
Good News

SHEPHERD

Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens, Ohio

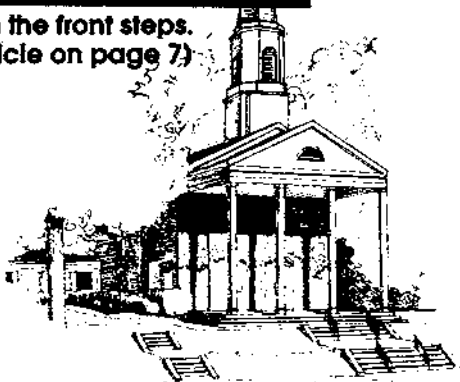
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**Construction on the front steps.
(see related article on page 7)**

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The Episcopal Church on the Campus of Ohio University
Since 1875 - Established 1907 - Parish 1958

*George Wilson
1990*



View from the Terrace

The following speech was delivered by Ohio University President Robert Glidden on May 31st at the Rally to support the Muslim Community.

We are here tonight in witness to our University commitment to *civility*, to *diversity*, to *respect for others*. We continue to state these values, but unfortunately not everyone is listening. Thanks for being here tonight, because I know you *are* listening!

We do not espouse these values just because they sound good and are "politically correct." We espouse them because we know that if everyone respects all others, if everyone understands civility and behaves accordingly, and if everyone appreciates the diversity of our community and our society, this will be a better world!

I am not an expert on the world's religions, but the understanding that I do have leads me to believe that these values are fundamental to all of the world's peoples whether their practice of faith be Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, Hindu, or any other.

In speaking to you this evening, I want to appeal both to your sense of community and decency, and to your logic and reasoning about the future of our planet as we become more and more a truly global society.

You see, our becoming a truly global society means not only that we have access to the world's markets, but also to the world's concerns. We must be cognizant not only of the opportunities presented by a global economy, but also of the challenges and responsibilities of a global economy.

First, a few comments about our values. Some of you have heard me say these things many times before, but I suppose some things cannot be reiterated too often.

I am speaking about what I consider to be *core values* that we hold dear at Ohio University, and the first of these is *respect*. Respect simply means treating others as you would like to be treated. It often means giving others the benefit of the doubt before coming to judgments about them. But universal respect can be a more difficult concept than it seems because most of us acquire biases and stereotypes as we grow up. We must constantly strive to set aside our biases and discover how refreshing it can be to view *all* others with the same respect we'd like them to show us.

Second, at Ohio University, we value *diversity*. We *learn* from the differences among us: differences in national origin or ethnic background, differences in the color of our skin, or in gender or sexual preference or religion. I've said many times that in our learning community we do not just tolerate the differences among us; we *celebrate* those differences because we know that in our common quest to be better citizens and better people, we can learn valuable lessons from one another. Tonight is an opportunity to learn about another religion and another culture. I am pleased that you are here to take advantage of the opportunity.

The third value that I will mention ranks on the same order as respect and diversity - it is *civility*. Civility is a critical characteristic of a learning community because it suggests the ability to disagree agreeably - to disagree agreeably! We are a community of ideas, and as an institution that welcomes diversity we celebrate different viewpoints and approaches. So it is only natural that we will not all agree all the time. We *learn* by listening to and considering ideas or beliefs that are different from ours, and by stating our own beliefs responsibly and with respect. Not much learning takes place if everyone has exactly the same ideas and the same viewpoints. Our learning community is an environment in which we enjoy different people and different ideas, we learn to appreciate those differences by being respectful, and we discuss our differences openly and eagerly without embarrassing or harassing others. We call that being civil!

Respect, Diversity, Civility - if we practice what we know in our hearts is right, those values will be a big part of what sets Ohio University apart from most universities and most communities. We ask everyone to contribute to our university culture as well as learn from it.

Now, I said that I will also try to appeal to your sense of reasoning about the future of the world as the globe gets smaller, so if I may, let

me turn from ideals to a set of realities that we in our affluent, comfortable culture recognize all too seldom if at all. The following data came to me just yesterday in an e-mail message. I do not know the source of this information - that is one of the problems of our Internet culture - but I have no reason to disbelieve any of these numbers. Here are some interesting statistics on the demographics of the world. If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look something like the following. There would be:

- 57 Asians among the 100
- 21 Europeans
- 14 from the Western Hemisphere, both north and south
- 8 Africans
- 52 would be female, 48 would be male
- 30 of the 100 would be white; 70 would be non-white
- 30 would be Christian; 70 would be non-Christian
- 89 heterosexual, 11 would be homosexual
- 80 of the 100 would live in substandard housing
- 70 would be unable to read
- 50 would suffer from malnutrition
- 1 would have a college education
- 1 would own a computer

When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for acceptance and understanding becomes glaringly apparent. The need for respect and civility and an appreciation for diversity is also glaringly apparent! That is why we are here together tonight.

Let us show our Muslim friends that we *do* care about them, that we do appreciate their contribution to our university community, that we respect their religion and culture, and that we value them as people and as friends, working together to make this a better world.

**Robert Glidden,
President of Ohio University**

Senior Warden's Comments



On June 2nd, Sr. Faith Margaret's sermon caught my attention - it was about faith. Let me share with you a part of this sermon.

"Faith is what enables us to live as people of God here, now, in the world today. Faith is the way we approach life: faith is a way of being, an *attitude*, the path we walk. Sometimes the path is obvious - very level, very straight. Sometime though it is rocky or steep or it twists around in an unexpected direction and our vision is less clear. Like the farmer who sowed his seed and some fell on fertile ground, some on ground with no depth, or rocky ground or the birds came by and ate it, we run into obstacles in our life of faith all the time.

We must remember to cling to what we know in the depths of our hearts rather than grasping for the doubts that assault our heads. But the doubts are there, and in some ways the doubts are *necessary*. Our doubts provide us the opportunity for a reality check; we are constantly colliding with things that *challenge* our faith as well as things that *nourish* it.

If we say we have faith and yet we are not in touch with reality, then our "faith" is blind. What do you suppose "blind faith" is worth? If we were not consciously making the choice and choosing the path of faith, would it be the same?

If faith is untested, is it still faith? Just how many ways are there to test faith?

Fredrick Buechner said: 'Faith is apt to be as limited as our capacity to doubt is limited.'

Faith also has an element of willingness to take the risk of being wrong. When we are able to keep our minds clear and continually place that faith, that risk-taking, in God, why then we are on the right track. Perhaps there are no guarantees, but our faith is our connection to God, is our gift to God - creator, redeemer, sanctifier, our light and salvation, our refuge, our rock and all the rest.

None of us can afford to let much time go by without resolutely reviewing the choices we make. We must strive towards faithful listening, towards obedience to the will of God, rather than merely paying lip-service. Each choice, each day, is an opportunity for reaffirming our allegiance to the God whose commandments are summed up in love."

Sr. FM, CHS

For me, my faith helps me keep my head on straight and helps me deal with all the problems (big and small) as they arise.

Sr. Faith Margaret led two discussion groups, held individual conferences and helped with a Healing Service and Eucharist during the weekend. She will return in October and I hope even more people will be able to attend events of that weekend. They are always inspirational.

Copies of Sr. Faith Margaret's sermon are available in the Parish Office.

Julia Nehls Senior Warden

Vestry Highlights (June 20, 2002)

- The budget is close to expectations at this point; we need to restore funds borrowed from the endowment for the steps.
- Approved recommendations from Worship Committee:
 - ⇒ A Choral Evensong including a celebration of Good Shepherd's 50th year on this site, to be held on All Saints day (November 1, 2002)
 - ⇒ A recommendation that someone be appointed to gather stories, interviews, etc., about Good Shepherd for the 50th celebration
 - ⇒ Evening Prayer on Wednesday evenings
 - ⇒ Explore having a service on September 11th
 - ⇒ Sunday September 15th will be Welcome Back Sunday including commissioning for Acolytes, Choir, Lectors, Chalice Bearers, Ushers, and Christian Formation participants
 - ⇒ A Commissioning service in January for Vestry and Altar Guild
 - ⇒ A recommendation that a study group about liturgy be formed
 - ⇒ The Vestry formally approved creating (now followed in practice) the voluntary position of Coordinator of Lay Ministries.
- A recommendation regarding the distribution of minutes was tabled until more details were made available.
- Planning for the Every Member Canvass and Audit are on track.

**Ted Foster,
Newsletter Editor**

Use of Good Shepherd Facilities

This summer the church is being used by a number of different groups. In June, a contingent of 20 young people and adult leaders from the Diocese of Texas arrived in the church parking lot packed into three vans. They stayed overnight en route from their work camp experience in West Virginia. Betty Larson provided hospitality.

For a second year, a group of young people from St. Paul's Church in Dayton used Good Shepherd as a launching pad (and feeding station) for their various work projects in Athens County. The weeklong activity was coordinated by Rural Action, and included moments of worship, prayer and reflection at the end of each day in the Bishop Black Chapel.

During the day in the Undercroft, the voices of 30 youngsters with the Kids on Campus program, wafted through the church offices, serving as a pleasant acoustical backdrop, complementing the guest organists rehearsing for Sunday services. Glenda Frost, parish administrator, made the arrangements for their classes.

Later this summer, the photo essay project of NAMI will be held once again in the undercroft. NAMI (National Alliance of the Mentally Ill) received considerable recognition for its previous work at Good Shepherd, published a book of photographs, and currently has an exhibit on display at Christ Church Cathedral in Cincinnati. Reid Sinclair has been a moving force behind NAMI's efforts.

It is also gratifying to note the Wednesday Lunch program continues to provide free meals for "all sorts and conditions" of people, and offers a regular forum for conversation and fellowship. Joanne Larson deserves credit for her leadership and coordination of the weekly event - open to all - throughout the summer.

We are pleased that we can share physical space and offer support to these worthwhile groups and organizations. This is a way in which our attractive buildings and facilities can be put to good use. It further helps us to fulfill our mission statement - rendering "worship, service and Christian hospitality," as well as provide opportunities to welcome the stranger.

The Rev. E. F. Michael Morgan
Rector

Attention All Parishioners

STEPS PROJECT

Good Shepherd's 50-year-old front and back steps have been replaced. The steps were originally done by Wes Thomas in 1952. In 2002 his sons Steve and Bob made the improvements - quite a coincidence.

In order to complete this much needed project we drew down \$5,600 from the Endowment. This was done with the promise of paying the money back into the Endowment. A promissory note has been written to that effect.

Now we need everyone's help to replace the money. Your donations may be made payable to Church of the Good Shepherd and marked STEPS and sent to the Parish Office.

Visible progress will be shown in some way (not sure how yet) in order to keep you informed. Watch for a report - perhaps in the bulletin or in the Undercroft.

Remember, we need your help ASAP.



The completed project!

Julia Nehls
Senior Warden

Small Mail

FAX

e-mail



Dear Good Shepherd Family:

Thank you so much for the wonderful books. They will make great additions to my collection.

I thank all of you for all of your love and support. I am comforted to know you are all there. I look forward to keeping updated as my life and I grow. Thanks again!

Jenny Spero,
OU Grad

Dear Good Shepherd Choir:

Thank you very much for your kind hospitality and for welcoming me into your group, even for such a short time. As a result, I deeply regret not having joined the choir earlier.

Matthieu Moss
OU Grad

Dear Good Shepherd Family:

I arrived here in New York amidst the maelstrom of Manhattan activity last Friday. And what a city! Being blessed with this opportunity I am beaming with enthusiasm and anticipation for adventures to come. I have not only my parents to thank for this singular experience, but also my dearest family at Good Shepherd.

In my mind's eye I conjure your faces before me and they flash as a myriad of colors and a thousand voices, each endowed with unique wisdom. Of all of the gifts that you have shared with me, three rise above the rest as a testament to the people of Good Shepherd - love, kindness, and generosity.

I hope that I too may always serve others with the sincere love that you have always shown me. From my family at Good Shepherd I have learned the truth of Christ's words:

I say unto you, Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you. For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth, and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. (Luke 11: 9-10)

Kate Ortman

New York, New York

Dear Church of the Good Shepherd:

On behalf of the Athens County Habitat for Humanity, Faith Build Coalition, I wish to thank you for the recent generous contribution of \$575.00 from the Talent Show. This donation and the donations of additional interested persons and churches will make it possible for all of us to combine our efforts in order to build and complete a 2nd Habitat home.

Suzanne Thompson
Faith Build Coalition

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Monday, July 1st:** Randy Purdy, birthday
Parish Health Ministry Meeting
7:00 p.m., Hobson Lounge
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Tuesday, July 2nd:** Jamie Tevis, birthday
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Wednesday, July 3rd:** Wednesday Free Lunch
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft
- Thursday, July 4th:** Gifford Doxsee, birthday
Bill Kaldis, birthday
Seabury Quinn, birthday
Megan Reilly, birthday
Parish Office Closed
- Friday, July 5th:** Ann Shelly, birthday
Parish Office Closed
- Saturday, July 6th:** Ruth Cox, birthday
Ultreya Potluck
5:30 p.m., Undercroft
Ultreya Meeting
6:30 p.m., Undercroft
- Sunday, July 7th:** Max Carney, birthday
Mark Shelly, birthday
- Monday, July 8th:** Richard & Jane Paynter, anniversary
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Tuesday, July 9th:** Keith Burke, birthday
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Wednesday, July 10th:** Alex Karageorge, birthday
Jessica Smith, birthday
Wednesday Free Lunch
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft
- Thursday, July 11th:** Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Friday, July 12th:** Kids on Campus, Undercroft

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sunday, July 14th: *Elsa Stout, birthday*
- Monday, July 15th: Rev. James Grooms, birthday
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Tuesday, July 16th: Kids on Campus, Undercroft
Parish Administrator out of office
- Wednesday, July 17th: Wednesday Free Lunch
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft
Parish Administrator out of office
- Thursday, July 18th: Ryan Burke, birthday
Vestry Meeting
7:30 p.m., Hobson Lounge
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Friday, July 19th: Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Sunday, July 21st: Dutch & Bonnie Savage, anniversary
- Monday, July 22nd: Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Tuesday, July 23rd: Emily Richards, birthday
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Wednesday, July 24th: Wednesday Free Lunch
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft
- Thursday, July 25th: Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Friday, July 26th: Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Sunday, July 28th: Bill & Elisabeth Shepherd, anniversary
- Monday, July 29th: Coretta King, birthday
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Tuesday, July 30th: Libby Shelly, birthday
Kids on Campus, Undercroft
- Wednesday, July 31st: Wednesday Free Lunch
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft