
Good
SHEPHERD
News

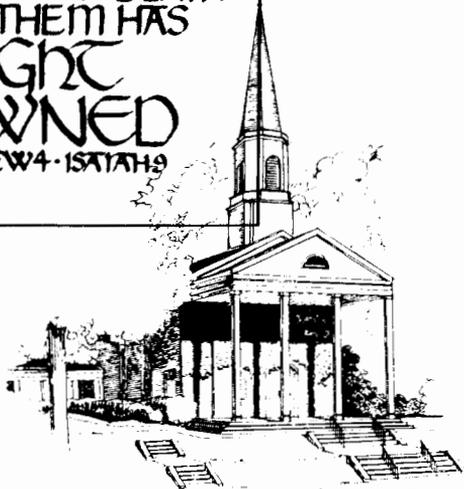
Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens, Ohio

January, 2005

THE PEOPLE
THAT WALKED IN
DARKNESS
HAVE SEEN A
GREAT LIGHT
THEY THAT DWELL
IN THE LAND OF THE
SHADOW OF DEATH
UPON THEM HAS
LIGHT
DAWNED
MATTHEW 4 · 13-14

Inside . . .

- In the Interim p 1
Vestry Highlights p 3
Parish Health p 8
Calendar see insert



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

In the Interim . . .

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS & PRAYER

It was twenty-six years ago that I first learned of and began a daily practice of contemplative prayer - the prayer of silence that seeks to quiet and open oneself to the presence of God and listen to/for God rather than speaking to God. The first few years of my practice were easy. It got tougher to keep that daily practice when I became a rector. When I retired I thought it would again become "a snap" to keep this discipline.

I was wrong. It seemed to become even harder for me to "carve out" the time and maintain a discipline of silent prayer. The "activist," "work, work, work" part of me is very strong even though I know in my mind that my daily prayer truly assists and supports my "doing" in powerful ways. (Paul is right: "The good that I would do, I do not.") That is the main reason I always lead a course in contemplative prayer in whatever congregation I may be serving. That is why I have monthly Saturday morning times for exercises in silence. It is all to help me, as well as others, be faithful to the discipline that always keeps faith with and rewards me.

So my mid-December talk with Katharine Ziff came as a real grace, a gift to me. She talked of the time in her life in which she discovered meditation and what a difference it meant to her. She spoke of a local group that gathers every morning for an hour of silence together and how much that experience means to her. And I thought, "I/we can do something like that at Good Shepherd. Why not? I need it and maybe others do, too."

So Katharine and I talked about the possibilities at Good Shepherd and came up with a time and a place. **Every Thursday** beginning **Epiphany, January 6th, from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. in the Bishop Black Chapel** there will be time for **Silent (Contemplative) Prayer**. A large candle will be lit in the middle of the altar and the time will start and end with a brief prayer and a ringing of a bell (a prayer bowl). Every ten minutes – at 12:40 and 12:50 p.m. – the bell will again be rung. The purpose in ringing the bell is to draw us to our prayer (breath prayer, mantra, image – the "means" one uses to assist in entering upon the silence) and presence to and for God. Those Thursdays I am not be present, someone will be appointed to lead the time in this way.

More and more I know I need a “community of support and prayer” to help me be the faithful person I want to be. I know this Thursday time of prayer will help me in keeping my New Year’s resolution to *pray more*. Perhaps it might help you, too.

* * * * *

The visits with two **Potential Nominees for our Next Bishop** on two December weekends were both rich experiences. Thanks to the Rev. Paul Nicely, Worship Committee chair Leslie Flemming, and all who made those occasions possible for me. For your information we are now coming to the end of our Search. The Nominating Committee visited eleven clergy in November and December and will next meet **January 7th – 8th to select** (about) **six persons** for continued discernment. These six or so and their spouses/partners will then meet the whole committee in Cincinnati **January 26th – 27th** and the committee will select from three to five nominees **January 28th**. The work of the Nominating Committee will then be completed.

On **February 24th** representatives of the Nominating Committee present the names of the committee’s Nominees to the Standing Committee who announces these names on **March 1st**. The Standing Committee will then oversee a “Petition” process in the diocese for nominations from outside of the Nominating Committee and its process. Once this process is completed the Standing Committee will create and distribute a booklet featuring *all* of the Nominees.

Nominee Forums will take place **May 23rd – 26th** in five locations throughout the diocese. **All** members of the diocese will have opportunity to see and hear from each Nominee. Following on the Forums **each Deanery** will meet to discuss the Nominees with the electing delegates from their congregations. **Our Deanery will meet at Good Shepherd at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 5th**. The **election of our next bishop will take place on Saturday June 11th**. Good Shepherd’s electing delegates are Gifford Doxsee, Christy Ortman, and Curt & Terri Sherman.

***Michael Jupin,
Interim Priest***

Vestry Highlights

Below are the "highlights" from the most recent Vestry meeting that was held on December 16th, 2004:

- The Vestry prayerfully considered the challenges of working with the goals we have identified through the whole parish visioning process that we have taken part in this year. New opportunities will come in the form of new Vestry members. It was said that we hope to plant the seeds of the vision of Good Shepherd, nurture the growth of that vision, and "pluck what has been planted."
- It was noted in the treasurer's report that we have a balance of nearly \$15,000 in our Search Fund. Vestry discussed the costs of a search for a new rector. These costs will need to be further researched to set a realistic amount.
- A generous gift of stock amounting to \$1,775 has been give^d to the parish. The Vestry resolved to accept this gift with thanksgiving and gratitude. This gift will be put in the endowment fund.
- Al Topping, head of the stewardship committee, reported that the average 6 month pledge for 2005 is up 16%. He asks that parishioners let him know about new members so that he can approach them about pledging.
- Junior Warden, Allyn Reilly, reported that 3 small pumps need to be replaced on the furnace boiler system at the cost of approximately \$1,200. The Episcopal House has suffered damage to the plaster wall on the 3rd floor which will cost about \$1,600 to repair.
- The distribution of undesignated outreach was approved by the Vestry as follows: \$100 each for: Neighbors Helping Neighbors, United Campus Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, and Good Works, Inc.
- The nominating committee, headed by Bob Shelly and Leslie Flemming, presented the slate of wardens and Vestry members for the upcoming years as follows: Senior Warden, Christy Ortman; Junior Warden, Preston Denton; Treasurer, Jack Flemming; Secretary, Alex Buckley; Three year terms ending in 2008, Pat Beamish, Ted Foster, Judith Grant, Allyn Reilly; delegates to diocesan convention, Gifford Doxsee, Ann Shelly; Alternate delegates, Richard Carlson, T. J. Luce.

- The profile committee report, given by Allyn Reilly, chair, states that it will have a rough draft to present at the next Vestry meeting in January. This rough draft will go to the diocese as well. A recording of our most recent Advent Festival Music may be sent around as part of our profile.
- The amended 2005 Budget, presented by Jack Flemming, was approved by Vestry.
- The Vestry moved to affirm the agreement of the wardens and the Rev. J. Michael Jupin for his continuing as interim priest in charge throughout 2005 in keeping with the Letter of Agreement of March 17, 2003.
- The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 30th, 2005, following the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist. There will be a potluck. The Vestry will provide a ham, set up and clean up.

Christy Ortman
Senior Warden



Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee will present to the Annual Meeting the following slate of officers for the year 2004: Senior Warden – Christy Ortman; Junior Warden – Preston Denton; Secretary – Alex Buckley; Treasurer – Jack Flemming. Vestry for three year terms: Patricia Beamish, Ted Foster, Judith Grant, and Allyn Reilly; and Sarah Larson for College/University Representative for a one year term.

Diocesan Convention Delegates – Christy Ortman, Allyn Reilly, Gifford Doxsee and Ann Shelly with alternates – Richard Carlson and T. J. Luce.

Please note as per our by-laws additional nominations, with consent of the nominee, shall be allowed from the floor at the All Parish Annual Meeting, which will be held on Sunday, January 30th. The Nominating Committee’s slate is posted on the Bulletin Board in the stairwell.

The Nominating Committee,
Leslie Flemming & Bob Shelly, co-conveners
Karen Evans-Romaine
Allyn Reilly
Katherine Ziff

Ted's Tid-Bits

And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Matthew 28:20

I spent the summer of 1949 with my grandparents, Dewitt and Gracie. Dewitt, a Quaker minister and had again retired for the umpteenth time. My grandparents had a good thing going, this retirement gig. This time, as an incentive, their daughter had just built them a nice bungalow to retire in; and believe it or not, Dewitt's parishioners, being wealthy Iowa farmers, bought him a brand new Hudson sedan. This was the only new automobile my grandfather ever owned. The Hudson was like a dark green inverted bathtub, it was powerful, had a radio, power windows, white walls and wheel covers, and was even equipped with a fully automatic transmission. Though in general my grandfather kept such showy material things in their proper perspective, Dewitt really loved this car. He continued to supply preach around the state almost every weekend. Gracie and I would tag along. I think DeWitt did these Sundays just to have a good excuse to drive the car. He would talk to Hudson as to a team of horses, "Gee' Dobbin" when turning right, or "Gee' ho" when accelerating.

DeWitt still had this car when he died suddenly some ten years later. Just as my grandfathers' sense of fun, and purpose, remained fresh, the car still had the new car smell with nary a nick or squeak. Dewitt had taken such good care of it. I had just reached the age to legally drive on my own, and Gracie, having never driven a car, said the Hudson was mine. At the time I was in boarding school and planned to pick up the car that summer.

The above-mentioned daughter, who built the bungalow, was married to a very wealthy doctor. Though meaning well, they could not distinguish helping out from their own ownership. Upon any family crisis this couple would swoop in and 'set things right' not really understanding the subtleties of boundaries, nor asking first. They descended and took over my grandmother's affairs, sold the house, and absorbed Gracie and all her possessions including the Hudson. Just as grandmother Gracie was now longer part of the larger family, my uncle appropriated the sedan and let his workers use it as a farm vehicle and had totally ruined it by the time school was out. To him that fine Hudson sedan was nothing but an old car to beat around in. To me this was like using an antique Stradivarius to pound nails.

I never did forgive my uncle for that particular insensitiveness. But the passing of these so many years has transformed this small hurt into a real joy. Rather than focusing on scrapes and dents of that poor once beautiful sedan, the comfort of memories of times spent with my grandparents in that Hudson are now so much richer. Now I see my grandparent's life as two small, but ever so powerful points of grace, or just simple goodness, in the so often hurtful world. Though the farm ruined that fine Hudson, it did not destroy my grandfather, he will always be with me, and comfort me.

Ted Foster

THE ANNUAL ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR "THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY" is Sunday, January 23rd, at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

The theme is "**Building on the Foundation which is Christ**" with a focus on and the offering to go to **Habitat for Humanity**.

There will be an 8:00 a.m. Eucharist (Rite I) in the Bishop Black Chapel on the day, but no 10:30 a.m. service.

Do plan to join with other Christians from our community to give thanks and pray for the unity that we have in Christ.

"LIVING IN THE LIGHT OF EPIPHANY"

A Morning for Contemplative Prayer

Leader: Michael Jupin

Saturday, January 15th

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 parish office beginning January 2nd.

Summer Camp Schedule

It is not too early to start thinking about your summer plans. Below is a list of dates of the various camps that is offered at Procter Camp and Conference Center located in London, Ohio.

To register for any of the camps online, please visit www.dsoyouth.org. Registration must be completed at least three weeks prior to the start of camp.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Entering Grade</u>
June 17 th – 19 th	Young Adult Conference	18-35 years old
June 20 th – 24 th	Junior Camp	6 & 7
June 27 th – July 1 st	Intermediate Camp	8 & 9
July 5 th – 9 th	Boys & Girls Camp	4 & 5
July 5 th – 9 th	Outdoor Adventure	6 – 9
July 11 th – 16 th	Senior Camp	10 – 12
July 17 th – 23 rd	Kenyon Conference	All
July 21 st – 24 th	Family Camp	All



The Church of the Good Shepherd

The ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH with
potluck

Sunday, January 30th, 2005
Nehls Hall
following the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist

* Elections

*Reports

*Budget

Vestry will provide **ham**. Please bring a salad **or**
casserole **or** dessert to share.

Parish Health Committee

On Saturday, January 29th, 2005, there will be an opportunity to attend a one-day workshop on **Prayer Walking** at the Procter Center. This would be a great opportunity to learn a new mode of exercise AND prayer (really healthy!) and possibly to then sponsor or mentor others in the church. It is also a wonderful way to get acquainted. Space is limited, but - new or old person or parishioner – give it a thought and call Jane Ergood, (or leave a message with Glenda, at the parish office, before January 3, 2005, when Jane returns).

The next **Blood Pressure reading** at Good Shepherd will be **Sunday, January 16th**, after the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist; a nurse volunteer would be welcome.

A training session for Friendly/Parish visitors, possibly combined with Eucharistic visitors per Father Michael, is being considered for this winter or early spring. We have many persons needing and appreciating this ministry – don't hold back because of inexperience!

The next committee meeting will be Tuesday, January 18th, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. in Hobson Lounge

Jane Ergood

Stewardship Report

This report from the Stewardship Committee includes the total of all pledges received as of December 21st, 2004. We asked parishioners to pledge an amount for the **first 6 months of 2005** at this time. Another pledge campaign will be done in April.

67 Pledge Units for a total of \$58,987

We are pleased to report that average pledges are up 16% over the amount pledged in 2004. We still have a few pledges out and these should be turned in soon.

Al Topping,
Stewardship Committee Chair

Good Shepherd Outreach Report

November was Good Shepherd's month to have a Sunday Evening Chapel service at the Southeast Psychiatric Hospital. We took turns reading Evening Prayer along with a number of hymns. As we sang the blessing at the end of the service, one patient suggested that we make a circle, holding hands, as we sang – which we did. At the time for prayer requests, many mentioned particular family members or fiends. After our last service, there were hugs all around and shouts of "Come back!" as we left. What a wonderful gift they gave us. It is good to have several parishioners at Evening Prayer. March is our next month of duty. The services are held on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. Thank about it!

At the Adult Education class on December 12th, we talked about Heifer, International as an alternative to give folks who already have all they need. The Sunday school had made delightful posters for the occasion and during Coffee Hour collected around \$125. They chose to send "chickens" so chickens it will be!

Free Wednesday Lunch and the Athens County Food Pantry continue serving and needing additional help. Remember the Peanut Butter Sunday, which is held the second Sunday of each month.

Episcopal Relief and Development most recent information stresses that Sudan and Aids victims are still in need.

I hope you have noticed that the people we are serving are mostly the marginalised and poor, the very ones to whom our Lord urges us to show compassion. Ask yourself, "What can I do that will help meet these needs?"

Jan Gault

Glenda, Marsha, and Michael thank the many parishioners who sent cards and/or gave gifts to them during the holiday season. We appreciate being recognized as part of the life of Good Shepherd.

Coffee

Good Shepherd continues to sell "Bishop's Blend Coffee" in Nehls Hall following the 10:30 a.m. service. The profits are sent to Episcopal Relief and Development, a program of the National Church connected with the ministry in Honduras where our parishioners, Bruce and Jane Ergood, are actively involved.



ADULT EDUCATION

Our series on **Our Episcopal Heritage in Liturgy and Music** continues this quarter on alternating Sundays, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. On **January 16th**, our Interim Priest, Michael Jupin, will lead a class on the **Pastoral Offices**. February and March classes will take up the Ash Wednesday liturgy, other Lenten liturgies and observances, and Holy Week liturgies. Please plan on coming and enrich your understanding of the Book of Common Prayer and our distinctive approaches to worship.

January Events

Sun. Jan 2	Mon. Jan 3	Tue. Jan 4	Wed. Jan 5	Thu. Jan 6	Fri. Jan 7	Sat. Jan 8
	3:00 PM Parish Office Closed	9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Meeting	12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal			
Sun. Jan 9	Mon. Jan 10	Tue. Jan 11	Wed. Jan 12	Thu. Jan 13	Fri. Jan 14	Sat. Jan 15
10:15 AM Church School			12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	1:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Bible Study		
Sun. Jan 16	Mon. Jan 17	Tue. Jan 18	Wed. Jan 19	Thu. Jan 20	Fri. Jan 21	Sat. Jan 22
9:00 AM Adult Education 10:15 AM Church School 11:30 AM BP Check	Parish Office Closed	9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Meeting 2:00 PM Parish Health Ministry Meeting	12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal			
Sun. Jan 23	Mon. Jan 24	Tue. Jan 25	Wed. Jan 26	Thu. Jan 27	Fri. Jan 28	Sat. Jan 29
10:15 AM Church School			12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal		10:00 AM Glass/Bergeron Wedding Rehearsal	5:30 PM Jessica Glass/Josh Bergeron Wedding
Sun. Jan 30	Mon. Jan 31	Tue. Feb 1	Wed. Feb 2	Thu. Feb 3	Fri. Feb 4	Sat. Feb 5
10:15 AM Church School 11:30 AM Annual Meeting & Potluck		9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Meeting	12:00 PM Free Lunch 1:00 PM 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal			

January Worship

Sun. Jan 2	Mon. Jan 3	Tue. Jan 4	Wed. Jan 5	Thu. Jan 6	Fri. Jan 7	Sat. Jan 8
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist	12:30 PM Contemplative Prayer Bishop Black Chapel		
Sun. Jan 9	Mon. Jan 10	Tue. Jan 11	Wed. Jan 12	Thu. Jan 13	Fri. Jan 14	Sat. Jan 15
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II 2:00 PM Lindley Inn Worship			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist	12:30 PM Contemplative Prayer Bishop Black Chapel		9:00 AM Contemplative Prayer
Sun. Jan 16	Mon. Jan 17	Tue. Jan 18	Wed. Jan 19	Thu. Jan 20	Fri. Jan 21	Sat. Jan 22
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist	12:30 PM Contemplative Prayer Bishop Black Chapel		
Sun. Jan 23	Mon. Jan 24	Tue. Jan 25	Wed. Jan 26	Thu. Jan 27	Fri. Jan 28	Sat. Jan 29
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 11:00 AM Ecumenical Service 2:00 PM Lindley Inn Worship			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist	12:30 PM Contemplative Prayer Bishop Black Chapel		
Sun. Jan 30	Mon. Jan 31	Tue. Feb 1	Wed. Feb 2	Thu. Feb 3	Fri. Feb 4	Sat. Feb 5
8:00 AM Holy Eucharist I 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist II			5:30 PM Midweek Eucharist	12:30 PM Contemplative Prayer Bishop Black Chapel		