

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
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Athens, Ohio 45701

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THE
CHURCH
OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
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Good
SHEPHERD
News
Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens, Ohio

December
2003



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

George Wilson
2003

In the Interim . . .

A few weeks ago Christy Ortman and I hosted a gathering of undergraduate and graduate college students for a light evening meal and discussion. We had thought there would be nine young people join us; we dined with four. We talked informally and then as a group about what had brought us and kept us in the church, and, then, about how Good Shepherd might be supportive of them as students in their life on campus.

I listened, took notes, and reflected. The main thrust of the four students present was how important it had been for them that people at Good Shepherd had related to them *as people*. Each had in some way felt as if they had been "seen" and "heard" by others at Good Shepherd. As a result they felt *connected* to this church.

As I listened and reflected I noticed something about these four people. I had personally, in some way connected with each of them in a meaningful way during my time at Good Shepherd and I thought "That is one of the big reasons they are here tonight."

I have since become more aware of the importance of this "connecting" at other times at Good Shepherd: in the groups of "four" that do small group sharing in the contemplative prayer sessions; following on the Sunday morning adult education sessions when people naturally "group up" by twos, threes, or fours; the same at coffee hour. A student showed up "by mistake" at a 9 a.m. Sunday session thinking that was the time for worship (she had read about the time in one of our emails). In the session we talked about Good Shepherd and its future and the student "pitched right in." Afterward I saw her talking with our members and later, after the Eucharist, she came to me and offered to help out in the nursery and at the Wednesday lunch. She had "connected," and wanted more!

Advent is a time in which we look forward to celebrating the great cosmic connecting of God with us and with all things in Christ, Emmanuel, "God with us." We are invited, again and again, to find our connection with others and with all of creation through our relationship with Christ. While not one of my favorite ways of talking about this, my more evangelical brothers and sisters do ask an important question: "Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ?" I like the way John puts it in an affirmative statement in his first letter: "We declare to you what we have seen and heard *so that* you also may have fellowship with us; and *truly* our fellowship is with the Father and his Son Jesus Christ." (1 John 1:3). Now, that's connected!

Michael Jupin, Interim Priest

Worship Committee Notes . . .

The Worship Committee met on Thursday, November 20th, 2003. A THANKSGIVING SERVICE will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 27th.

ADVENT begins Sunday, November 30th, with Morning Prayer led by the Rev. Dutch Savage. There will be no 8:00 a.m. service on that day. The committee discussed which Eucharistic Prayer to use during Advent. Rev. Jupin will provide the committee with alternative Eucharistic Prayers from *Enriching our Worship* for the committee to review and comment on. Rev. Jupin and Marsha Reilly will select a new Fractional Anthem to be used during Advent.

The Annual ADVENT FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND MUSIC will be held on Sunday, December 7th, at 3:00 p.m. in the Nave.

CHRISTMAS EVE will have two services this year. The first service will be an intergenerational service at 4:30 p.m. The regular Christmas Eve Service will begin at 10:00 p.m. with special music provided by the Choir and the Organist, Marsha Reilly.

A NEW YEAR'S EVE Eucharist will be held at 4:00 p.m. in the Church Chancel.

A discussion was held by the committee on which Eucharistic Prayer is most appropriate for festal services. The committee will continue its discussion of this topic in future meetings.

The use of the Prayers of the People in the service was discussed. Rev. Jupin provided the committee with resources. One option is to adapt the prayers that are found in the Prayer Book. Another option is for participants to write their own prayers. Training and a commitment to writing of the prayers would need to be discussed. This will be discussed further by the committee when they have had time to review and reflect on the use of the Prayers of the People.

Jack Flemming is in contact with Kay Sturm regarding a training session for those who wish to be licensed as Lay Eucharistic Ministers II. A date, time, place and cost will need to be determined with the Diocese.

Leslie Flemming suggested that we incorporate birthday and anniversary blessings into the service. Both Leslie and Matthew Adeyanju have been in congregations where this has been part of the

service. It was decided this blessing could be incorporated into the service at the end of the Prayers of the People. Matthew also recommended that a special box be made so that those being blessed could drop in coins for any special thanks they wish to acknowledge. This special blessing of birthdays and anniversaries will begin in January 2004.

There has been concern expressed about the frequency of the monthly potlucks. It was the consensus of the committee that the potlucks should continue. The Marthas will be contacted to provide a checklist for cleaning up the kitchen. If a checklist is not available, it will be requested that a checklist be developed so that the group who is doing the clean up will be aware of what is expected. Since the potlucks fall under the Parish Life Committee, Lynn will work with Matthew Adeyanju to line up different church groups to sponsor the monthly potluck. The group that sponsors the monthly potluck will also be encouraged to develop a program. There will be no potluck in December. The next potluck will be Sunday, January 4th, 2004.

Leslie Flemming reported that there might be a former parishioner who might be interested in paying for the cost of the Ambry Light as a memorial. Rev. Jupin and Leslie will follow up with this person regarding the Ambry Light.

Members of the Worship Committee are Matthew Adeyanju, Leslie Flemming, Lynn Graham – Chair, Rev. Michael Jupin, Julie Nehls, Christy Ortman and Marsha Reilly. If any parishioners have suggestions or comments, please speak to one of the above mentioned. The next committee meeting is planned for Wednesday December 10th.

Lynn Graham **Worship Committee Chair**

EPISCOPAL LIFE, the national publication of the Episcopal Church, is available at the group discount rate of \$ 7.80 and is delivered to your home address. Sign up in church or call the church office at 593-6877 by Wednesday, December 10 (rates go up December 15). Make checks out to "Church of the Good Shepherd."

Advent Festival of *Lessons & Music*

Sunday, December 7th, 3:00 p.m.
Church of the Good Shepherd
64 University Terrace - 593-6877

Choir, Handbells, Vocal & Instrumental Soloists
Jan Robison, Organist
Marsha Reilly, Conductor

Reception Following - Childcare Provided

News from the Pews...

Congratulations to the eminent usher **James Anastas & Lynn Patton** on their recent marriage.

Honor rollees at Athens and Federal Hocking High Schools respectively are **Matthew Adeyanju, Ce Ci Ruchti, and Kelsey Lackey**.

Great job helpers: **Gene Jennings** assisted with the fall clean-up at the Emeriti Park; **Jeff Maiden** has given significant help in the designing of the bike path extension to the east of the treatment plant; **Betty and Larry Larson** have moved the Athens County Food Pantry supplies to a new location; and **June Wieman** assisted with the ABC Quilts last summer that will be on exhibit at the Athens Library in December.

Soon after settling in at the University of Toulouse, France, **Marsha Dutton** was off to an abbey, planning conference. She returns to the states before Christmas.

Reid Sinclair,
Roving Reporter

View from the Terrace

When acquaintances write, one reads. In regards to the following two authors it was certainly a pleasure. Outside of being Kentuckians these folks could hardly be more different as individuals, but as writers they are good at their craft and are wonderful observers.

First, is our very own Jamie Griggs Tevis, where in *My Life With the Hustler* (Great Unpublished.com, 2003) she writes about her 27 year marriage to a basically good and tremendously gifted, but existentially troubled, alcoholic husband and father (Walter Tevis, author of *The Hustler* and basis for the movie starring Paul Newman). It would be very easy for Jamie to be awash in self pity or to be unkind or accusatory but this memoir is an unflinching honest, portrayal what it takes to hold a family together and then the subsequent process of coping and recovery after the family grows up and marriage ends. You must read the rest of the book first, but to me Jamie's 'Death Note' to friends and "Jamie's Letter to Walter" (March 2002 about 18 years after his death) comprise especially poignant summations. The book also includes contributions by friends, colleagues, students – about Walter Tevis as a writer, Walter vis-à-vis characters in his novels, a nice bibliography, and more. Walter himself has the last word in a newspaper interview where he explains why he had to break away to New York to live his dream, his subsequent writing success, and noting his psychological modus operandi that "good, serious, hard-core alcoholics are gentle and charming people" well suited to easily exploit others. Written in precise, conversational style Jamie Tevis paints a powerful portrait of the discordant cycles of enabling the coping, cycles of joy and despair, in living so long with a gifted man of internal conflicts she loved very much.

The other author is Bob Sloan, a friend of my brother. Sloan is in his true element when spinning a good yarn on the interpersonal dynamics of mountain Appalachia, either on paper or in person at the Blue Gator. He is a frequent contributor to National Public Radio, and has published numerous short stories in literary magazines. Bob and his wife, Julie, live on the family farm near Morehead. The book is *Bearskin to Holly Fork, Stories from Appalachia* (Wind Publications, 2003) comprises of 15 true stories about individuals, usually a wash in alcohol, coping with predicaments often of their own wistful, yet tough, hard as nails. Sloan spins his stories in efficient honest prose, crafted to say just enough. As one reviewer wrote, these stores "fall from the pen

the way leaves fall from trees; some cosmic force helping them find their place." Their being rich with humor, irony, Sloan's yarns are fun to read. They are laced with the colorful vocabulary of the Appalachian culture – "hesitant, like a fat man descending a ladder." But they also have a serious dimension and are also very well crafted to illustrate humanity and dignity in characters we might think as losers in situations bordering on the criminal – assisted suicide, getting even, getting away with murder – sort of... Being a product of Appalachia himself, Sloan knows these people well; his writing is not overdone or contrived. The reader will care about these people warts and all.

Ted Foster,
Newsletter Editor

Diocesan Convention Reports

On Saturday morning of Convention, I attended a workshop on Building Multicultural Communities in Southern Ohio. The workshop was hosted by Rev. Richard Aguilar, Rev. Paula Jackson and Rev. John Nganga. In the 45 minutes we attendees were provided with a lot of information but little time for questions or interaction regarding our specific locales. The workshop was helpful in giving an overview of the basic dynamic involved. The most helpful was a bibliography on developing multicultural communities, which I will be happy to share if anyone is interested.

Lynn Graham

Bishop Thompson began the convention by strongly stating that the church would not be distracted by the turmoil with regard to the actions of General Convention. The theme, "One Faith, One Hope, One Baptism" underlined his remarks which reminded us that we are to be evangelists, each person bringing one new person to the church by 2005. Working together in an atmosphere of respect was something evident in this enormous group of delegates, both lay and clergy, who listened, discussed, and voted on the various resolutions. The resolution asking for Diocesan support for campus ministries was resoundingly passed. I imagine that for the next year much planning will need to be done so that financial support for campus ministries can be a line item in next year's budget. This was my first time to attend a convention and I came away from it with lots to consider. It was a unique opportunity and gave me some insight into the workings of the church.

Rev. Michael Jupin

December Worship Schedule

Wednesday, December 3rd: Midweek Eucharist
5:30 p.m. Nave
Rev. Michael Jupin, Presiding

Thursday, December 4th: Evening Prayer & Meditation
5:30 p.m., Nave
Lynn Graham, Leader

Sunday, December 7th: Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Bruce Ergood, Lector
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
Don Frazier, Lector
Jack & Leslie Flemming, Chalice Bearers
Ann Rathbun & Arvin Wells, Ushers
Bethany Miller & Ilona Carlson, Acolytes
Advent Festival of Lessons & Music
3:00 p.m., Nave
Rev. Michael Jupin, Presiding

Wednesday, December 10th: Midweek Eucharist
5:30 p.m. Nave
Rev. Michael Jupin, Presiding

Sunday, December 14th: Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Robert Glidden, Lector
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
Robert Shelly, Lector
Matthew Adeyanju & Ann Shelly, Chalice Bearers
Anne Braxton & Preston Denton, Ushers
Paul Denton & Shannon Parsons, Acolytes
Holy Eucharist Rite II
2:00 p.m., Lindley Inn Assisted Living Facility
Rev. Michael Jupin, Presiding

Wednesday, December 17th: Midweek Eucharist
5:30 p.m. Nave
Rev. Michael Jupin, Presiding

December Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 21st: Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Bruce Ergood, Lector
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
Sandi White, Lector
Jane Ergood & Lynn Graham, Chalice Bearers
Curt & Terrie Sherman, Ushers
Michael Adeyanju & C. J. Auflick, Acolytes
Rev. Michael Jupin, Presiding

Wednesday, December 24th: Intergenerational Service
4:30 p.m., Nave
Participants TBA
Festal Nativity Eucharist
10:00 p.m., Nave
Karen Evans-Romaine, Lector
Matthew Adeyanju, Chalice Bearer
Jim Mowery & Arvin Wells, Ushers
Paul Denton, Ce Ci Ruchti, Acolytes
Bethany Miller, Ilona Carlson, Acolytes
Michael Adeyanju, C. J. Auflick, Acolytes
Rev. Michael Jupin, Presiding

Sunday, December 28th: Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Lynn Graham, Lector
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
Alex Buckley, Lector
Jack & Leslie Flemming, Chalice Bearers
Matthew Adeyanju & Joanne Larson, Ushers
Gordy Ruchti & Ce Ci Ruchti, Acolytes
Rev. Michael Jupin, Presiding
Noonday Prayers
2:00 p.m., Lindley Inn Assisted Living Facility
TBA, Leader

Wednesday, December 31st: New Year's Eve Eucharist
4:00 p.m., Nave
Participants TBA

Pets and People

Thanks to the efforts of Bruce and Jane Ergood, we can support the Episcopal Relief and Development fund by buying Bishop's Blend coffee. I discovered this fund when I read the following eMo from Barbara Cawthorne Crafton, a priest and writer, who lives in Metuchen, New Jersey. I hope it moves you as much as it did me. Barbara's "almost-daily eMo's" are meditations that come via e-mail. A little background: Santana is Barbara's daughter Anna's cat. Barbara and her husband Q were temporarily taking care of Santana, who is now fully recovered and back in his own home. If anyone would like to join Barbara's list and receive the eMo's, please send me a message at LFLLEMMIN@columbus.rr.com. I'll be happy to add your name.

Leslie Flemming

PETS AND PEOPLE

August 27, 2003

"Come on, Santana. You like this. It's liver."

The cat's mouth remains stubbornly closed -- their jaw muscles are surprisingly strong. There is a place in between the front fangs and the back teeth, however, in which you can insert a fingernail and begin to pry. I do this for a bit, while Q holds the cat as if it were a baby. Eventually, though, we find it works better just to smear some on his nose and let him lick it off. Cats are too fastidious to walk around with liver on their noses.

In the end, he has eaten a good half of what we fed him; we are festooned with the rest. Most of Santana's nourishment comes from an IV bag of lactated Ringer's solution, but Anna says we should keep feeding him actual food, even if it's only a little. I think he feels better when he eats, she said. I hope so.

Something unknown is wrong with Santi's liver. A sudden decrease in desire to cuddle was the first clue, along with not eating and vomiting -- vomiting is not a productive activity for those who don't eat. And so he is at his grandparents' Geranium Farm, close to the doctor who cares for him, while my daughter is in the city. And we give him pills and liquid vitamins, feed him by hand, hydrate him twice a day with the IV. Today, he's going for a sonogram. I've had those.

I am acutely aware -- almost paralyzingly so -- that human beings are dying by the thousands every day, for lack of the care we are lavishing on a cat. That the IV bag that hangs from the canopy of the bed in the India Room, with its daily supply of fresh sterile disposable needles would be seen as an unbelievable luxury by doctors struggling to hydrate a cholera victim by mouth. Our love for this delightful furry little beast is nothing compared to the way a mother or father loves a child. What is it to watch your child dying unnecessarily? To know that it is an accident of birth in one country, rather than in another, that is killing him?

Spoil your pets if you delight in doing so. Spare nothing in caring for them, if you love them and if you have the means. But let it be a sign unto you. Let it be a sacred call: match what you spend in caring for the animal in giving to the medical relief of the poor. Do it twice: once for the furry bundle on your lap and once for someone else's baby, so he can grow into a child you will never meet but to whom you will be related. You will have saved his life.

Episcopal Relief and Development is my favorite way of doing this: 100% of its proceed go directly to the suffering, and the Episcopal Church picks up its administrative costs separately, which means that it can move very quickly into emergency situations. Their website, <http://www.er-d.org>, discusses the areas in which they are active right now.

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Wednesday Lunch Report

At our Thanksgiving Free Lunch we were so grateful to the cast of thousands (well, it seemed that way!) who brought in food and worked in the kitchen and gave donations. And that included Kroger's who gave us a \$25 gift certificate.

I know from their comments to us that our guests were grateful as well.

Thanks you and thanks be to God.

Joanne Larson,
Co-ordinator

Vestry Highlights

- Bob Shelly opened the meeting by leading Vestry through a prayer exercise. We had time to reflect upon Paul's message of being able to be content with nothing while in prison. We shared ideas concerning available resources in our church, what is a favorite pastime each of us may have that is free or nearly so, and the ability to be content with very little
- The treasurer, Jack Flemming, led us through a financial report that he had prepared remarking, "Financially we're on a reasonably even keel."
- The Christian Ed report was made by Michael Jupin.
 - ⇒ Our new nursery attendant for Sunday morning is Jessica Smith Fox, daughter of Jodie and Pete Smith.
 - ⇒ The play, "Las Coronas" presented as the sermon November 16th by middle school, high school, and college age students was commended by all as very effective and well done.
 - ⇒ Jupin commented that the Contemplative Prayer sessions are well attended. The upcoming Saturday with theologian Walter Bouman promises to be just as well attended with 26 people signed up. Jupin pointed out that this number represents one quarter to one third of the usual numbers attending services on Sundays. In other words, he interprets these responses as indicative of the energy and hunger within our congregation.
 - ⇒ Reporting on the first Canterbury dinner, Jupin noted that he had made personal contact with each of the four students who attended. He emphasized that it is this personal kind of connection, which will draw others to Canterbury. As an aside, "Good Shepherd Goody Bags" were assembled and delivered to over twenty Episcopal OU students to give them a boost during finals.
- Delegates who attended the diocesan convention in Cincinnati took turns telling of their impressions to the vestry. Brief comments about this appear elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Nominating Committee for next year's Vestry were named: Ann Rathbun, chair, Zelma Coleman, Reid Sinclair, Michael Jupin, and Christy Ortman. They will have the slate ready for the next Vestry meeting, December 18th.
- Vision Discernment Task Force: Eight Vestry members submitted names for consideration by the Rector and the Senior Warden for this task force. Seven names were chosen. Those people chosen will be contacted by Michael Jupin so that they may have a chance to consider what is being asked of them. The Vision Discernment Task Force members are to be stewards of a process who are responsible for sifting information. The results of this discernment will be reported to Vestry and to the entire congregation. Jupin will be meeting with the task force in December. He will serve as facilitator.
- Finally, a proposed budget was presented by Jack Flemming. He was assisted by an ad hoc committee consisting of Preston Denton, Allyn Reilly, and Anne Braxton. This proposed budget was then discussed with the Rector and Senior Warden before being presented to the Vestry. Discussion and suggestions followed and Jack Flemming will have a complete budget ready for Vestry approval by December 18th.

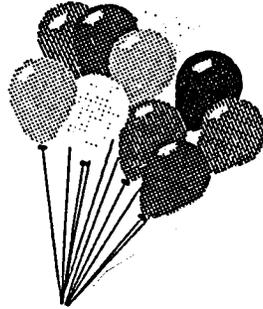
Respectfully submitted by:

Christy Ortman
Senior Warden

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED for the elementary children. We would like to have 3 or 4 so that the teacher does not miss worship every Sunday. If you are interested in helping with this ministry please let Suellen Denton or the parish office know. In you are interested in joining our committee, please let Suellen know.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: Anyone who would like to contribute towards the Christmas poinsettias, as a memorial or in thanksgiving for someone, should contact the parish office at 593-6877.

December Birthdays:



12-1: Lucille Jennings
 12-8: Lynn Graham, Charles Seymour
 12-11: Chris Seymour
 12-12: Betsy Irwin, Jim Karageorge
 12-13: Jane Ergood
 12-14: Abi Morgan, Andy Morgan
 12-17: Levi Lackey
 12-18: Alexandra Buckley
 12-19: Marsha Dutton
 12-21: Don Randolph
 12-23: Joanne Larson
 12-24: Karen Evans-Romaine, Jim Mowery, Al Topping
 12-25: Shawn Parsons
 12-27: Kathy Auflick, Karen Bump
 12-30: Andrew Culp, George Karageorge

December Anniversaries:

12-24: Jim Mowery & Lynn Graham Mowery
 12-27: Sheppard & Peggy Black
 12-30: Al & Margaret Topping

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, December 2nd: Contemplative Prayer
 Study Group
 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Nave

Wednesday, December 3rd: Free Wednesday Lunch
 Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall
 Choir Rehearsal
 7:00 p.m., Nave

Thursday, December 4th: Nominating Committee Meeting
 Noon, Hobson Lounge

Saturday, December 6th: Greek Orthodox Service
 9:00 a.m., Nehls Hall
 Choir Rehearsal
 10:00 a.m. - noon, Nave

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 7th: Advent Festival of
 Lessons & Music
 3:00 p.m., Nave

Tuesday, December 9th: Contemplative Prayer
 Study Group
 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Nave

Wednesday, December 10th: Worship Committee Meeting
 10:00 a.m., Hobson Lounge
 Free Wednesday Lunch
 Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall
 Choir Rehearsal
 7:30 p.m., Nave

Wednesday, December 17th: Free Wednesday Lunch
 Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall
 Choir Rehearsal
 7:30 p.m., Nave

Thursday, December 18th: Vestry Meeting
 7:00 p.m., Hobson Lounge

Sunday, December 21st: Choir Rehearsal
 11:30 a.m., Nave

Wednesday, December 24th: Free Wednesday Lunch
 Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall

Thursday, December 25th: Parish Office Closed

Friday, December 26th: Parish Office Closed

Wednesday, December 31st: Free Wednesday Lunch
 Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall

