

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Contents

[Gospel](#)

[This Sunday](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Sunday Participants](#)

[In Our Prayers](#)

[Worship Schedule](#)

[Adult Education](#)

[About Advent Season](#)

[Poinsettias](#)

[Free Book Advent Practice](#)

[New Church Year](#)

[Help Needed
Christmas Eve](#)

[Wednesday Lunch](#)

[Dairy Barn](#)

[Advent Festival](#)

[Celebrating 175 Years](#)

[Photo](#)

[New Blog](#)

[Pastoral Care](#)

[Contact Information](#)

Quick Links

[Parish website](#)

[Sermons](#)

[Parish calendar](#)

[Contact us](#)

[E-News guidelines](#)

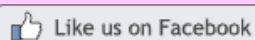
[Back Issues](#)

[Diocese S Ohio](#)

[Episcopal News](#)

[Service](#)

[Episcopal Cafe](#)

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Good Shepherd E-News (24 November 2016)

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd in Athens, Ohio--Seeking to know and serve Christ in loving service to the campus, the community, and the world.

This Sunday: 27 November 2016 First Sunday of Advent



No 8:00 a.m. Service Today

9:00 Adult Education

10:30 a.m. Service: Holy Eucharist, Rite II-C

Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

Upcoming Church Events

First Sunday of Advent: Sunday, Nov. 27

Wednesday Free Lunch: Wednesday, November 30, 12:00 noon

Advent Festival/Holiday House: Sunday, Dec. 4, 4:30 p.m.

Second Sunday Brunch: Sunday, December 11, 12:00 noon

Prayer Shawl Meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 13, Bob Evans

Participants scheduled for

This Sunday - First Sunday of Advent (Nov. 27)

Altar Guild: Lynn Graham and Julie Nehls

Coffee Hour: Dygas family

8:00 a.m. Service: No 8:00 a.m. service today

10:30 a.m. Service: Holy Eucharist Rite II-A

Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

Donate

Gospel



First Sunday of Advent

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming,

Lector: Zella Nisley

Eucharistic Ministers: Gregory Proctor (Prayer leader) and Allyn Reilly

Ushers: Norm Fox and Julie Nehls

First Cross: Peter Buckley

Second Cross: Owen Buckley

Lessons: Isaiah 2: 1-5, Psalm 122 (sung), Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24: 36-44.

<http://www.lectionarypage.net/>

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS

In our world,

we pray for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, and for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; we pray for peace with justice throughout the Middle East. We pray for all people affected by natural and environmental disasters. We pray also for the people who are suffering from war, especially the Syrian refugees. We pray for Barack, our President, and John, our Governor, the members of the Supreme Court, and the members of the U.S. Congress.

In our diocese,

we pray for Thomas, our Diocesan Bishop, and Nedi, our Assisting Bishop.

In our parish, we pray for Good Shepherd's continued growth, for our Priest-in-charge, the Rev. Deborah Woolsey, for the Rev. Katharin Foster, for the Rev. David McCoy, and for our ministry to students, the university, and the community. We pray also for the Acolytes, the Wednesday free lunch, and Gregory Proctor, our treasurer.

Those for whom our prayers are requested: *

Ed and Mary Lou; Pam, Bill, the D'Andrea family, Elizabeth, Gifford, Sally, Patricia, Ann, Jan, Pat, Sharon, Bill, William, Roxie, Patricia, Richard, David, Mitchell, Don, Robert, Don, Nancy, Arvin, Suzan, Bill, and Sister Emmanuel, and we pray for all who care for them.

Birthdays: Paul Clever (11/30)

Anniversaries: Curt and Terrie Sherman (11/29)

The Altar Flowers are given in the celebration for the birthday of Allyn Reilly by Marsha Reilly.

* Full names for this section are not published online but are in the Sunday bulletin and will be read at the 10:30 service.

If you have a name to be added to the prayer list, Lynn Graham maintains this information. Lynn may be reached at 740-593-5098 or grahammowery@aol.com.

he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Temporary Sunday-Morning Schedule Change (Nov. 27)

There will be no 8:00 a.m. service on Sunday, November 27. The 8:00 am Rite I Service will resume on Sunday, December 4. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding.

Adult Education

From now until Christmas, on Sunday mornings we are exploring the brief hymns known as "O Antiphons," which celebrate the approaching incarnation of Christ, using such different names as Wisdom, Root of Jesse, and King. During the Advent Festival on Dec. 4, these antiphons will punctuate the longer hymns sung by the choir, so these Sunday morning discussions will allow us all to familiarize ourselves with them. This Sunday, Nov. 7, Allyn Reilly will meet with us to lead discussion of Antiphon 3, O Root of Jesse's Stock. We meet from 9 to 10 on Sunday mornings in Hobson Lounge.

Advent



Welcome to a new season and a new Church year.

The church begins every year with a season called Advent. For the Church Advent is not just a time to get ready for the celebration of Christmas; it is a time the Church has set aside to remind us that Christians are waiting for the return of Christ and that when Christ returns he will usher in the reign of God over all creation. Advent is a season of hopeful waiting, of expectation; it can teach us a lot about how to live a life of faith in all the seasons of our lives.

First Sunday in Advent: a Day of Hope in a Season of Waiting: Every Sunday in Advent, part of how we begin our church service is by lighting a candle on the Advent Wreath. The Advent Wreath is our clock, our timepiece, a way to help us discern where we are in this season of waiting. Waiting can feel never ending, and one way to help make waiting easier is to pay attention to the time. This Sunday we will light the first candle. There are several interpretations as to what each candle symbolizes. The first candle can symbolize prophecy or hope. It reminds us of the prophecies from the Old Testament about a savior, a savior who we believe was born, died, and is coming again. This is a hopeful prophecy for us, because we are waiting for Christ to return to earth and restore all creation to God's initial intention. It means judgment and reminds us that God's judgment is God's mercy. As we light the first candle in our Advent Wreath today, we pray for

hope as we wait.

Symbols of Advent: The Church has put on the symbols of the season. Look around you, and you will be able to tell the time and theme of Advent.

Color: Gone is the green of ordinary time and white of celebration time. Now the Church is wearing purple. Purple is the color of royalty, the color of kings. Purple reminds us that Jesus is our king, that he will return to reign-and yet we are reminded by Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension that he is a different kind of king. While monarchies rise and fall, the reign of Christ is marked by God's ultimate claim on creation.

Advent Wreath: added to the worship space is a ring or wreath of candles. The Advent Wreath is a sort of timepiece, like a clock, that helps us mark the days and tells us where we are in the season. Each Sunday we will light a candle or candles and say prayers. Pay attention to the direction in which we light the candles: we will light the candles in a counter-clockwise direction to symbolize that the church is counter-cultural. The Church is headed in a different direction from the world.

Jesse Tree: In Nehls Hall, the Worship Committee has brought out another symbol of Advent. The Jesse Tree is a way to tell the story beginning in the Old Testament, that God's promise of sending a Messiah was fulfilled in Jesus and will still be fulfilled in Jesus' return. It is called a "Jesse Tree" because of the prophecy in Isaiah 11:1 and Jeremiah 23:1-6 that speaks of a branch rising up from the stump of Jesse. The Jesse Tree, therefore, is usually a branch; throughout the days of Advent symbols are hung on the tree. These symbols can be of Old Testament stories that point to the Messiah or of the O antiphons, which represent the aspects of the season of Advent. Either way, the Jesse Tree is an invitation to explore the season and faith a little deeper.

These symbols do not have to be just for church; you can have your own Advent Wreath or Jesse Tree at home to add to your observance of this season.

Pre-Order Christmas poinsettias now through December 11

Anyone wishing to pre-order a poinsettia to decorate Good Shepherd for the Christmas season may do so by completing an order form along with a check or cash. Checks should be made payable to Church of the Good Shepherd. Order forms and envelopes are available in the Narthex. Each poinsettia will cost \$18 and need to be paid for in advance. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Hugel at hugel@ohio.edu or 740-592-5178.

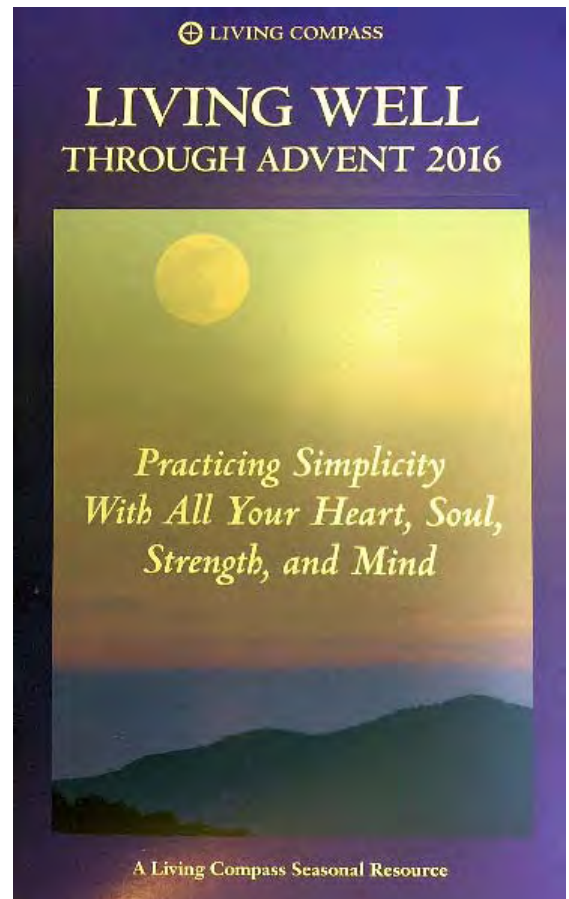


FREE Advent Resource Practicing Simplicity with all your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind

Please accept a gift to help bring you a deeper experience of Advent this year from Mother Deborah and Living Compass, an Episcopal ministry Mother Deborah used to work with.

While working with Living Compass, Mother Deborah had the joyful experience of putting together their first Advent book of daily readings; it became their most popular publication. Today it has grown to include guest authors from the Episcopal Church. It is Mother Deborah's hope that this year's theme of simplicity and its suggested practices will help you slow down and discover the beauty of simplicity.

(Copies in the Narthex)



New Church Year (begins Nov. 27)

This Sunday, November 27, is a day for new beginnings. It is the beginning of the new Church Year and the beginning of the season of Advent. Calendars are ways of keeping track of time; academic calendars keep track of school years, and fiscal calendars keep track of the tax year, for example. The Church has its own calendar with its own seasons as a way to help us move through time in a way that connects us to the Church, to God, and to each other. The new Church Year begins with Advent; as with many beginnings, it means a few things will change. These are changes we have every new year.

The Lectionary will change to Year A.

We have a 3-year lectionary with selected readings for every Sunday of the Church year, Years A, B, and C. You can find the Lectionary online at the episcopalchurch.org/lectionary-calendar or at lectionarypage.net.

The Daily Office will change to Year 1.

We have a 2-year rotation for readings selected for the Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer services, Year 1 and Year 2. You can find these readings online at episcopalchurch.org and lectionarypage.net.

Help Needed for the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service



Mother Deborah is looking for someone to help her with the Interactive Gospel Proclamation at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Service. All children attending this service will be invited to help Mother Deborah tell the story of Jesus' birth as the Gospel reading, and she needs someone who can help the children with the special tasks they have to do. The job consists of telling each child when to bring his or her part of the Gospel to the altar.

If you are willing to help, please let Mother Deborah know as soon as possible revdebwoolsey@gmail.com or text or call 937-689-8895. Thank You!

Wednesday Free-Lunch Report



On November 23rd, 2016, Wednesday Lunch group IV provided 32 people 39 servings. The main dishes were Texas Hash and or Lentil Stew over rice. Slaw, fresh fruit, dessert, and beverages rounded out the menu. The volunteers were Jean Thomas, Alex Buckley, Anne Walker, Lia Knox, Hailey Luellhoff, and David Burton.

Please remember the hungry in our community in your prayers. To become involved in one or more of the four lunch teams, please speak to Phyllis Dean, Zelma Coleman, Joanne Larson, or David Burton.

Holiday Bazaar & Barn Sale (Dec. 2-4)

The Dairy Barn Art Center: our annual Holiday Bazaar & Barn Sale.

Join us for a weekend of holiday fun, including a barn sale upstairs in the AEP Wing, over 40 local vendors, children's art activities, a raffle drawing, and a toy trade. As always, the Bazaar is FREE to the public.

When: Fri. Dec. 2, 3-8 p.m., and Sat. Dec. 3, 10-5 p.m.; Toy Trade on Sun. Dec. 4, 1-4 p.m. Click [here](#) to view the event on our website.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd presents an

Advent Festival of Lessons and Music Sunday,

December 4, 2016, 4:30pm

A reception and Holiday House with handmade seasonal items will be for sale following the program.

A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the June Black Music Fund.

**At The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
64 University Terrace
Athens, Ohio 45701**

**For more information please contact:
www.chogs.org
740-593-6877**



Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd
presents

Advent Festival of Lessons and Music

**Sunday, December 4
4:30pm**

Director - Marsha Reilly
Organ - Jan Robison
Flute - Malra Urbano Neto
Percussion - John Obringer

A reception and Holiday House with
handmade seasonal items will be for sale
following the program.

A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the
June Black Music Fund.

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
64 University Terrace
Athens, Ohio 45701

For more information contact:
www.chogs.org
740-593-6877

Celebrating 175 Years !! (Dec 10)

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, 541 Second Ave., Gallipolis, Ohio cordially invites you to share with us in celebrating 175 years of ministry in the community on Saturday, December 10, 2016. Holy Eucharist at 11:00 AM with the Rt. Rev. Thomas Breidenthal, Bishop of Southern Ohio, followed by a festive luncheon. Please RSVP for the luncheon by November 21 (740-446-2483 or stpeter541@sbcglobal.net).

Convention



Looks like the old man, lower left, fell asleep?? (Actually voting using cellphone ap.)

Repeated Information Below

[Your Kroger Card can Help the Church](#)

"Intersections"

Check out - -

["Intersections: Where the Holy Meets Us,"](#)

a blog through the Church of the Good Shepherd started by Mother Deborah.

It is still a work in progress in terms of functionality, but take a look: click the link above.



Parish Address: Stewardship, November 13, 2016

Today, in addition to bidding you welcome and making announcements, I want to take a little time to talk about this church and the future. But the future, and our future prospects, are always bound up in our past, so I wish to remind you briefly about our recent history. In March of 2012 the Rev. Bill Carroll resigned to take a parish in Oklahoma; we relied on supply priests until late December of that year, when the Rev. Wes Hills was called on a part-time basis, a post he occupied for only six months. From the summer of 2013 until January 2015 we relied again on supply priests, meaning that again we had no permanent ordained leadership during that period. Again, I must extend thanks to our two retired clergy, the Rev. Katharin Foster and the Rev. David McCoy, for their considerable contribution to our stability and sense of direction, and their wise and careful counsel to our lay leadership during that period. The parish, vestry, and lay leadership also maintained a careful and steady course. We went through a period of discernment and, significantly, raised our pledge income for 2015 by a considerable amount. This, together with a generous diocesan grant for campus ministry, enabled us to call Mother Deborah as our Priest-in-Charge beginning in January 2015. That call was not without the help of the Holy Spirit: there was a palpable feeling among the members of the discernment committee as well as many members of the parish that this call-to the first female priest in Good Shepherd's history-was somehow "right," that it was a good fit for all of us.

Fast forward to the present day, almost two years later. We have seen a decrease in pledges between 2015 and 2016 of about 27%, due entirely to parishioners moving or life circumstances vastly reducing their ability to pledge. Some have passed away.

In the meantime, Mother Deborah has accepted a quarter-time position as Convener of Campus Ministry with the diocese, which while it will take a little time away from us will still enable her to serve ably as our Priest-in-Charge. It will enable us to continue pretty much as we have been, to our benefit, and it will mean we are no longer dependent on the much softer money gained by applying annually for supplemental grants, as we have done the past 2-3 years. However, nothing is permanent in this world, and so we do not have a guarantee that this agreement will continue for more than a couple of years. However, every indication is that this experiment by the diocese-and it is an experiment, since no other

campus ministry leader in this diocese has had such a position previously-will be a success and will enable us to have the stability we need to move forward in the years ahead. Mother Deborah, I assure you, is working hard to make this a success, and we in the parish have a considerable stake in making it work here in the parish. In fact, it must work, and that is my central message to you today. It does us no good whatsoever to grumble about the diocese making promises it can't keep, or that the diocese doesn't care about our little church, or whatever. The diocese is giving us a chance, in fact, to survive and flourish, but only if we meet the challenge.

The challenge that we must meet is a very simple and direct one: it is to sustain ourselves within this structure; that is, of a three-quarter-time appointment of our priest-in-charge and one-quarter for the larger cause of campus ministry. Of the other two traditional college parishes set up by Bishop Hobson long ago, we are the logical choice: we are the only parish of the three that is literally in the midst of the campus we serve. We are surrounded by campus activity on all sides. With much talk at the Diocesan level of the "neighborhood" church, our neighborhood is this campus and the entire community it sustains. To make this 3/4-1/4 arrangement work, we must simply survive, flourish, and pursue our mission as we seek "to know and serve Christ in loving service to the Campus, the Community, and the world."

As a result, I come to you this morning with a simple request: we must increase our financial solvency little by little over the next several years so that we are no longer drawing down our endowment. I am asking you to increase your pledge. Not by an enormous amount-five percent per annum will keep us increasing, and seven percent will enable us very probably to avoid drawing down the endowment beyond sustainable levels. But I ask you to prayerfully consider giving what you can, remembering the challenge we are facing. If you do not currently pledge, I ask you to prayerfully consider a pledge. It enables us to plan rationally and prudently and ensures that this wonderful and sacred place will remain for generations.

Last week you heard our treasurer, Gregory Proctor, explain how our budgetary process, and the budget itself, is transparently clear. What I have intended to do today is to make sure that all of us understand that our past history of being set up as a campus parish, our recent history of destabilization, settling, finally, on stability, and our present circumstance of finding ourselves challenged to maintain ourselves and even grow, as is what I believe God wants us to do. Together, we can move forward, with God's help.

Blessings,

Allyn Reilly, Senior Warden

God's Glory Shines Through Us "We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone." - Marrienne Williamson

Location: Procter Center

Join us for our annual young adult gathering--a space for reconnecting with God, friends, and your own story. This year, we will explore creativity as an expression of God's glory in our midst. We will have opportunities to engage in the art of improv, visual art, music making, poetry, and whatever creative gifts you have to share. We invite you to join us and bring your playful and creative spirit with you. We will be joined by artists, musicians, and improv actors who will lead us in a variety of workshops and help us explore our own creative gifts. We will also spend time in prayer and reflection on how God is made manifest in us. Come ready to play!

We begin on Friday night, December 16th at 5 pm, and will conclude on Saturday, December 17th, around 3 pm. This retreat is free for young adults ages 18-35. For more information and to register please click [HERE](#) .

Many Ways to Give *

There is a new addition to the www.chogs.org website and to the E-News. Like many other parishes, our website now has an option labeled DONATE, which allows anyone to make a financial donation to Church of the Good Shepherd. We added this feature to make it easier for anyone who wants to give financially to the parish to do so.

Here are a few good things to know about this feature:

PayPal - This feature uses the PayPal program, which is a safe and secure method to make a financial donation. However, as we also have to pay for PayPal's services, approximately 6% of each donation goes to PayPal.

Tax benefit - People who give via the PayPal option will receive a receipt so they can claim their donation on their taxes.

Intention - The real intention in setting up this option is to make it easier to give financially for people who may not attend regularly and are interested in one-time or infrequent financial giving to Good Shepherd. It is not intended to be a means of regular giving for active members.

You Don't Have to Use It. You can continue to pay your pledge or make your financial contribution in the way that works best for you: direct deposit through your bank or credit union, personal check (mailed to the church or put into the offertory plate on Sunday), or cash (placed in offertory plate on Sunday).

If you have any questions or want to learn more about on-line giving, please talk to our Treasurer, Gregory Proctor.

* This announcement addresses financial giving only. We do not intend to diminish other types of giving, but we do want to bring attention to something new and explain it.

Sermons on the Website:

Miss a sermon? Out of town? Or maybe you just want to read it yourself? Thanks to our technological team, the sermons from Sunday are posted on the Church of the Good Shepherd website a few days after they are preached. Check out the ones you missed, go over a favorite, or share. <http://www.chogs.org/sermons.htm>

Pastoral Care

Because of health care privacy laws, hospitals are no longer able to call your priest or parish when you are in the hospital. That means that if you want a visit from Mother Deborah or a Lay Eucharistic Visitor (a parish member who has some training) you need to call and ask for a visit. For emergencies please call Mother Deborah's cell phone 937-689-8895. If you would prefer prayers instead of a visit, just call and ask for prayers.

Altar Flowers



To reserve flowers in memory of someone or in thanksgiving, please speak to or contact Sharon Huge (740-592-5178 or huge@ohio.edu).

Hyacinth Bean Florist provides our arrangements for the back altar on Sunday. A single arrangement in a triangular design is \$60 plus \$9 for delivery. Sharon Huge coordinates, providing our florist with the name and address of donors for billing purposes. If you wish to have special colors or specific flowers, you may call Polly at Hyacinth Bean (740-594-9302) to discuss your wishes. If you want to go to the shop to discuss special arrangements, Hyacinth Bean Florist is located at 540 W. Union St. in Athens. There is ample free parking in the lot outside the shop.



Mother Deborah's home phone is 740-249-4497, and her cell number is 937-689-8895, for emergencies.

Her personal email is the Rev. Deborah Woolsey <revdebwoolsey@gmail.com>, and the email through the church is the Rev. Deborah Woolsey <revdeborah@chogs.org>.

Mother Deborah has found that people like to communicate in many ways, so she is reachable on Facebook (<http://facebook.com/deborah.woolsey.12>) and on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/DeborahWoolsey>), and you can check out her blog at (<http://www.revvedupwoolsey.com/>).

Also, here is the link to the Church of Good Shepherd's **Facebook** page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Episcopal-Church-of-the-Good-Shepherd-45701/554345594588086?fref=ts>. Once you get on the page, just LIKE it if you are already a Facebook person. Otherwise you will need to create a Facebook account first.

And the Church of Good Shepherd's Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/CHOGSofAthens>.

Contact Information

For pastoral needs, please contact The Rev. Deborah Woolsey at 740-249-4497 (H) or 937-689-8895 (C) or 740-593-6877 (church), or by e-mail at revdebwoolsey@gmail.com.

To find out more about Good Shepherd and other matters, please contact Allyn Reilly, Senior Warden, at 740-592-2596 or by e-mail at reillya@ohio.edu.

For building and maintenance matters, please leave a note at the office or call Ted Foster (Junior Warden) at 740-593-8615.

NOTE: NON-emergency messages can be left on the church answering machine (740-593-6877).

Office Hours:

10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday (closed Friday and Saturday).
The parish office administrator is Barbara Martin (740-593-6877 or barbara@chogs.org).

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd *Seeking and Serving Christ in All Persons*

64 University Terrace, Athens OH 45701
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