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CHURCH OF THE



GOOD SHEPHERD

Good Shepherd E-News (29 March 2018)

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: 1 April 2018



Easter

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Rite I

9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Rite II-B

Upcoming Church Events

Maundy Thursday - March 29, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday - March 30, 7:30 p.m.

Easter Vigil - March 31, 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 1

Early Easter Service - 8:00

Breakfast and Flowering of the Cross - 9:00 a.m.

Easter Service - 10:30 a.m.

Potluck at the Fosters - 1:30 p.m.

Free Lunch - Wednesday, April 4, 12:00 noon

Choir Rehearsal - Wednesday, April 4, 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Shawl - Tuesday, April 10th, Lois Wagner

Free Lunch - Wednesday, April 11, 12:00 noon

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From our friends
in St. Luke's
Episcopal Church
in Mérida,
Mexico.

"José's Weekly
Reflection"

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help the
Church](#)

Choir Rehearsal - Wednesday, April 11, 7:00 p.m.
Free Lunch - Wednesday, April 18, 12:00 noon
Choir Rehearsal - Wednesday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Shawl - Tuesday, April 24th, Stephanie
Goldsberry
Free Lunch - Wednesday, April 25, 12:00 noon
Choir Rehearsal - Wednesday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.



"Mother Deborah's Easter
is No April Fools Joke"

(If you have not received it
as yet, follow [this link](#) to
Mother Deborah's Easter
Letter.)

**"When it's Dark
Enough, You Can See
the Stars"**

**Lessons on the Great
Vigil of Easter**

**Saturday,
March 31, 7:30 pm**



The Great Vigil of Easter is the oldest service in the modern church. Archeologists and scholars have found written descriptions of this service dating all the way back to the earliest days of the church, back when the new church was still learning how to be a community of followers of Jesus. While there have been some adjustments to it, the service has remained relatively unchanged. When planning for this service, therefore, we want to be careful to balance the respect for the historicity of the service with making it accessible to our modern sensibilities.

One of the parts of the service we've often heard mild "complaints" about is when we sit as a congregation in a darkened church, holding candles for light, and listen to the story of salvation. This part of the service represents the times when we are in the dark, when we struggle with oppression, or failures, or anytime we find ourselves in "caves" or dark times in our lives. At times that might seem hopeless, this service reminds us that sometimes it is in the dark where those small points of hopeful light shine the brightest, just like the stars, which are always there, beyond the layers of our atmosphere, always twinkling away, but the sunlight obscures them from view; only in the darkness of night can we see the stars with our naked eyes.

Followers of Jesus are going to experience times of darkness. And when we do, we have the wisdom the liturgy shows us to help us get through. In the spiritual darkness, sometimes we can find light in the love story between God and God's people. This year, we wanted to help make this story of salvation seem both familiar and fresh. So we've selected fewer lessons and will present them differently.

Lesson 1: The Creation

Instead of taking the text for this story directly from Genesis, we are

turning to the great American poet, civil rights activist, writer, diplomat and educator James Weldon Johnson. Born in 1871, he was educated at Atlanta University and at Columbia and was the first black man admitted to the Florida bar. In addition to being a songwriter in New York, he served as American consul in Venezuela and Nicaragua, executive secretary of the NAACP, and professor of creative literature at Fisk University. He died in 1938.

This poem is one of 8 published in what might be his best-known collection: *God's Trombones: Seven Negro Sermons in Verse*. These poems are based on popular sermons preached by slaves. The poem is based securely in the Biblical text, and at the very same time it celebrates the beauty, wonder, and diversity of life in a particularly charming and lyrical way. It's okay to smile as you listen to this lovely rendition of creation, for that was the original intention of the Genesis telling. We hope you notice the loneliness of God, and that God created humanity out of God's desire to not be alone. If you ever feel lonely, you might find comfort in knowing God knows just how you feel.

Lesson 2: The Deliverance

Since this is the one lesson that is required by the the Book Of Common Prayer, we used the familiar translation from the NRSV, but we broke it up into multiple voices, much like the traditional reading of the Passion narrative on Palm Sunday. That means that there is a part for the congregation too. While this story is often seen through the lens of the movie the Ten Commandments, there is a great deal more to it. It is the important freedom story for oppressed people. We hope that by giving a part to everyone, including you, you see liberation by God is both gift and responsibility.

Lesson 3: Valley of Dry Bones or Renewing Spirit

Confession time: one of the reasons this story is included is because it is one of Mother Deborah's favorites. She loves it for its fantastic aspects, it's imaginative elements, and because there is something joyfully fun about giving life to the dead and dry forgotten and abandoned bones of God's People. To help capture all those aspects of the story, we are using Eugene Peterson's translation of the Old Testament and breaking it up into the voices of the prophet Ezekiel and of God. Listen as the prophet remembers hearing God speak and helped him breathe life into the dryness of a people who have no hope. We hope you remember it when you find yourself in the midst of dryness, no matter what kind of lifelessness it is, or when you feel the need for renewal yourself.

"When it's Dark Enough, You Can See the Stars"

Participants scheduled for

This Sunday, April 1, 2018 - Easter

Altar Guild: Sharon Huges and Lynn Graham

Altar Flowers:

Easter Breakfast:

8:00 a.m. Service: Holy Eucharist Rite I

Celebrant: The Rev. Leslie Flemming

Lector: Joanne Larson

Prayer Leader: Earl Stump

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

Lector: Richard Carlson

Eucharistic Ministers: Dana Carlson (Prayer Leader) and Lynn Graham

Ushers: Julie Nehls and Daniel Dygas

Thurifer: Peter Buckley

First Crucifer: Bella Martin

Second Crucifer: Pely Brient

Gospel Book: Owen Buckley

Lessons: for Easter - Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (sung); I Corinthians 15:1-11, John 20:1-18. <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 all refugees. We pray for Donald, our president, and John, our Governor, the Supreme Court, and the members of Congress.

In our diocese, we pray for Thomas, our Diocesan Bishop, and Nedi, our Assisting Bishop. We pray also for St. Peter's, Gallipolis; Christ Church, Glendale; and St. Luke's, Granville.

In our parish, we pray for Good Shepherd's continued growth, for our Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Deborah Woolsey, for our Associate Priests, the Rev. Leslie Flemming, the Rev. Katharin Foster, and the Rev. David McCoy, and for our ministry to students, the university, and the community. We pray for our friends at

Those for whom our Prayers are Requested: Kris, Kristi, Mary Lou, Weston, Paul, Pam, Jane, Louise, Ann and Bill, Stephen, Zelma, Mary, Addison, the D'Andrea family, Julie, Chris, Sally, Norm, Jan, Pat, Doris, Molly and Mateo, Ivan, and Alejandro, Candace, Emma, Bob and Sharon, Bill, Clif, William, Sharon, Monya, Angie, Patricia, Julie, Paul, David, Elizabeth and Adam, Mark, Robert, Don, the Sheets family, Bob, John, Nancy, Laura, Consuelo and family, Joe, Arvin, and Sandi, and we pray for all who care for them.

Birthdays: Zella Nisley (4/1), Jody Smith (4/2), Bob Spero (4/4), Kate Ortman Cottrill (4/5)

For Those Who Have Died: Richard McGinn

Gospel

Easter Sunday

John 20:1-18



Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were

running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to

them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Holy Week at Church of the Good Shepherd 2018 **Sharing Christ's Journey from Palm Sunday to Easter Morning**

Of all the beautiful opportunities the church has for us, there nothing quite like Holy Week. We know you are busy; we know there are many demands on your time and energy every day. Holy Week is not intended to be yet another list of "to-do's" to add to an already long list. Instead, Holy Week is a pilgrimage: an opportunity to let go of some of those demands in order to spend time walking through Christ's final days in ways that can be renewing so that you will be able to return to your demands renewed in spirit and purpose.

March 25, Palm Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30 am

This service begins with a sense of excitement and enthusiasm as we bless palm branches and commemorate Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, but quickly turns as we find ourselves listening to Christ's Passion. Often we leave this day feeling uneasy. The gift of this day is to ask ourselves the question of who is Jesus to us, and to challenge ourselves to follow Jesus into places we may not want to go so that we can share in the tremendous joy of his Resurrection.

March 27, Tenebrae, 8:00 pm

A service of shadows. A touching liturgy heavily influenced by monastic prayer services, which helps to prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the darkest time in the church year by emotionally recreating the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of Christ. A powerful worship service that can help us recognize God's light in our darkest hours.

March 29, Maundy Thursday, 7:30 pm

This service shows us what Love is; not only what the Love of God looks like, but to experience it first hand during the washing of feet. One opportunity for us is to see how strong this Love is, because the service does not end with Jesus and his disciples sharing a meal; it ends with the stripping of the altar and then bare and desolate silence. This silence may feel empty; however it may be full of joy, too-full of a Love that does not abandon us when things are challenging or lonely or frightening, but is present in ways we might not recognize.

March 29, The Watch Thursday, 9:00 pm - Friday noon

Those who participate in this meaningful Holy Week tradition often express having a feeling of peace. Coming into the sanctuary to pray for one hour is an invitation to succeed where the disciples failed. It is our chance to pray with Christ.

March 30, Good Friday, 7:30 pm

It might seem inappropriate to use the word *good* to describe the day we are invited to journey to the foot of the cross once again and be present to Christ's suffering and death. It is a dark, disturbing day. But we need this day, because all the events that precede and follow depend on this day. While some might choose to skip this part, Jesus was not able to skip it. His death and resurrection are intertwined; we cannot separate them. Today is a chance to recognize that when the world does its worst, that doesn't mean God is absent, or doesn't care, or has lost. Instead it invites us to wait and see what God will do.

March 31, Great Vigil of Easter, 7:30 pm

Of all the worship experiences in the Church, there is nothing like the Great Vigil, which might be why it is called *great*. This service will dramatically bring to culmination the week's holy journey. With the lighting of the first fire, hearing our salvation story, and the joyful return of the Alleluia we discover that somehow in the darkness Jesus who died did not stay dead. He rose, and that amazing truth will shatter the darkness of fear. The Great Vigil is one of (if not the) oldest and unchanged worship services in the church. It is a powerful service that cannot be rushed to or through, but must be entered into with an open heart, mind, and soul so as to help immerse us in the amazing gift of redemption and grace.

Bring bells! And see what happened with the Alleluias we buried the Sunday before Lent.

Flowering of the Cross



Flowers are needed for the flowering of the cross following the Easter breakfast. Flowers may be dropped off Saturday, March 31, at the church between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Decorating for Easter:

All are invited to come Saturday morning, March 31, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., to help clean and decorate the church for Easter. If you have any questions please contact Sharon Huge (huge@ohio.edu), or Sally Spero (s_spero@hotmail.com).

Easter Breakfast:

Easter breakfast will be served Sunday, April 1, 9:00 a.m. A sign up sheet is available in the kitchen. Help will be needed to cook, set up, serve, and clean up. Food donations are also needed. Please sign up and participate in our Easter breakfast. All are invited to attend.

Easter Parish Potluck (April 1)

The Fosters will again host the traditional Easter potluck at their home. The potluck will begin at about 1:30 on Easter Sunday afternoon. Ham and fried chicken will be provided. Those attending can bring beverages, side dishes, or a dessert. All are invited. Plan to come, because you'll have a great time. There is plenty of room inside if the weather is inclement and outside if the weather cooperates. Outside there are opportunities for hiking.

The Fosters' address is 7919 N. Coolville Ridge Road, Athens. For directions, please use your GPS or speak to Ted or Katharin (740-593-8615). Maps are available in Narthex.

Wednesday Free-Lunch Report



On March 28 group 4 fed 62 people 78 servings. The menu was Texas hash and lentil stew, salad, fresh fruit, dessert, and juice.

The volunteers were Alex Buckley, Ester Hernandez, Louise Moysaenko, Maryann Gunderson, David Burton, Lynn Graham, and Thaddeus Semsel.

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.

"Light in Community" This Week



To Weep, Repent, and Recommit: MLK 50 Forward

In observance of the 50th anniversary of the assassination of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., an event entitled "To Weep,

Repent, and Recommit: MLK 50 Forward" will take place Wednesday, April 4, at 6 p.m. on the steps of Ohio University's Lindley Hall on South Court Street. For the Facebook event page, click [here](#).

The event will include theatrical readings from the "Mountaintop Speech" Dr. King gave the night before his death, and statements from Athens mayor Steve Patterson; Jacob Okumu, Coordinator for Student Outreach and Development Services, OMSAR at Ohio University; and faith leaders from Athens First Presbyterian Church, the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Hillel at Ohio University, and United Campus Ministry.

Cap Off the DSO Exodus Big Read at the Exodus Colloquium (April 7)

Exodus: A DSO Big Read Colloquium, We Will be joined by:

Terence Fretheim, Old Testament scholar and the Elva B. Lovell professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary. Terence is the author of the Exodus volume of *Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching*, one of the three texts we've been using during the Exodus Big Read. Terence will help us reiterate and explore the major themes in Exodus.



Carol Meyers, a feminist biblical scholar and the Mary Grace Wilson Professor Emerita of Religious Studies at Duke University. Carol is the author of the Exodus volume of The New Cambridge Bible Commentary, another of the three texts we've been using during the Exodus Big Read. Carol focuses on memory, and how memory in the iron age helped shape the biblical narrative.

Mark Stevenson, Director of Episcopal Migration Ministries. Episcopal Migration Ministries was established in the 1930s to help people fleeing Nazi Europe, and since that time has continued to help refugees from all over the world. Mark will help us think through the contemporary applications of what we've learned.

Bishop Breidenthal, who has led us through this Exodus Big Read and will help bring it to its conclusion in discussion with our wonderful guests.

April 7, 2018

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

All Saints, New Albany

5101 Johnstown Rd

New Albany, OH

Lunch is provided.

[Register HERE.](#)

Free Bereavement Workshop (April 18)

The bereavement staff at OhioHealth Home Care and Hospice, along with Phil Foster, Chaplain at OhioHealth O'Bleness Hospital, is delighted to invite you to participate in the 25th annual Living With Grief workshop on Wednesday, April 18, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in room 10 in the basement of OhioHealth O'Bleness Hospital.

The Living With Grief series, produced by the Hospice Foundation of America, is created for professionals, students, and community members who work with the bereaved and those experiencing anticipatory bereavement. These workshops have covered helping children deal with grief, assisting veterans with their grief, and looking at spousal grief, to name just a few.

This year's topic is "Transforming Loss: Finding Potential for Growth." It is a 90-minute video program, followed by a half-hour discussion. Ideal for community education and outreach, this program will touch the heart of anyone who has experienced loss with stories of people who have found meaning and purpose through loss. The program will offer clinicians tools to support and encourage transformative growth in grieving clients and will supply self-help advice for the bereaved.

The session includes expert panelists Ken Doka, PhD, MDiv; Patti Anewalt, PhD, LPC, FT; and Richard Tedeschi, PhD. Two C.E. hours are available from a wide variety of professional boards (use this URL to see the participating boards:

https://hospicefoundation.org/getattachment/HFA-Products/Transforming-Loss/Board-Approvals_cmb.pdf.aspx).

Residential Energy Audit Pilot

Ohio IPL (Ohio Interfaith Power and Light) is partnering with Columbia Gas of Ohio to offer congregational members a home energy audit for \$50.00 (a \$500.00 value) with \$20.00 for each audit completed coming back to your faith community. If your faith community is in the Columbia Gas of Ohio region and you would like to explore being a part of this pilot project, please contact Sara Ward at sward@ohipl.org.

[Altar Flowers](#) [How to Order](#)

Disaster Relief (via ERD)



There are ways we can help those in the path of disaster. One way is to pray. Another is through Episcopal Relief and Development. ERD is one of the first relief organizations to arrive at locations hit by disaster and to stay to help with recovery. They have an excellent reputation for fund

distribution and volunteer coordination. Please visit their website, episcopalrelief.org, to donate, volunteer, and learn more.

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.



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 David Burton, Senior Warden, at 740-593-5634 or by e-mail at drabeja@yahoo.com

For maintenance matters, please leave a note at the office or contact Dana Carlson, Senior Warden, at 740-664-2022 or by e-mail at carlsondana@hotmail.com. **For emergencies**, please call The Rev. Deborah Woolsey at 937-689-8895.

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*

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