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Gospel



Good Shepherd E-News (7 January 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: 10 January 2016 First Sunday after the Epiphany



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

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

Officiant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

**9:00 a.m. Adult Forum;
Second Sunday**

Starting at 10:15 a.m. fully staffed

nursery care is available.

Upcoming Church Events

Second Sunday Brunch, Sunday, January 10

Prayer Shawl Meeting, Tuesday, January 12 (Julie Nehls)

Free Lunch, Wednesday, January 13, noon

Choir Rehearsal, Wednesday, January 13, 7:00 p.m.

Participants scheduled for

This Sunday - Epiphany 1 (10 January 2015)

Altar Guild: Sharon Huge and Joanne Larson

Second Sunday setup: the Carlson family

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

Officiant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey



First Sunday after the Epiphany

**Luke 3:15-17,
21-22**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Lector/Prayers: Doris Green/Joanne Larson

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

Officiant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

Lector: Don Frazier

Eucharistic Ministers: Marsha Dutton (Prayer leader) and Allyn Reilly

Ushers: Bruce Martin, Julia Nehls

First Cross: Sharon Huge

Second Cross: Bella Martin

Gospel Book: Ana Martin

Lessons: Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29 (sung), Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.

<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 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. Mary Magdalene's, Mainesville; St. Luke's, Marietta; Trinity, McArthur.

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 Athens County Food Pantry, for the music ministry and choir, and for Ted Foster, our Junior Warden.

Those for whom our prayers are requested: *

Catie, Lydia and her mother, Michael, Roger, Pam, Jim, Winston, Harrison, Wanda, Louise, the D'Andrea family, Gifford, Ben, Jan, Ruth, Pat, Ellen, Ray, Beverly, Bela, William, Rachel, Adam, Brent, Andy, Patricia and George, Douglas, Richard, Jennifer, Holly, Robert, Dorothy, the Schave family, Matt & Ashley and their children David and Daniel, the Shultz family, Pat, Earl, Nancy, the Rev. Tim, Arvin, Suzan, Loretta, and Bill and Karen, and we pray for all who care for them.

Birthdays:

Ella Cottrill (1/12), Emile Walker (1/13), Geoff Buckley (1/14),

Gregory Proctor (1/24), the Rev. Hank Millhorn (1/15).

For those who have died:

Martha Bitters

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and for a blessed Advent season.

* 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.

[Your Kroger Plus card can help the Church.](#)



A Reminder -- This Sunday is Second Sunday Brunch

Parking & Driveway

Today, Thursday, the church driveway may be blocked for short periods of time during visits of the cement truck. Plans were changed to pour the concrete today rather than earlier because of freezing weather. I am not sure how the University plans to use the slab (have heard several scenarios). One plus--the pesky curb barrier that is difficult to avoid running over when entering the drive is gone.



Adult Forum (Sunday, 9:00 a.m.)

Jack Flemming will continue leading discussions on the 39 Articles of Religion. These are historical statements of doctrine in the Church of England and, after 1801, in the Episcopal Church in the US. For a foretaste of what's coming, look at the Book of Common Prayer, pp. 867-76 (in the Historical Documents section). This will be an opportunity to consider your own understanding of historical Episcopal Church doctrine and, for example, how our doctrine today differs from what is set down in the 39 Articles. Do come: Hobson Lounge, 9-10.

Gifts of the Magi: Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh

On January 6 the Church celebrates a feast called The Epiphany. It is the day we commemorate the arrival of the magi and the gifts they gave to Jesus. Ever wonder about those gifts? They might seem sort of impractical at first glance, so

perhaps there is something else about them. Maybe those gifts tell us something about Jesus.

The gift of gold. Gold is a precious metal that is used for more than just currency. Gold is used to decorate palaces and places royalty dwell. Gold is also made

into jewelry; the giving and wearing of gold can be a sign of prestige or wealth or value. Gold has value, and in the context of the gifts of the magi it could signify Jesus as a king. However we will see that Jesus is a different kind of King, as the other gifts could indicate.

The gift of frankincense. While we've undoubtedly heard the word countless times, we might not have had as much contact with frankincense as we've had with gold. Frankincense is a resin, it is produced by trees, and it is yellow and sticky. Frankincense is most commonly used as a form of incense, as the resin is burned to produce a smoke and pleasing odor. In ancient times it was considered valuable for its healing properties. Even in our modern times frankincense is used to heal wounds, help ease arthritis, and promote healthy digestion when chewed, and it is good for healthy skin. The scent of frankincense is believed to alleviate anxiety and depression. There are communities in the Holy Land that burn frankincense in their public squares and in their businesses because it is believed to bring financial prosperity as well as health. (Incidentally, the incense we use here at Church of the Good Shepherd is frankincense.) Perhaps this gift points to Jesus as a healer, who isn't just going to bring physical healing to various individuals, but who brings the healing of our souls and our relationship with God.

The gift of myrrh. Like frankincense, myrrh is a resin, produced by trees. It is dark, reddish brown, and sticky. It also is burned as incense and is mentioned elsewhere in the Gospels at the time of Jesus' death. Myrrh was traditionally used for anointing dead bodies, even though myrrh also has health benefits such as curing toothaches. While it is possible that this gift symbolizes Jesus' death, it is also possible that it points to his resurrection. When burned, myrrh releases a fragrance and is transformed.

There are plenty of other and deeper interpretations about the magi and the gifts they brought, as they have inspired many. Perhaps they might inspire you to consider what gift you might give to Jesus. Happy Epiphany!





Interfaith Prayer and Vigil



Interfaith Prayer and Vigil for the Beloved Community, Tuesday, January 12, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m., in Galbreath Chapel. Mother Deborah is one of the participants.

Prayers and reflections from Christian, Jewish, and Muslim members of the community. A United Campus Ministry Event.

Wednesday Free-Lunch Report



On Wednesday, January 6, Wednesday Lunch Group I served 29 people 41 servings. The meat dish was mac & cheese & franks, and the vegetarian dish was mac & cheese. Salad, fresh fruit and vegetables, beverages, and desserts were also available.

The volunteers this week were Phyllis Dean, Norman Fox, Harolyn Brient, and Gregory Proctor.

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.

About Discretionary Sunday:

Next Sunday, the loose plate offering (all cash and non-designated giving) will go into the priest-in-charge's discretionary fund. This fund is used to offer assistance to different needs in the community such as utility and other bills. Anyone can contribute to the priest's discretionary fund at any time by writing "discretionary fund" on the memo line of a check or on the outside of an envelope with a contribution inside. Thanks to your generosity, Mother Deborah has been able to help the community one person at a time.

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 Huger (740-592-5178 or huger@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 Huger 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.

A Fully Staffed Nursery: Nursery care is provided downstairs for children age 5 and younger on Sundays beginning at 10:15 a.m. However, should parents prefer, children of all ages are of course always welcome throughout the entire service.



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

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