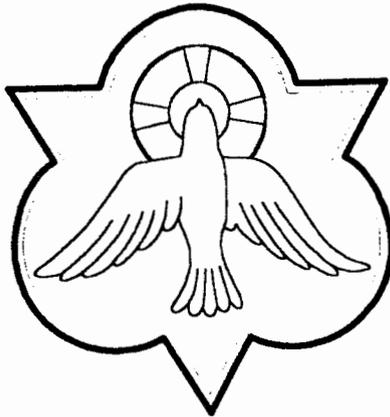


Good SHEPHERD News

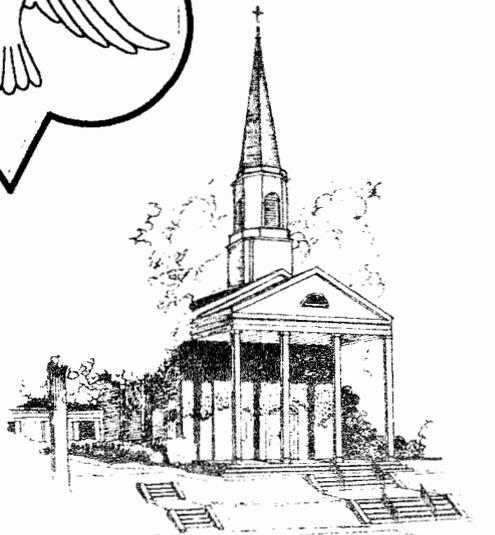
Church of the Good Shepherd, Athens, Ohio

August
2006



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

New Programs in Christian Education this Fall

A few months ago, I wrote a newsletter column in which I outlined the steps that we will take to work toward the goals that the parish established during the interim period. If you recall, I put our efforts under three headings: (1) building on our strengths, especially worship, music, and outreach; (2) doing the basics well, including Christian education, pastoral care, preaching, fellowship, evangelism, and advocacy, among others; and (3) the ministry of active hospitality. Some of the most obvious changes will occur with regard to Christian education for all ages.

Godly Play Sunday School

For children, we are starting an exciting, state of the art, curriculum called Godly Play. Godly play invites children to learn through their play, creativity, and natural sense of wonder. Much like our liturgy, a Godly play classroom makes use of ritual and tangible, visible symbols to communicate the Gospel to children. We are also moving to a model of Sunday School as a vital lay ministry, involving the best of what the whole congregation has to offer. The Rev. Canon Vicki Zust from the diocesan staff came to train our teachers. Her presence is a symbol of how high a priority Sunday School is for our diocese. Our teachers will be Alex Buckley, Julie Stout, and Tracey Carroll. A large group of others have been asked to serve as doorkeepers, who will help greet the children and free the teachers up to teach.

Others will be asked to help with curriculum materials. We are especially in need of skills with woodworking and fabric. Please call the parish office at 593-6877 if you can help or know someone who can. Another way to help is to participate in our efforts to provide clean, neat, and safe space for Sunday School and nursery. A work day will be held on Saturday, August 26th at 9:00 a.m., which will focus on cleaning and painting. Earlier in the week, a smaller group will do some of the preparation.

Everything will begin Sunday, September 17th, with a tour of the room for interested adults (not just parents!) and children, and registration. We are moving the start of Sunday School up to 10 a.m., to give the teachers time to teach the lesson and children time to respond creatively to it in their artwork, so that everyone may rejoin their families upstairs for communion at 11:00 without having to hurry.

Building a Youth Ministry

The person who taught me to do youth work emphasized the cardinal importance of relationship. She summarized it this way: “Show up, listen, and speak the truth.” Not a bad model for all ministry, really. Youth in particular need adults, in addition to their parents, whom they can trust. We had a very good first meeting at the Carrolls’ home (the three youth present were our first guests). At first, we plan to meet with 6th through 12th graders twice a month in our home, joined by Zelma Coleman, and will involve the youth in planning for fun, fellowship, education, and service. We may divide up by ages for some things, but at this point our priority is building a critical mass around which the youth ministry can be built. The youth were all very excited about Cardboard City, a yearly fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity, in which participants spend twelve hours living in cardboard boxes. Twig Miller and Deb Hillard have offered to chaperone this event in September, and I too will go. The youth will be helping to raise money to support Habitat’s work. I will be considering ways to help the youth make an appeal to the congregation. In addition, you should seek them out if you want to help.

Adult Christian Formation

Adult education will resume, beginning September 17th, at 9:00 a.m. in Nehls Hall. We will begin with two Bible studies, first on the Gospel of John and then on the Old Testament lessons for the first three Sundays of Advent. Other offerings during the year will concern the authority and interpretation of Holy Scripture, the Catechism, and a book study on the Benedictine spirituality of *Radical Hospitality*.

Beginning in October, we will also host an adult education program after the 5:30 Wednesday Eucharist in Hobson Lounge. This will focus on our spiritual lives. It will become an inquirers’ class during Lent. If there is sufficient interest, it will become an opportunity for year round Christian education during the summer.

A third opportunity, which we hope to offer beginning in October, is Education for Ministry (EFM), a four year program of lay theological education coming out of our seminary at the University of the South. We still need more people to meet the minimum number required to start an EFM group. The program combines educational content with attention to spirituality and the creation of Christian community. It requires a one year commitment and some money for tuition. I am receiving mentor training in September and Pastor Steve Knape from

Christ Lutheran Church will be doing the same. We envision an ecumenical group and hope to have lay people trained as mentors for the next program year. Once we get a group started, this program often sells itself, since the participants become evangelists for what is often a very powerful experience of learning and Christian fellowship. If you are interested in EFM, please call the parish office at 593-6877.

Please support these initiatives in whatever ways you can. The most important way is your consistent, faithful presence. Christian formation is meant to be lifelong. Not only does it equip us for our discipleship and ministry within the Body of Christ, it also is one of the chief ways in which stronger relationships and Christian fellowship are created in a congregation. Furthermore, it feeds us spiritually, and reminds us of presence of God, who is ever with us.

Bill

The Rev. Dr. R. William Carroll

Strouds Run Eucharist & Picnic

mark your calendar
& note the change

**Sunday, September 10th
10:30 a.m.**

**Strouds Run State Park
Shelter House #3**

more information to follow

Congratulations to

Ann Rathbun

on her new job at
Morehead State University

A presentation honoring Ann's ministry among us will be made at the 10:30 a.m. service on September 3rd

Mountain Grace

Help your church bloom where it's planted! The three Appalachian deaneries are sponsoring the third Mountain Grace Conference at Ohio University, Lancaster Campus, on Saturday, September 9 from 9am to 3:30 pm. The purpose of the conference is to bring people together to learn how to minister more effectively in Appalachian communities. "But attendees will not be passive," says the Rev. Steve Cuff, Dean of the Scioto River Deanery. "The conference will be highly interactive so that each participant brings his/her knowledge to the circle."

The conference will feature workshops on church growth, outreach services, community organizing, and sustainable community development. Michael Maloney, Appalachian Ministry Lay staff for the diocese, and poet Richard Hague will deliver the keynote talk on How to Engage Appalachian People in the Church. A workshop track on lay ministry will feature local experience with lay preaching and a new approach to leadership development called appreciative inquiry. The Rev. Jeffrey Queen, new vicar at All Saints, Portsmouth, aided by the Rev. Dcn. Sallie Schisler and lay leaders will conduct the workshop on evangelism. The Rev. Ruth Paulus and Procter Camp staff will lead a culturally appropriate liturgy. The conference will include displays from regional arts and social service organizations. Music will be provided by the Alum Creek Singers. ECSF will be supplying lots of useful handouts and the Mountain Grace III cookbook, a networking directory on community ministry drawn from this summer's Listening Sessions.

To receive a conference brochure, contact Michael Maloney at meamon@aol.com or (513) 531-8799. Cost: \$15 to cover materials and lunch. To register, contact the Rev. Katharin Foster at (740) 593-8615 (h) or kkfoster@columbus@columbus.rr.com.

Vestry Highlights from July 20th

Anne Braxton and Matthew Adeyanju will serve as co-chairs for this year's Stewardship committee. This will be a broad effort, involving the rector, vestry, wardens, and all others concerned for the present and future ministries of the parish. The Vestry will present the outline of a challenge budget, which Father Carroll (following his former bishop) prefers to call our "financial statement of mission," emphasizing expanded giving for Christian education and outreach, as well as other crucial spending. There will be lay witnesses to what Good Shepherd and its ministry means to different people. A clear theology and spirituality of stewardship will be articulated. Father Carroll couched the discussion in terms 'stepping out in faith' and taking some risks, as good stewards of the gifts we have been given (financial and otherwise), to advance the Gospel and the Kingdom of God in the world.

As a sign of this, the Vestry agreed to spend up to \$2,000 painting and renovating Sunday School space, to help the parish fulfill its ministry of Christian education. This is among our highest priorities as a parish, and it is tied directly to the goals we set during the interim.

The executive committee has compiled a list of potential 'mission-driven' improvements to the physical plant and divided them into priority categories as follows - 1) Short Term (before Fall if possible); 2) Higher Priority (in the next year); 3) Lower Priority (before capital campaign); and 4) Long Term (accomplished at capital campaign, five years). Vestry members will study and add to the list. Father Carroll added a cover page to help frame the decision making process about which capital improvements have priority and when to do them. He asked us to think about the building/physical plant as a base for God's mission. God's Church often meets in buildings, but the Church is the People of God in ministry in the world. As with our financial statement of mission, we need to prioritize our capital spending in terms of our mission and the goals we have set as a parish. We are beginning the process of developing a formalized long range plan.

The Vestry reached consensus that we should introduce our new altar, which will permit the priest to stand facing the people, in September 2007. This is important in order to better achieve our goal of participatory liturgy that involves the entire People of God. An altar of this kind became normative with the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. We will study the design of the chancel space with a view toward possible renovations after the capital campaign and plan for an

altar that will work in our existing space, as well as one around which we can redesign the chancel. We will commission a local woodworker to produce a high quality piece of sufficient dignity. It will be funded in part by memorial gifts solicited in conjunction with All Saints' Sunday this year. In the interim, the Vestry has authorized the altar guild to provide suitable fair linens for the temporary table that we are using for our Wednesday 5:30 and Sunday 5:00 p.m. Eucharists.

The exterior sign is proceeding at a slower pace than originally anticipated. We will need a variance from the Board of Zoning Appeals to get a larger sign and to light this sign. We met outside and agreed upon a location and rough size, which will help us to solicit designs and bids, which we will then present as part of our appeal.

Annual Fall Flea Market

There will be a Flea Market on Saturday, September 9th, from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Nehls Hall. Items may be brought to the church on Wednesday, September 6th, after 1:30 p.m. and on Thursday, September 7th, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Due to the large number of donations we receive and the length of time it takes to price everything we ask that you adhere to those times listed above. We also remind you of the following:

- 1) Household items sell best
- 2) Clothes must be clean and in good condition.
- 3) Toys must be in good condition and with all parts.
- 4) Place items in Nehls Hall – NOT IN KITCHEN!
- 5) No items can be accepted before September 6th at 1:30 p.m. and nothing after 4:00 p.m. Thursday, September 7th.

Thank you for your help.

Julie Nehls

August Events at Good Shepherd

		1 7:30 pm – Alanon 8:00 pm – AA	2 Noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – MW 6:00 pm–Baptismal Prep Class	3 Fr Carroll @ Procter 7:30 pm – Alanon	4 Fr Carroll @ Procter	5 Fr Carroll @ Procter
6 Fr Carroll @ Procter 9:30 am – HE II 2:00 pm – LI	7 Fr Carroll vacation	8 Fr Carroll vacation 7:30 pm – Alanon 8:00 pm – AA	9 Fr Carroll vacation Noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – MW	10 Fr Carroll vacation 7:30 pm – Alanon	11 Fr Carroll vacation	12 Fr Carroll vacation
13 Fr Carroll vacation 9:30 am – HE II 3:00 pm – Hocking Valley Deanery Meet @ McArthur	14 Fr Carroll vacation	15 Fr Carroll vacation 7:30 pm – Alanon 8:00 pm – AA	16 Fr Carroll vacation Noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – MW	17 Fr Carroll vacation 7:30 pm – Alanon	18 Fr Carroll vacation	19
20 9:30 am – HE II 11:00 – Usher Meeting 2:00 pm – LI	21 11:30 am – Bible Study @ Helen Marsh's home	22 7:30 pm – Alanon 8:00 pm – AA	23 Noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – MW 6:00 pm–Baptismal Prep Class	24 7:00 pm – Vestry 7:30 pm – Alanon	25	26 9:00 am – Sunday School Work Day
27 9:30 am – HE II	28	29 7:30 pm – Alanon 8:00 pm – AA	30 Noon – Free Lunch 5:30 pm – MW 6:00 pm–Baptismal Prep Class	31 7:30 pm – Alanon		

Key Guide:

HE II – Holy Eucharist Rite II

LI – Holy Eucharist at the Lindley Inn Assisted Living Facility

MW – Midweek Eucharist

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

		1 Ted & Katharin Foster	2 Marsha Reilly	3 Andrew & Susan Saunders	4	5
6 Hank Dean Jacob & Carolyn Sheehan	7 Paul Hillard Dutch Savage Caitlin Schave Gene & Twig Kaufman	8 Earl Funk Doug & Michelle Parsons	9	10 Jean Fieler Ginny Isele	11 Ron & Ginny Isele	12 Richard & Lynn Butrick
13	14 Bill & Tracy Carroll Brad & Laura Dukes	15 Brian Coleman	16 Patrick Palmer	17 Suellen Denton	18	19 David Dukes Liz Sinclair Jim & Jan Gault
20	21 Tom Daniels Irene Gevas Terry & Betsy Wetmore	22 T J Luce	23 Paul Denton	24 Joe Reese Reid Sinclair Michael & Barbara Jupin Allyn & Marsha Reilly	25 C J Auflick Bruce & Jane Ergood	26 Cynthia Kaldis Mark & Susan Enlow
27 Alania Miller	28 Tom & Anne Walker	29 Pat Grean Arvin & Jeanne Wells	30	31 Richard Dean		