or call me or text me to make an appointment.

For Now I pray we can listen to the wisdom of commencement speakers and resist the temptation to be anxious and worry so that our last four weeks together will be a time of gratitude and hope that will carry us both into our next transitions.

Many Blessings,

Mother Deborah

Coming up on the Calendar

Sunday, May 7, 10:30 a.m. - - Holy Eucharist (Sharing Cabinet)
Tuesday, May 9, 9:30 a.m. - - Prayer Shawl Group (Nehls)
Sunday, May 14, 10:30 a.m. - - Holy Eucharist
Thursday, May 18, 7:00 p.m. - - Vestry Meeting
Sunday, May 21, 10:30 a.m. - - Holy Eucharist (Discretionary Sunday)
Tuesday, May 23, 9:30 a.m. - - Prayer Shawl Group (Nehls)
Wednesday, May 24, 11:00 a.m. - - Julie Nehl's Service
Sunday, May 28, 10:30 a.m. - - Holy Eucharist

Looking Ahead

Wednesday, May 24, 11:00 a.m. - - Julie Nehl's Service

Schedules

Coffee Hour Schedule

May 7 Lois Wagner
May 14 Dana Carlson
May 21 Alex Buckley
May 28 Anne Walker

Open Dates for Altar Flowers

in May: 8th
in June: 4th, 18th, 25th

[To Altar Flower Open Dates and Procedure.](#)

Notes & Announcements



Congratulations OU Graduates!

We want to join with the rest of Ohio University in celebrating graduates this weekend. We wish you Godspeed as you transition into the next phase of your education or careers.

Passing of Tom Walker

We join with Anne Walker and her family as they grieve the loss of her husband Tom, a great friend of ours. Tom died on the morning of May 2. Our sympathies and prayers are with his family and many friends here in Athens.



The Sharing Cabinet

In late Fall of 2020, the four teams that prepared and served the hot lunches on Wednesdays, inspired by our creative Rector, came up with an idea to continue to offer food to our community. They found a small cabinet, put it on the front porch and have kept it stocked weekly with non-perishable items. We are not sure who takes the food, but folks who need it do. Often a team fills the cabinet on a

Monday and by Saturday the food is gone.

Beginning on the **first Sunday** in May, with approval from the Vestry at its April meeting, we are asking the parish to help continue to offer this important ministry. Vestry has budgeted \$1,000 toward the stocking of the cabinet, but, as we are all aware of the soaring prices of everything, this doesn't go very far. To stock the cabinet costs an average of \$70 per week. Our plan is to apply for a diocesan grant to help further fund this ministry. At the same time, we are asking parishioners for contributions, either monetary or in-kind non-perishable items.

Examples of non-perishables are easily-opened canned goods, rice, toilet paper, tooth paste, breakfast bars, etc. Unfortunately beans and lentils often sit for weeks and don't seem to be popular, at least for our guests.

The first Sunday of each month will be designated Sharing Cabinet Sunday. Should you wish to contribute you can do so in one of two ways: (1) using the envelopes in the pews marked "Sharing Cabinet", or (2) bringing any non-perishable items on the first Sunday of the month. We will store those in the pantry in Nehls Hall.

Thank you for your help in continuing this important outreach ministry at Good Shepherd.

The Sharing Cabinet Team

David Burton Sally Spero Lois Wagner Anne Walker

Final Update to Covid Memorial

Now that Covid-19 is no longer considered a national emergency, we will be making one final modification to our Covid Memorial to make it more stable and permanent and continue to use the parts of the Memorial that are beautiful and symbolic. You are invited to be part of this process.

Friday May 12

You are invited to help Michael remove the stained glass panels on the sides of the archways and then help him pound the archways into the ground. This will stabilize the archways so they won't fall over in the wind.

Sunday May 14 Please join us after the Sunday service to put the pieces of stained glass into new stepping stones that will be placed beneath the archways. The stepping stones will hold the pieces of stained glass that represent

the diversity of people impacted by the virus and our separation during the pandemic.

* The pieces of glass have sharp edges, so we suggest wearing gardening gloves.

We hope you will help us with this final change to our memorial, which continues to attract people from outside our community.



CrossRoads Café Has New Manager with New Responsibilities

We are excited to announce we have hired Malin Irwin as the new manager of CrossRoads Café. After several months observing the steady flow of people coming into the church throughout the day to visit the church Thrift Shop, Mother Deborah, Lois, both wardens, and the Vestry agreed to give the manager of CrossRoads Café the added responsibility of overseeing day to day operations of the thrift shop. Of course the manager will receive additional pay to reflect the additional responsibilities.

Malin will be starting in May, and after she receives training on the coffee shop equipment CrossRoads Café will be reopening.

We are excited to be bringing CrossRoads Café back and to be adding to it.

Repeats & More

If you want to help the folks who have been negatively impacted by environmental

disaster and war anywhere in the world please consider contributing to **Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)** which is the official ministry of the Episcopal Church. You can select which fund, such as Ukraine Crisis Response.



For Bishop Transition News and Updates

-- Follow this link --

Taking advantage of the break in the weather Thursday afternoon Mother Deborah captured some of the beauty around the church yard.









Contacts & Information

Contact Information

[DONATE to Good Shepherd](#)

For pastoral needs, please contact The Rev. Deborah Woolsey at 937-689-8895 (cell) or 740-593-6877 (church), or by e-mail at revdebwoolsey@gmail.com.

To find out more about Good Shepherd and other matters, please contact Alex Buckley, Senior Warden, at 740-593-5513 or by e-mail at macbuck@yahoo.com.

For maintenance matters, please leave a note at the office or contact Dana Carlson, Junior Warden, at 740-664-2022 or by e-mail at carlsondana@hotmail.com.

For emergencies, please call The Rev. Deborah Woolsey at 937-689-8895.

NON-emergency messages can be left on the church's answering machine (740-593-6877). The parish office administrator is Barbara Martin (740-593-6877) or barbara@chogs.org.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
Seeking and Serving Christ in All Persons

64 University Terrace, Athens OH 45701
740-593-6877
chogs@chogs.org
www.chogs.org

This takes you to the Parish Home page where you can donate on line via PayPal. If you have a preference, please indicate on the the "Add special instructions to the seller" section the purpose of the donation—e.g. Covid Memorial, plate collection, etc.

Check out the Church's [YouTube Channel](#).

LIKE us on Facebook [Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd 45701](#)

Office Hours:
10:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The Diocese COVID Guidelines request all persons wear masks inside the church building regardless of vaccination status.

Church of the Good Shepherd | 64 University Terrace, Athens, OH 45701

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