

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Contents

[José's Weekly Reflection](#)

[This Sunday](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Adult Forum](#)

[Sunday Participants](#)

[Gospel](#)

[Shooting](#)

[Stewardship](#)

[Christmas Coffee](#)

[CROP Walk](#)

[Thanksgiving Day](#)

[Exodus Statement](#)

[Wednesday Lunch](#)

[Pastoral Care](#)

[Contact Information](#)

Quick Links

[Parish website](#)

[Sermons](#)

[Parish calendar](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Campus Interest](#)

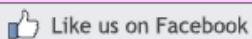
[E-News guidelines](#)

[Back Issues](#)

[Diocese S Ohio](#)

[Episcopal News Service](#)

[Episcopal Cafe](#)

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Good Shepherd E-News (9 November 2017)

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: 12 November 2017



23rd Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

Celebrant: The Rev. Leslie Flemming

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey

9:00 a.m. - Adult Forum, Convention Summary

11:30 a.m. - Second Sunday Brunch

12:30 p.m. - Advent Rehearsal

Upcoming Church Events

Second Sunday Brunch - Sunday, Nov. 12, 12:00 noon

Advent Rehearsal - Sunday, Nov. 12, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Prayer Shawl Group - Tuesday, Nov. 14, June Wieman

Free Lunch - Wednesday, Nov. 15, 12:00 noon

Choir Rehearsal - Wednesday, November 15, 7:00;

Advent Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.

Free Lunch - Wednesday, Nov. 22, 12:00 noon

Thanksgiving Day Service - Thurs, Nov. 23, 10:00 a.m.

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

"José's Weekly Reflection"

[ENGLISH](#)

[SPANISH](#)

Thanksgiving Potluck - Thursday, November 23, 1:30 p.m.

Christ the King Sunday - Sunday, November 26

Free Lunch - Wednesday, Nov. 29, 12:00 noon

Choir Rehearsal - Wednesday, November 29, 7:00 p.m.

In-Gathering Sunday - December 3

Advent Festival - Sunday, Dec. 3, 4:30 p.m.

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

Adult Forum - Convention Summary
9:00 am, This Sunday, November 12



*Episcopal Church of
the Good Shepherd*

Special Services

Thanksgiving Day Nov. 23

10:00 am Church Service
1:30 pm Dinner



Advent Festival December 3

4:30 pm (Readings and Music)



Messiah Sing December 15

6:00 pm (Reception following)

Christmas Eve December 24

4:00 pm Family Service
10:30 pm Traditional Service

Christmas Day December 25

11:00 am Peaceful Celebration

For more info visit chogs.org

Hear from the delegates and Mother Deborah as they summarize this year's Diocesan Convention. Every year clergy and delegates gather together to do the business of the year which minimally consists of passing a budget and voting on resolutions. Convention can also include ministry reports, opportunities to connect to other Episcopalians in Southern Ohio, and learn about programs throughout the diocese. Every diocese is required by canon law to meet and do this business of the church. Please join us Sunday and learn more about how our diocese does convention.

Pray for our delegates: Allyn Reilly, David Burton, Jack Flemming, Bruce Martin and for Mother Deborah and the other clergy from our parish who will also be attending and voting.

**Reminder - This Sunday is also Second
a Sunday brunch day.**

Following the 10:30 Service

**Please bring a dish to share and helping
with the cleanup is also appreciated.**

Participants scheduled for

This Sunday - Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost (All Saints)

Altar Guild: Hailey Luelloff and Sally Spero

Altar Flowers: David Burton

Coffee Hour: Second Sunday set-up - Phyllis and Dick Dean

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-D
Celebrant: The Rev. Deborah Woolsey
Lector: Zella Nisley
Eucharistic Ministers: Marsha Dutton (Prayer Leader) and Allyn Reilly
Ushers: Zelma Coleman and Chris Eaton
First Crucifer: Sharon Huge
Second Crucifer: Pely Brient

Lessons: for Pentecost 23 - Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, Psalm 78:1-7 (sung), I Thessalonians 4:13-18, Matthew 25:1-13. <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.

In our parish, we pray for Good Shepherd's continued growth, for our Priest-in-Charge, Rev. Deborah Woolsey, for our Associate Priests, Rev. Leslie Flemming, Rev. Katharin Foster and Rev. David McCoy, for our ministry to students, the university, and the community. We pray for our friends at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Merida, Mexico. We pray also for the Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, and for the choral scholars.

Those Whom our Prayers are Requested: Kris, Kristi, Mary Lou, Weston, Paul, Jackie, Pam, Annette, Jane, David, Louise, Dot, Ann and Bill, Stephen, Mary, the D'Andrea family, Julie, Chris, Sally, Norm, Jan, Pat, Doris, Molly and Mateo, Ivan, Alejandro, Candace, Sharon, Bill, Ron, Clif, William, Patricia, Paul, David, Holly, Robert, Zack, Don, the Sheets family, Reid, Ann, Elliot, John, Eleanor, Nancy,

Arvin, Sandi, June, Sister Emmanuel, and we pray for all who care for them.

Birthdays: Thomas Walker (11/12), Ingrid Buckley (11/14), David Burton (11/16), Tiffany Sherman (11/17), Mark Worstall (11/18)

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving.

Gospel

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 25:1-13



Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But

the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

A Response to the Shooting in Texas

My family and I enjoy movies, and one of our favorites is an imaginative animated movie by Dreamworks called *The Croods*. It's a story about a family (whose name is Croods) who might be the last family of cave people. They have watched other families die from disease, tragic accident, and animal attack until they are the last ones left. The patriarch of the family, a lovable big cave man named Grug, responded to this series of disasters by taking it on himself to protect his family from the many dangers of life by convincing his family to "Never not be afraid." For Grug, a father who wants nothing more than to keep those he loves safe, fear is what he believes will protect his beloved family from a dangerous world.

However, his eldest daughter fails to see the potential dangers as a reason to stay hidden in their dark family cave. Instead, she is constantly pushing the boundaries, hungry for the beauty of the world. When she meets a mysterious young man who is different from the cave men, her family's world view is challenged. The young man brings a doomsday message: the world is changing, and earthquakes accompanying the changes are forcing the young man to journey to the mysterious

unknown place called "Tomorrow." He invites the Croods to come with him and they accept, mostly because they have no choice when their cave gets destroyed in an earthquake.

Of course the family movie has lots of humorous moments, often caused by the family's struggle to live differently, to not be afraid, which requires them to face every new challenge creatively and to never give up. If you haven't seen it, no matter your age, I recommend it.

Although tragedies are nothing new in our world that is as full of dangers as the make-believe world of The Croods, it feels to me like there are more and more of them happening closer to each other. It has been no less than 6 weeks since the horrific mass shooting in Las Vegas, and the news this week is full of reports and updates on yet another mass shooting, this time in the small town of Sutherland Springs, Texas. Perhaps the news of the most recent mass shooting and murder hits us at Church of the Good Shepherd a little more close to home because it happened in a church building on a Sunday morning when we were also gathered in our own church building for worship. Therefore, it might be tempting to react the same way the character Grug did in the movie, to "Never not be afraid." Indeed, I have seen many fear-based responses fill up social media in the wake of this crime as church consultants advise churches to start locking our doors, even during church services, not to let in anyone we don't know, to install cameras, and perhaps even to hire armed guards. The trouble with such a vision is that it fails to embody Christian hospitality, and it does not live up to the most commonly repeated command in both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible: Do not be afraid.

There is a lot more to the command "Do not be afraid" than rejecting fear. I believe this command requires us to name our fears and not be controlled by them; we name them so that we can face them, work through them, and face how we contribute to situations and what we can do about them.

For more on this, I commend to you a statement from the Episcopal Bishops Against Gun Violence at bishopsagainstgunviolence.org. This group of Episcopal bishops from around the world, including our own Bishop Thomas Breidenthal, came together several years ago in response to the growing number of mass shootings and were quick to respond to the mass shooting in Sutherland Springs. Their statement reminds us that prayer is not something we say we're going to do in order to escape accountability; instead prayer is a form of powerful action. They also fearlessly address the human sin of idolatry of violence and the culture of violence. The statement from the bishops shows us one way the command "Do not be afraid" can be lived in response to overwhelming current events.

At Church of the Good Shepherd, we will not be locking our doors during worship services. We will continue to keep our doors open during office hours, feeding people lunch on Wednesdays, even people we don't know, and we'll be keeping our chapel open for people to come in and find rest and peace. We will continue to pray because prayer is how we ask God to give us the wisdom to know what God

would have us do and receive the courage and strength to do it. We will continue to be the Presence of Christ so the world that does contain dangers can see a way of living that is not fear-based. We will continue to embody the Love of God so that our neighbors can see past fears to the beauty, wonders, and possibilities of better tomorrows, all with God's help.

Many Blessings,
Mother Deborah

Stewardship, Every-Member Canvas

The time of year has arrived for the vestry to gather information to plan for this coming year's programs and finances. A letter and pledge card will soon appear in your mail box. In-gathering Sunday (bringing in pledge cards) is planned for December 3rd.

Sale of Christmas Coffee

Once again we are offering a selection of twelve varieties of coffee roasted by Silver Bridge Coffee in Gallipolis. We are including four new flavors, which I am advised do well in Athens. The cost is \$11.00 per bag, and order forms will be available through the month of November. This coffee makes an ideal Christmas gift; the profits will go toward our Outreach ministries. All the coffee being offered is Fair Trade Coffee. Thank you for your support. (Jack Flemming)



CROP Walk Report

CROP Walk was held on Sunday, October 8. Thanks to everyone who walked and who donated. The local organizers report that Good Shepherd had donations totaling \$311.00. Thanks especially to Lia and April Knox for stepping up at the last minute to coordinate Good Shepherd's participation. Church World Services, the people in the disaster sites, and other areas of need that benefit from these are grateful for our help. Also, 25% of the \$3,000 donated toward the Walk go to The Athens County Food Pantry for food services right here in our area.

Thanksgiving Day Nov. 23

Let us give thanks together.

Please join us in pausing from the routines and demands of life to give thanks to God for the many blessings in our lives, including the gift of each other. Our Thanksgiving Day

celebrations include

10:00 am Church Service with sermon and Holy Communion

Part of what it means to worship is giving thanks or expressing gratitude to God through prayer, music, scripture readings, and receiving Holy Communion. All are welcome, including families.



1:30 pm Thanksgiving Dinner in Nehls Hall

Everyone is welcome to join Mother Deborah and her family for Thanksgiving Dinner. She'll provide the turkey; bring a side dish or dessert to pass. Sign up sheet for dishes is located in Nehls Hall.

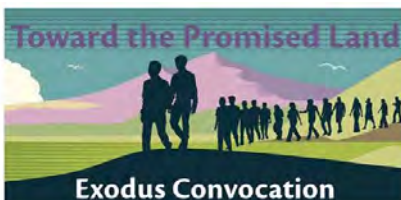
You are welcome to participate in one or both opportunities to gather together and give thanks to God.

You are Invited

As an expression of their gratitude for being here at Church of the Good Shepherd, Mother Deborah and her family will continue the practice of hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner, Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23, at 1:30 pm in Nehls Hall. This has become such a joyful way to celebrate Thanksgiving by coming together to share a meal we all contribute to, just as we all contribute to creating a Christ-centered ministry of presence here at Church of the Good Shepherd. Everyone is welcome! Mother Deborah's family will provide the turkey and ask you to bring a side dish or dessert to share. There is a sign up sheet in Nehls Hall.

Statement from the Exodus Convocation

(November 6, 2017, from e-Connections, Exodus Convocation summary)



The Exodus Convocation held September 16, 2017 at the Procter Center was a lively and inspiring event, attended by over 300 lay members and clergy of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. Over the eight hours of

fellowship and discussion, loosely based on the journey of the Israelite people from bondage to freedom as chronicled in the book of Exodus, the discussions focused on several overarching concepts that emerged, to provide further conversation and direction for the future of the diocese and its congregations.

A strong calling was expressed by many in attendance, and in many different ways,

for the diocese to explore new ways of functioning and to seek a broader and deeper communion among its members, congregations, the bishop, the bishop's staff, and our communities and neighbors. In order that members of the diocese may grow spiritually, many lay members and clergy voiced the need for the diocese to be willing to risk making changes in service to one another and the world in which we live. Fears of change, insecurity, and vulnerability need to be recognized and worked through as we seek to be God's people in and for an ever-changing world.

1. Repeatedly, the need for stronger bonds of community within and outside the church were voiced. A desire for more meaningful relationships and involvement in serving the needs of others in the model of Jesus was a recurring aspect in most conversations.
2. Members attending the Convocation felt we were in bondage to buildings, budgets, structure, and custom, and that we need to re-think our ways of defining, reporting, and measuring our success as congregations. Again and again, we urge ourselves to open our doors and buildings to the community. We have set expectations to get out of the pews and go into the world about us and learn to listen to one another more deeply. We have been encouraged to express our needs, fears and hopes for the future. In short, "Put feet to the Gospel."
3. Visions of 'the Promised Land were different for different people, but in each case they involved trust, respect, love, compassion, and service. The Promised Land is not as much a "social worker's paradise" as a place of spiritual transformation. It may not be so much a place of arriving but the journey itself, and a way of being.

[To read the full report, the Direction Statement for the Future, and more.](#)

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.

Wednesday Free-Lunch Report

On November 8 Group II fed 60 people 118 servings.

MEALS



The main dish was bean stew and rice. Salad, fresh fruit, beverages, and desserts were also served.

The volunteers were Zelma Coleman, Anne Walker, Esther Hernandez, and Betty Hollow.

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.



Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd
presents

Advent Festival of Readings and Music

Sunday, December 3, 2017

4:30pm

Director - Marsha Reilly

Organ - Jan Robison

Trumpet - Alex Herrera

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



Disney's **Michigan J. Frog** is dancing -- to the Michigan Rag no doubt -- in celebration of the arrival of fall colors at long last.

Repeat Material Below

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 Allyn Reilly, Senior Warden, at 740-592-2596 or by e-mail at reillya@ohio.edu.

For maintenance matters, please leave a note at the office or contact Allyn

Reilly, Senior Warden, at 740-818-5476 or by e-mail at reillya@ohio.edu.
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).

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

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