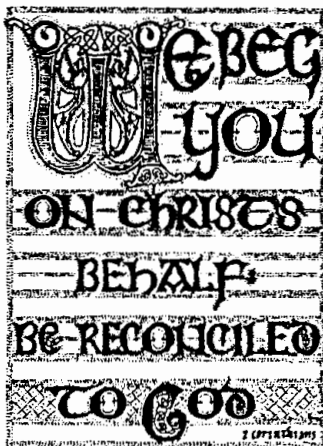


Good News

SHEPHERD

Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens, Ohio

March 2004



Lent

Inside . . .

In the Interim.....	p 1
Organ Bench Notes.....	p 3
Marthas Memos.....	p 4
Outreach Activities.....	p 8
Calendar of Events.....	p 11



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

George L. ...

In the Interim . . .

Lenten Examination

"I invite you . . . to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance. . ."

The Book of Common Prayer, page 265.

Lent is a time when each of us is invited to look at ourselves and by looking (self examining) do what we can – pray, fast, "take on" or "give up," whatever – that, counting on a hefty portion of God's grace, we may "turn around" (repent), change, and grow even more into the persons God is calling us to be.

As a church community we at Good Shepherd have *already* entered into an early Lent with the Vision Discernment process, doing ministry assessment, reflecting on our history (February 29) our Norms (the way we "do things around here" on April 25). Now THAT'S self-examination.

This Lent Good Shepherd provides a number of opportunities for you to be assisted in that "self examination" through the weekly Wednesday Eucharist & soup supper (with Bible study at table); the Sunday morning gatherings for studying "stewardship" and "inquiring;" a morning for contemplative prayer with me; a Saturday with Sr. Faith Margaret; and a Service of Public Healing and Holy Communion on March 28. All of these are described in more detail in this newsletter.

My theology of on-going salvation (called *sanctification*, being made holy, set apart, becoming more the "person I truly am") is that it is a life long activity and requires some effort on my part. True, I cannot accomplish anything by myself; all change in me is a gift of God, the result of God's grace. But there are some things I CAN DO to put myself in that "place" where I may, as Tilden Edwards puts it, "assist God in God's desire to be with and assist me."

I pray that you may "take on" those things that might assist God in God's desire to touch and be with you this Lent. And I pray that some of what is offered here at Good Shepherd may also give you such assistance in this holy season.

***Michael Jupin,
Interim Priest***

Healing Service on March 28, 2004

Healing ministry is a ministry ordained by God for the benefit of the community of faith. Laying on of hands is a teaching found throughout the Bible. It is not merely a ritual done as a last ditch effort for a lost cause; it is one means through which God imparts to us what we desire or need, or what God in God's infinite wisdom knows is best for us.

The act of laying on of hands itself does not heal the sick – it is God who heals the sick. Receiving the laying on of hands is a simple act of obedience that quickens our faith and gives God the opportunity to impart healing. Sometimes laying on of hands includes the anointing with oil.

When offering prayers for healing our job is four-fold:

Listen – Listen to people and listen to God.

Ask – Invite God's healing to come. Speak with a definite straightforward request. Speak with boldness.

Believe – Believe with body, mind, spirit. Our belief, our assurance is based on our confidence in the faithfulness of God – trustworthiness and steadfast love. We have to believe that healing is possible – even if it seems radical or unlikely.

Give thanks – As we would with each other, we must remember to say thank you. Looking ahead a little bit and giving thanks for what can be, what will be by the mercy of God.

St. Augustine was a skeptic when it came to healing ministry. But his skepticism was worn down when he witnessed the power of prayer in healing over and over again and began to keep track of it. Skepticism can be healthy if it is not so rigid as to close our minds and our hearts to the reality that sometimes "unexplained healing" occurs. Is there such a thing as a miracle healing? Probably.

Sometimes it might seem like God is ignoring our request or we might not like the answer we seem to be getting; perhaps we don't recognize the response because it isn't the one we want or expect. This is hard to accept, but we need to remember to trust that God knows better than we do what the real need is – even before we ask.

At a healing service it is customary to ask for prayers of many kinds: for ourselves or for others; for physical, spiritual, emotional healing, for healing of relationships. Receiving the laying on of hands can be a powerful experience, come and see for yourself.

Sr. Faith Margaret,

Community of the Holy Spirit

*Sr. Faith Margaret will be at Good Shepherd & participate in the Healing Service.



From the Organ Bench

Special Event!

Mark your calendars now. More details and registration form will appear in the April Good News.

On Saturday, April 17th, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. there will be a Hymnody Workshop with Dr. Carol Doran. Dr. Doran teaches hymnody and other related courses at Virginia Theological Seminary. She is also on the Standing Committee on Music and Liturgy and was one of the founders of the Leadership Program for Musicians serving Small Churches.

At 6:00 p.m. a dinner followed by program with Dr. Doran as guest speaker and hymn sing leader.

On Sunday, April 18th, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., during the Adult Education Hour, Dr. Doran will be the guest speaker.

Marsha Reilly,
Music Director

"THE STEWARDSHIP OF ALL BELIEVERS"

*Five sessions exploring "Stewardship"
as an attitude toward the creation and all of life.*

THE SUNDAYS IN MARCH & APRIL 4th

9:00-10:00 a.m. in Nehls Hall

Leader: Michael Jupin, interim priest

Session Titles

March 7th: Life is All of a Piece

March 14th: The Stewardship of All Believers

March 21st: Money Talks

March 28th: Anxiety and Money

April 4th: People are Resources

Marthas' Ministries Memos

The Marthas met on February 10th to set the date for the Spring Flea Market and to discuss other fundraisers for a new copier for the office.

The Spring Flea Market will be held on Saturday, April 24th, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The usual beverages, muffins, cookies, hot dogs, and sloppy joes will be on sale in the kitchen.

Items that sell best are furniture and any other household equipment. Clothes are not our best sellers and we would like only spring and summer clothing for this sale. Your donations may be delivered to the church any time after 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 21st.

In addition we need help in setting up, selling, and taking down. There will be a sign up sheet in Nehls hall starting April 4th.

Most of the "left over" items are sent or delivered to New to You, Kilvert, or Re-Use Industries. The clothing hanging in the choir room is for sale and may be purchased at any time. See Glenda in the office or call Betty Larson or Julia Nehls for help.

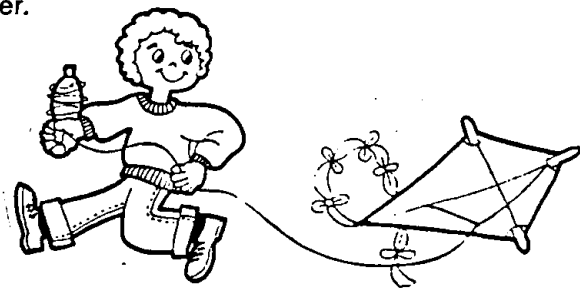
Many of you remember the Auction we held several years ago that was such fun and very profitable. We are planning one again for June 6th, 2004, in Nehls Hall after church. Food will be for sale prior to and during the Auction. We have a great committee in place already gearing up for this great event. You will hear more about this later in the spring.

If anyone has any good ideas for a fundraiser with proceeds going toward the copier, the Marthas would like to hear them.

Please be a part of these events by signing up to help – these are Parish Wide Fundraisers, we need everyone's help.

I might add, monetary donations are always acceptable too! All money goes toward the copier.

Julie Nehls
Marthas Chairperson



To my Good Shepherd Family:

Did you know that within Good Shepherd Parish we have the following talents? There are powerful prayers, visitors, cooks, laundresses, errand runners, pet caregivers, exercise assistants, snow shovelers, drivers, card, note & flower senders, morale boosters, seamstresses, and a very fine communion toting priest. All this and Sr. Faith Margaret too (she carries a big stick)!

I have been the recipient of all these talents for several weeks so - is it any wonder I progressed so fast?

This generous outpouring touches my heart daily and I am grateful to each and every one for these many blessings. I certainly feel loved and cared for. My mother always taught me to say, "Thank You," no matter what else you say. It just doesn't seem enough, but, "Thank You," especially for your prayers.

*Blessings and Love,
Julie Nehls*

"THE WAY OF THE CROSS, THE WAY OF LIFE"

A Morning for Contemplative Prayer in Lent

Leader: Michael Jupin

Saturday, March 13th

9:30 a.m. Coffee, etc., Hobson Lounge

10:00 a.m. Gather in Church for Prayer

Noon: End

Sign up in church or call the church office

View from the Terrace

The Diocese of Southern Ohio has published a colorful little brochure about the Episcopal Church to be given to first time visitors. In conclusion the brochure cites as a reference "365+ Reasons for Becoming an Anglican/Episcopalian or At Least for Checking Us Out" on Louie Crew's Anglican web pages

(<http://newark.rutgers.edu/~lcrew/365plus.html>).

365+ Reasons is a growing list submitted by visitors to the site, ranging from the rather pedantic to the humorous. Beyond demonstrating inclusiveness, taken as a whole, this list makes one wonder why everyone is not Episcopalian and offers a good glimpse of what we are about and what it means to be a Christian. Since we have asked of late to think about who we are and what keeps us there, I have picked out a few shorter samples from the 365+ Reasons.

Individuals in a study group called the "Ascension Cafe," Twin Falls, Idaho, has submitted a number of short takes on their reasons:

- "We are welcome participants in worship.
 ...we can sit around and discuss why we're sitting here.
- We do liturgy with all our hearts and souls.
- Where one can take time to heal and become whole.
- Where our priest can dress up in fancy outfits.
- Where I can be myself.
- Where two or three are gathered, there will be fine wine and lively conversation.
- (Though) I may not get the answers to all my questions about the Holy Spirit. I get enough answers to ask more questions.
- Because "struggle" is considered necessary, a path to growth not just something to overcome.
- Elbow Room
- We do not give simple answers to complex questions.
- Makes me want to do right rather than be right.
- The comfort of the tradition.
- Free to be me.
- We use cool words like verger, Thurifer, amice, warden, Aumbry and columbarium.

* / I love our church because we have poetry in our Prayer Book and in our Hymnal.

* / I love our church because we don't think unity means conformity.

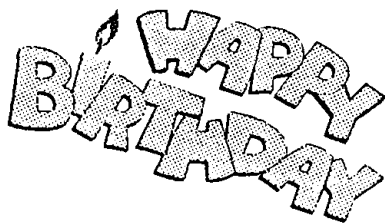
- Episcopalians may spend a lot of time arguing with each other about important matters inside and outside the church. And often the arguments are very public. Sometimes they go on for years and seem to reach no definite resolution. But Episcopalians are confident that in and through this kind of engagement with each other, they will become closer to understanding what God is up to and who God wants them, as a church, to be.
- Hearts and Lives transformed. Brains left intact.
- You don't have to be right, just honest.

What is your reason for becoming/remaining an Anglican? Want to share it? If you wish, submit a short take to Glenda for the newsletter. I guess my own reason, thinking in more than one dimension, is that I "married" into the family.

Ted Foster, Newsletter Editor

March Birthdays:

- 3-1: Ted Foster
- 3-2: Zelma Coleman
- 3-3: Laura Carney
- 3-5: Jim Walker
- 3-7: Peter Buckley, Sr. Faith Margaret
- 3-10: Richard Carlson, Arvin Wells
- 3-11: Katherine Ziff
- 3-14: Jan Gault
- 3-17: Larry Larson
- 3-18: Sarah Marsh Stenberg
- 3-20: Phillip Ortman
- 3-21: Patricia Funk
- 3-25: Jim Gault
- 3-26: Greg Seymour
- 3-27: Julie Nehls
- 3-29: Amy Larson Dinger
- 3-31: Arron Auflick, Aspasia Couldis, Carl Gustavson



March Anniversaries:

- 3-15: Larry & Betty Larson
- 3-25: Ben & Caitlin (Reilly) Schave

A Variety of Good Shepherd Outreach

Coffee – Now you can enjoy giving with each cup you drink! Each bag of Bishop's Blend Coffee (Regular \$9 – Decaf \$10) sends \$3 to the Episcopal Relief & Development Fund. Available from Glenda during church office hours.

Wednesday Free Lunch – Last week the Wednesday Free Lunch crew provided 70 meals to 60 guests. Help may be provided in the following ways (1) help prepare salads and other items; (2) wash dishes; (3) provided desserts; and (4) money donations. A sign up sheet for work shifts is available in the kitchen. Money donations may be given to Joanne Larson and to the Parish Office. If you can help with the Wednesday Free Lunch, contact Joanne Larson.

Food Pantry – Help is needed periodically to help Betty and Larry Larson to pack food boxes for donations. The second Sunday of each month is designated as Food Pantry Sunday; however, monetary and food donations are accepted on a continuing basis. For more information on Food Pantry activities, contact Betty and Larry Larson.

Clothing – Clothing that is donated to the Flea Markets that do not sell are shared with the Kilvert Center, New to You, Good Works and other organizations. Other clothing that did not sell, but kept for future Flea Markets, can be found hanging in the choir room and are always available for donations or the sharing with others who may need clothing.

United Thank Offering – Count your blessings each day. UTO boxes are available at the Church. For more information contact Leslie Flemming or Jan Gault.

County Habitat for Humanity – Faith Build Lenten Journey – Twig Kaufman is serving as Good Shepherd's liaison with Faith Build. Ann Charles Watts Hillard serves as the Executive Director for the Athens County Habitat for Humanity. On Sunday, Twig announced a Faith Build Lenten Journey which is an invitation to a spiritual journey of thanksgiving for the many blessings in our homes. Donation information sheets are available from the Church. During Lent set aside the donations and on Resurrection Sunday (April 11th) share your blessings in the form of a check (payable to ACHFH Faith Build) or collected monies.

Outstanding

Athena Tracy, former director of the Athens CASA/GAL program, commented recently that Good Shepherd communicants have contributed significantly as board members and volunteers. Volunteers, after a training program, become voices in juvenile court for children who have been neglected, abused or abandoned and are court-appointed special advocates for the children. Most volunteers take one case at a time.

Although no comparison of volunteers with church affiliation has been made, Church of the Good Shepherd numbers certainly are impressive. Of some 40 volunteers, Church of the Good Shepherd can claim Zelma Coleman, Reid Sinclair, T. J. Luce, Athena Tracy, Christy Ortman, Carolyn Murphree, Mike Morgan, and Lyn Butrick, Board Member.

Anyone who would like to know more about the program can talk with a fellow parishioner or call Rebecca Miller, current program director, at 592-3255. Some 200 children in Athens County need a guardian ad litem.

INQUIRERS' CLASS

*For those interested in confirmation, or reception into
THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH*

In preparation for
BISHOP PRICE'S VISIT ON MAY 2nd
or those who are just interested "Seekers"

SUNDAYS IN MARCH & APRIL 18
Noon to 1:00 p.m. in Hobson Lounge

Led by Marsha Dutton and Michael Jupin
If interested speak to either of them OR
Just show up!

March Worship Schedule

- Wednesday, March 3rd:** Lenten Midweek Eucharist
5:30 p.m., Nave
- Thursday, March 4th:** Evening Prayer & Meditation
5:30 p.m., Nave
- Sunday, March 7th:** Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
Lindley Inn Worship Service
2:00 p.m., Lindley Inn Assisted Living Facility
- Wednesday, March 10th:** Lenten Midweek Eucharist
5:30 p.m., Nave
- Sunday, March 14th:** Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
- Wednesday, March 17th:** Lenten Midweek Eucharist
5:30 p.m., Nave
- Sunday, March 21st:** Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
Lindley Inn Worship Service
2:00 p.m., Lindley Inn Assisted Living Facility
- Wednesday, March 24th:** Lenten Midweek Eucharist
5:30 p.m., Nave
- Thursday, March 25th:** Evening Prayer
5:30 p.m., Nave
- Sunday, March 28th:** Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:00 a.m., Bishop Black Chapel
Healing Service & Holy Eucharist Rite II
10:30 a.m., Nave
- Wednesday, March 31st:** Lenten Midweek Eucharist
5:30 p.m., Nave

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Wednesday, March 3rd:** Free Wednesday Lunch
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall
Simple Soup Supper & Visioning Discussion
6:30 p.m., Nehls Hall
Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Nave
- Thursday, March 4th:** Worship Committee Meeting
Noon, Hobson Lounge
Vision Discernment Task Group Meeting
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Hobson Lounge
- Sunday, March 7th:** Stewardship Session
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., Nehls Hall
Inquirer's Class
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Hobson Lounge
- Tuesday, March 9th:** Prayer Shawl Meeting
9:30 a.m., June Wiemman's house
Deanery Clergy Meeting
11:00 a.m., Hobson Lounge
- Wednesday, March 10th:** Free Wednesday Lunch
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall
Simple Soup Supper & Visioning Discussion
6:30 p.m., Nehls Hall
Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Nave
- Saturday, March 13th:** Contemplative Prayer Morning
9:30 a.m., Hobson Lounge & Nave

Johnny "Sugar Boy" Ortman
blues harmonica player

will be appearing with
The Bob Stewart Band

Saturday, March 13th, 9:00 p.m.
Ohio University's Forum Theater

Free and open to the public

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 14th: Stewardship Session
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., Nehls Hall
Inquirer's Class
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Hobson Lounge

Wednesday, March 17th: Free Wednesday Lunch
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall
Simple Soup Supper & Visioning Discussion
6:30 p.m., Nehls Hall
Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Nave



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

Sunday, March 21st: Stewardship Session
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., Nehls Hall
Inquirer's Class
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Hobson Lounge

Wednesday, March 24th: Free Wednesday Lunch
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall
Simple Soup Supper & Visioning Discussion
6:30 p.m., Nehls Hall
Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Nave

Saturday, March 27th: Lenten Retreat
9:00 a.m. - noon, Nehls Hall

Sunday, March 28th: Stewardship Session
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., Nehls Hall
Inquirer's Class
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Hobson Lounge

Wednesday, March 31st: Free Wednesday Lunch
Noon - 1:00 p.m., Nehls Hall
Simple Soup Supper & Visioning Discussion
6:30 p.m., Nehls Hall
Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m., Nave

