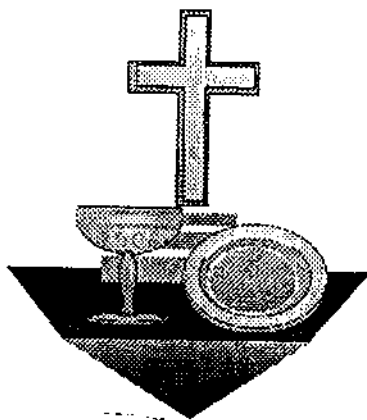

Good
SHEPHERD
News

Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens, Ohio

**November
2002**



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



View from the Terrace

Of late there has been this moldy smell in the utility room at home. Previously the water heater was the culprit, but now it seems that two leather briefcases have started their own ecosystems. So out they went, but their contents were relatively unharmed

- yellowed college writings of yours truly - a daily journal and experimental attempts at "angst" philosophy well suited to those dark times, the early sixties. Horrid writing skills and naïve philosophy to say the least! However there is the occasional gem and here is one short enough for re-printing. I think this piece was a "fable" exercise for a writing class at then Rio Grande College.

THE CATERPILLAR AND THE ROACH

Once upon a time there were two ugly creatures, the two ugliest creatures around: a gross wrinkled caterpillar and a huge hairy roach. This pair became best friends because of their gift to elicit louder screams and more hysteria at garden tea parties than any of the other creatures. The hairy roach lurked behind the salt shaker; the gross caterpillar dropped from branches onto cakes and cookies.

One day the caterpillar was doing something rather compulsive. Interested, the roach asked, "What are you doing?" "I am building a cocoon," the caterpillar replied. What is a cocoon?" "It is something instinct told me to build around myself and try real hard." "Try what real hard?" asked the perplexed roach. "I don't know, but instinct says just 'try' and everyone will be surprised."

In a few days the caterpillar emerged from his cocoon. The roach was indeed surprised and so was the caterpillar. The caterpillar lamented, "I shall never make the ladies scream looking like this." "Yes, you do certainly look awful," the roach affirmed.

The caterpillar was so ashamed he could not face his friends, so he flew off and never returned. The roach missed his comrade and decided that instinct is someone whose advise he would never take.

Morals - Beauty has no place at garden parties, or a little understanding of what is happening doesn't hurt.

Ted Foster,
Newsletter Editor

Senior Warden's Comments



*"All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures, great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all."*

C. J. Alexander

The Church of the Good Shepherd has had many blessings over the years. One of our most recent ones is Sr. Faith Margaret who comes to us from the Community of the Holy Spirit in New York City. She has provided retreats, quiet days, healing services and individual conferences for us for over a year. On October 6th, St. Francis Day, Sr. Faith Margaret was here to preach and to help with the blessing of the animals after church.

In her sermon Sr. Faith Margaret talked about St. Francis and his experiences and why we bless the animals on this day. She reminded us of how much we are blessed by our pets - how much companionship we receive from them. ". . . asking God's blessings on our pets . . . might be just a way of acknowledging to ourselves what a great gift animals are and all creation is."

This was truly a great day for all. The Rector and Sr. Faith Margaret did an admirable job with blessings and prayers for the cats, dogs, fish, and turtles.

Here are a couple of reminders for November.

On Sunday, November 1st, All Saints' Day, there will be an Evensong and reading of the Roll of the Dead. This service will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be followed by a reception in Hobson Lounge.

Sunday, November 3rd, we will celebrate Good Shepherd's 50th Anniversary on the present site. Following the 10:30 a.m. service there will be a potluck lunch to which everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Bring your "favorite dish" of salad, vegetables, or dessert and join the celebration. Meat, beverages, and birthday cake will be provided.

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, November 24th, when Bishop Thompson will be with us for confirmations and baptisms. There will be a reception following the 10:30 a.m. service honoring the Bishop as well as those who were confirmed and/or baptized.

Please note there will be no 8:00 a.m. worship services on November 3rd and 24th.

*"He gave us eyes to see them,
An lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well."
C. F. Alexander*



**Julia Nehls
Senior Warden**

Congratulations

Mike Morgan and Andy Morgan

for a great

3rd place finish

in their first appearance in the

**Father/Son
Indian Summer Run**

What is an Associate?

On Sunday, October 6th, it was my great pleasure to receive Julie Nehls as an Associate of the Community of the Holy Spirit. Lest you think that we are going to lure Julie away from her beloved Church of the Good Shepherd and Athens, Ohio, I thought it would be good to take this opportunity to give some information about what it means to be an Associate.

The Community of the Holy Spirit has about 700 Associates scattered around the country and a few in foreign countries. Associates are people (both lay and clergy) who seek an active affiliation with the Community, though they live "in the world." They take their life of prayer seriously, or want to take it more seriously; they feel the need to be associated with and supported by others who keep the same or a similar rule; they desire an affiliation that offers the promise of mutual intercessory prayer; they wish to be helped in their commitment by an accountability which is one of the features of a rule as established by a religious order. They also desire to be associated with the life and work of the Sisters, whether through prayer or through active involvement, and have a desire to share community life to some extent; they have a sense of the baptismal call to community, and wish to live it more fully. Associates also support the Sisters' works financially or by gifts of their time, as they are able.

If you would like additional information about the Associates, catch me the next time I am in Athens, or contact the Sister of Associates associates@chssisters.org, who will be able to answer your questions in more detail. Check out our web page www.chssisters.org. Ask to see the Rules of Life. Get to know the local Associates - Julie Nehls and Katherine Ziff. Also, several member of Good Shepherd are Associates of the Community of the Transfiguration in Cincinnati.

Sr. Faith Margaret, CHS





Notes from the Organ Bench

Beginning Wednesday, October 23rd, rehearsals will begin at 7:15 p.m. Advent Lessons and Music Anthems will be rehearsed from 8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. An extra rehearsal will be held in November and a dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 7th, from 10:00 a.m. - noon. That special service is Sunday, December 8th, at 4:00 p.m.

If you are not a regular choir member and would like to join us for the Advent Festival and/or the full Advent and Christmas seasons, please let Marsha Reilly know by November 10th so we can plan accordingly.

On Sunday, October 27th, Ann Rathbun has graciously agreed to offer a hand bell workshop after church in the Undercroft. Now's your chance to try playing a hand bell!

We welcome the following new members to the choir - Nicole Grabowski, Laura Reams, Gordy Ruchti, Ce Ci Ruchti, and Jacob Conklin, tenor Vocal Music Assistant.

Marsha Reilly,
Music Director



Excerpts from St. Francis' Day Sermon

Most High, Glorious God, enlighten the darkness of our minds. Give us a right faith, a firm hope and a perfect charity, so that we may always and in all things act according to Your Holy Will. Amen.

Sr. Francis' Vocation Prayer

Once upon a time, some years ago, in a city not too far from here or from home, during my first year of college, I believe I learned a lot. Much of what I learned occurred in academic subjects, in classrooms, and through hard work. One of the most important lessons I learned was to find out when parent's weekend was scheduled... and be sure to make plans; that is plans to go home. The crowds on campus that weekend were enough to set my head spinning. The simplest solution seemed to be to get out of town....

Today I have quite a similar experience with the St. Francis Day celebration at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. This year I have the great, good fortune to be here in Athens, but in years that God doesn't smile so graciously on me and I find myself in New York, two short blocks from the Cathedral, I hide in my office on the fourth floor and don't go out until I'm quite sure that Morningside Heights has had an opportunity to recover from the onslaught of dogs, cats, gerbils, guinea pigs, ferrets, parakeets, and the occasional elephant, llama, camel, boa constrictor, or mynah bird, not to mention their sometimes eccentric owners, making their way to, from and around the Cathedral and the Close. The grand scale of doing things in that place overwhelms me and I know that for my own mental stability it is wise to keep a safe distance...

In another *big* church, the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, the Franciscan guides point out a fresco that they affectionately refer to as "The Hitchhiking Madonna." This fresco shows The Virgin Mary holding the infant Jesus with two men looking on, St. John the Evangelist and St. Francis. The Franciscans indicate that Jesus is obviously asking St. Mary which one of the two he should love the most and that as she point to Francis, John is awfully peeved. This is a nice story, and certainly takes artistic license very liberally, given the eleven centuries between when Christ lived and Francis lived.

Still in all, St. Francis of Assisi is probably one of the most widely known and greatly loved of all the saints. There are many, many stories associated with St. Francis - we actually do know quite a bit about him. We see likenesses of him in gardens everywhere, holding his hands out and birds perching on them. Yes, he stands under the Dogwood tree in our little garden in New York City. Francis is the patron saint of animal

lovers, peacemakers, and ecologists for we know from a variety of sources that Francis loved animals, the poor and marginalized, peace and all of God's good creation. Francis' famous peace prayer, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace" is well used by people even in our own day, or maybe I should say especially in our own day. Given all these admirable characteristics, who wouldn't love St. Francis? What is there not to love?

Francis was a mystic. Somehow he recognized in his very core the intricacies of how all God's creation, the whole universe, is connected - he knew all about it in his heart before he ever needed to understand it with his brain. From what I've learned of "the Saints", and St. Francis is undoubtedly no exception, they may be "Holy People", but they are often not so wonderful to live with. Temperamental, odd, eccentric... these are all words that describe many of the saints, right along with "holy."...

Francis was born into a wealthy family and was popular as a youth in Assisi. He had a great enthusiasm for life. He dreamt once as a young man that he was in a room filled with armor and Jesus told him that he wanted him to be high knight. He had rather a romantic notion of what it meant to be a knight - visions of vanquishing dragons and rescuing fair maidens, perhaps. When he went off to war, his father...outfitted him with the best armor money could buy. He no sooner got underway when he ran into a seasoned old knight who was equipped with very poor armor; Francis' normal, generous nature got the best of him. He was convinced that the knight had more right to wear the beautiful armor than he did and so he gave it to him and went into battle entirely unarmed himself. He was captured and imprisoned and became seriously ill. By the time he was ransomed and recovered, he realized that something was clearly "off" about the way he was responding to his vision...; if this is what Jesus wanted from him, it surely wasn't making sense to him.

Then there was the vision he had when he was praying in the Church of San Damiano just outside of town. The beautiful painted crucifix practically came alive and spoke to him, telling him to rebuild the church. Again taking it at face value, Francis ran home to his father's shop and took yards and yards of expensive cloth which he sold to raise money to get materials to build the church. His father was furious and Francis had to hide in the caves outside the city to keep safe from his father's anger.... Eventually Francis returned the money to his father, and then in symbolic action before the Bishop of Assisi, Francis gave his father even the clothes off his back and said that he had no father except his Father in heaven.

And so he withdrew from town, and stone by stone, as he was able to raise money or materials ..., he re-build three decaying church buildings in and around Assisi. Again, it felt "off." Finally...he realized that Christ was asking him not to repair specific deteriorated buildings, but to rebuild the Church - with a capital "C." This required efforts of a different sort, and so he took it on too. He began to preach to the rich and the poor - with rather a preference for the poor. He ministered to the lepers whom at one time he wasn't even able to think about let alone get near or touch. He was not a forceful or particularly eloquent preacher, but he spoke sincerely and gently and his genuine love for others was apparent. He touched their hearts because he was prepared to share his life with them.

Like Francis, most of us don't always "get it right" the first time around. We move forward in fits and starts; sometimes taking one step forward and two backward. If we are really listening to God, and trying to do what we truly believe God is asking of us, then the pureness of heart and pureness of living which that requires...enables us to make great strides in spite of ourselves....

So what is it that we are "supposed" to learn from St. Francis? Maybe in his childlike innocence and determination St. Francis shows us that "The Way" might look completely different from what we expect. That God's Way might be something that looks more like perseverance in the face of uncertainty. Maybe the lesson we can learn from St. Francis today is the lesson that being faithful is more valuable than Being Right; that humility and unknowing are a more appropriate response to God than certainty and knowledge. That it isn't always foolish to take a risk, sometimes it turns out to be the best way forward. That if we surround ourselves with "stuff" then we are insulating, even isolating, ourselves from each other and worse, from God. That it is possible to do the right thing for the wrong reason or, if we aren't careful, the wrong thing for the right reason. Perhaps abandoning our pride of self may be the way to begin to understand God. Or, in the words of St. Francis' famous prayer, that it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Sources:

GK Chesterton: St. Francis of Assisi
Br. Jon Bankert, SSF

Sr. Faith Margaret, CHS



Worship News

The next two months will offer many opportunities for us to come together and worship.

During the month of November, Good Shepherd is assigned to lead the service at the Southeast Psychiatric Hospital on Sundays. The service begins at 6:00 p.m. at the Hospital. All are invited to join in the service. If you have any questions, please contact Jan Gault, Lynn Graham, or Jeanne Wells.

Every Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m., Evening Prayer is lay lead. The service is held in the choir pews. If you are interested in leading a service, please contact Marsha Dutton or Lynn Graham.

On Friday, November 1st - All Saints' Day - a Choral Evensong will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Nave. The Rev. Mike Morgan will be the celebrant and The Rev. Dutch Savage will read the Lessons and the Roll of the Dead. After the service a reception will be held. Please submit names of those who have died since November 1, 2001, to Glenda Frost, Parish Administrator, by Thursday, October 31st.

On Sunday, November 3rd, Good Shepherd will celebrate its Golden Anniversary at its present location. This will be a milestone to celebrate. A potluck will follow the service (meat, beverages and birthday cake provided). Bring your favorite vegetable dish, salad, or dessert to share. A copy of "Fifty Years of Memories" will be given to those in attendance. Please submit your "Remembrance" for the booklet to Glenda Frost, Parish Administrator, by Monday, October 28th. PLEASE NOTE - no 8:00 a.m. service will be held on this Sunday so that all can join in the festivities after the service.

Rite I will be celebrated at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, November 17th.

Bishop Herbert Thompson will be with us on Sunday, November 24th for his annual visitation. There will be baptisms and confirmations held on this date. A reception will be held after the service so that parishioners may greet and talk with Bishop Thompson and welcome our newly baptized and confirmed to the Good Shepherd family. Again, PLEASE NOTE - no 8:00 a.m. service will be held on this Sunday.

Beginning with Advent, December 1st, Rite II-B will be celebrated until the Christmas season.

The Annual Advent Festival of Lessons and Music will be held on Sunday, December 8th, at 4:00 p.m. The Nine Lessons and Carols service will be Sunday, December 22nd. The Christmas Eve service will be held on December 24th with music beginning at 10:00 p.m. and the service beginning at 10:30 p.m.

**Lynn Graham,
Worship Committee**

Meeting Schedules

Those of you have to hold meetings at the church must remember to schedule those meetings with Glenda in the church office.

If this isn't done, you may find yourself without a space to meet on any given day or time.

**Julia Nehls,
Senior Warden**

**GOLDEN
ANNIVERSARY**

**Good Shepherd on
University Terrace**

**COME TO THE PARTY
Sunday, November 3rd**

**Get your copy of
"Fifty Years of Memories"**

**POTLUCK TO FOLLOW SERVICE
(meat, beverages, and
birthday cake provided)**

**Bring your favorite
Vegetable Dish,
Salad, or Dessert**

November Worship Schedule

Friday, November 1st: Choral Evensong Rite I
Roll of the Dead
7:00 p.m., Nave

Sunday, November 3rd: Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
Holy Eucharist Rite II
3:00 p.m., The Lindley Inn

Wednesday, November 6th: Evening Prayer
5:30 p.m., Choir Pews

Sunday, November 10th: Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave

Wednesday, November 13th: Evening Prayer
5:30 p.m., Choir Pews

Sunday, November 17th: Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
Holy Eucharist Rite II
2:00 p.m., The Lindley Inn

Wednesday, November 20th: Evening Prayer
5:30 p.m., Choir Pews

Sunday, November 24th: Holy Eucharist Rite II
Baptisms and Confirmations
Bishop Thompson's Official Visitation
10:30 a.m., Nave

Wednesday, November 27th: Evening Prayer
5:30 p.m., Choir Pews

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Saturday, November 2nd: Ultraya Potluck
 5:30 p.m., Undercroft
 Ultraya Meeting
 6:30 p.m., Undercroft
- Sunday, November 3rd: Adult Discussion Group
 8:30 a.m., Hobson Lounge
 Adult Inquirer's Class
 11:30 a.m., Hobson Lounge
 All Parish Celebration and Potluck
 following service, Undercroft
- Tuesday, November 5th: Betty Larson, birthday
- Wednesday, November 6th: Adam Hillard, birthday
 Carolyn Murphree, birthday
 Free Wednesday Lunch
 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft
 Confirmation Class
 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Hobson Lounge
 Choir Rehearsal
 7:15 p.m., Nave
- Saturday, November 9th: Greek Orthodox Services
 8:30 a.m., Undercroft
- Sunday, November 10th: Adult Discussion Group
 8:30 a.m., Hobson Lounge
 Adult Inquirer's Class
 11:30 a.m., Hobson Lounge
- Tuesday, November 12th: Thomas Walker, birthday
- Wednesday, November 13th: Free Wednesday Lunch
 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft
 Confirmation Class
 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Hobson Lounge
 Choir Rehearsal
 7:15 p.m., Nave
- Thursday, November 14th: Ingrid Buckley, birthday
- Saturday, November 16th: David Burton, birthday

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Sunday, November 17th:** **Tiffany Sherman, birthday**
Adult Discussion Group
8:30 a.m., Hobson Lounge
Adult Inquirer's Class
11:30 a.m., Hobson Lounge
- Tuesday, November 19th:** **Jon Sinclair, birthday**
- Wednesday, November 20th:** **Free Wednesday Lunch**
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft
Confirmation Class
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Hobson Lounge
Choir Rehearsal
7:15 p.m., Nave
- Thursday, November 21st:** **Keith Lackey, birthday**
- Saturday, November 23rd:** **Jason Hillard, birthday**
Penny Karageorge, birthday
- Sunday, November 24th:** **Adult Discussion Group**
8:30 a.m., Hobson Lounge
Bishop Herbert Thompson's Visitation
- Tuesday, November 26th:** **Allyn Reilly, birthday**
Terrie Sherman, birthday
- Wednesday, November 27th:** **Free Wednesday Lunch**
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Undercroft
- Thursday, November 28th:**
Jim & Angela Karageorge, anniversary
Parish Office Closed
- Friday, November 29th:** **Sarah Jones, birthday**
Benjamin Ziff, birthday
Curtis & Terrie Sherman, anniversary
Parish Office Closed
- Saturday, November 30th:** **Watts/Hillard Wedding**
5:30 p.m., Nave