



# Along The Way

## The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham

**October 23, 2024**

Reflections

*From the  
Pastor*



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Good Shepherd Friends,

Do you ever ask God to help you to see things more clearly? To see God in your daily life? To see more clearly what the best choices would be for you. To see more clearly what the needs are of the people around you, especially the ones closest to you. To see more clearly what is holding you back from being the best version of you that you can be.

Sometime life gets so clouded because of the inner noise and the outer noise, because of the fast pace we keep, and because of the fear and anxiety we embrace. When we fail to see clearly, we can easily get lost and lose our perspective on what is most important. Then we focus on trivial things, which do not satisfy our inner hunger for God's love and for a life of meaning and purpose.

If you need to ask God to help you see things more clearly, I encourage you to ask. But realize you will need courage and patience. Clear sight about the presence of God, about making good choices, about the needs of the people around you, and about what's holding you back from being the best version of you that you can be will require that you make room for quietness and reflection. It will require that you make some changes to your schedule, leaving more time for what is most important. It will mean reprioritizing your life. Yes, this will take courage and patience, but it is worth the effort.

Seeing more clearly is a blessing and leads to a more peace-filled life. Wouldn't that be wonderful? So, what is holding you back?

If you are ready, ask God to help you to see more clearly. Listen as God reveals to you what you must do to see more clearly. And with God's help, and with courage and patience, make the necessary changes to your life.

Peace,

***Pastor Dan***

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 27, 2024

8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> JANET DRUM</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY:</u> RICH SOUZA</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC:</u> NATECIA ALFONSO</p>	<p><u>READERS:</u> JANE MANDELL SHERYL FACCHETTI</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY:</u> GINGER BARRETT &amp; BILL WILBURN</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC:</u> DALE WINTERS</p> <p><u>NURSERY:</u> DANANNA &amp; BECKY HANSEN</p>

### WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS  
CLICK HERE](#)

### MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES  
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### A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. This coming Sunday, October 27, begins our *2025 Stewardship Pledge Drive*. Pledge packets will be distributed at both Services. See below for more information.
2. This coming Sunday children are welcome to wear their *Halloween costumes* to church. There will be treats for the children.
3. If you have parish information to pass on to the Good Shepherd community in our weekly newsletter ("Along The Way"), please submit the information to our office manager Cathi Maurice or to Pastor Dan.

[CLICK HERE FOR PARISH CALENDAR](#)

# Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

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## Children Invited to Wear Halloween Costumes to Church

Children are invited to wear their Halloween costumes to church on Sunday, October 27. The preference is for fun type costumes. There will be treats for the children.

## 2025 Pledge Drive: In Support of the Mission of Good Shepherd

During the Fall of each year, we hear about the importance of stewardship in our lives of faith, and in the mission of the Church, as we prepare to make our annual parish financial pledges for the following year. On **Sunday October 27**, pledge packets will be distributed to parishioners at the Sunday Services. More information about the pledge drive will be made available at that time. Meanwhile, please begin to consider the ways God has blessed you in your life, especially through the Good Shepherd faith community, as you prayerfully consider your financial pledge for 2025. Thank you for your ongoing financial support in 2024. Your contributions keep our faith community alive and active in the lives of many people, both within and outside of our Good Shepherd community.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

As a way of reaching out to those who are ill or struggling in some way, parishioners have knitted shawls to be given to those who can benefit from receiving these gifts of warmth and comfort. Pastor Dan blesses each shawl before it is given. He prays that “this mantle be a safe haven... a sacred place of security and well-being... sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones.” Please contact Judy Ellis (Prayer Shawl Ministry Coordinator) or Pastor Dan if you would like a shawl for yourself or someone else. If you would like to be a part of this ministry, and join our knitting team, please be in touch with Judy Ellis (508-295-5318). There is a very basic pattern that makes a beautiful, lacy shawl. It can also be modified to make a man’s lap robe. All patterns, of course, are welcomed. If needed, yarn will be provided. If you would like to support the prayer shawl ministry but do not knit or crochet, ask Judy about a way you can help.

## Please Stay Home When You’re Not Feeling Well

This is a reminder that if you have covid or another contagious illness, please do not come to the church. Basically, if you are not feeling well, please stay home. It is important that you stay home and rest, and it is important that we be vigilant in order not to spread viruses with one another. Remember, the 10am Sunday Service is offered on Facebook Live every Sunday, and the link to the recorded Service is sent to those on our church email list following the live Service. Stay home, rest, and participate online.

## The Good Shepherd Guild Craft Nights

Every Monday evening the Good Shepherd Guild holds “Craft Night” in the Church Hall, which begins at 6pm. The crafts are later sold at the Guild Christmas Craft Fair in December. All are welcome to join in support of this fundraiser for the church, and to enjoy one another’s company in the process. No experience is needed (really), just a willingness to help. We hope to see you there.

## Sunday School

Sunday School is held during the first half of our 10am Sunday Service on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. The Sunday School is located in the church meeting room, in the office area. All Sunday School volunteers have undergone CORI background checks and received training, including the Safe Church training required by the Episcopal Church for all those who work with children. Please contact Pastor Dan for more information. The registration form can be downloaded from our Good Shepherd website ([www.goodshepherdwareham.org](http://www.goodshepherdwareham.org)).

## The Good Shepherd Sunday Nursery

The Good Shepherd Sunday Nursery (for children through kindergarten age) is open during our 10am Sunday Services. Children are most welcome in the church, but the nursery will be available for them as well. Children can arrive at the nursery beginning at 9:50am and the nursery will close 10 minutes after the conclusion of the 10am Service. The Sunday Nursery is located on the third floor of the church, which can be accessed at the top of the church office stairwell in the back of the church building, through the door (marked Sunday Nursery). All nursery volunteers have undergone CORI background checks and received training, including the Safe Church training required by the Episcopal Church for all those who work with children. If you have questions about the nursery or would like to volunteer, please contact the church office (508-295-2840). The registration form can be downloaded from our Good Shepherd website ([www.goodshepherdwareham.org](http://www.goodshepherdwareham.org)).

## Mid-Week Eucharist

On Wednesdays at Noon, there is a celebration of the Eucharist in the church, which is open to all. This is an opportunity to gather for prayer and reflection; and be reminded of God’s presence between Sundays. For those on your lunch break, the celebration of

the mid-week Eucharist is approximately 20 minutes.

### **Good & Green Team**

Every month, on the 3rd Sunday, the Good and Green Team collects 5 cent redeemable cans and bottles along with sneakers to raise money for sustainable efforts in our parish. You can bring them in and leave them in the Parish Hall before, between and after our Sunday services. Thank you! Our monthly meetings take place on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 9am in the Parish Hall. All are welcome! For more information on who we are and some “green” tips, visit the Good Shepherd web site:

<https://goodshepherdwareham.org/green-team/>

### **Be Aware of Scammers**

Be aware of scammers who send emails or texts to church members in the name of their pastors (the fake emails are very close to the pastor’s authentic email address), asking them to send gifts cards electronically to support those in need during a crisis. Please do not do so. I would never ask you to send electronic gift cards. If you are not certain about an email or text, please call me or email me (using my correct email) directly with your questions. *Pastor Dan*

### **WCTV Sunday Service Coverage**

WCTV, the Wareham local access channel, will now be broadcasting recordings of our Sunday Services. The recorded Services will air a week later. WCTV can be found on Comcast channel 9 and Verizon channel 30. This is a good way to share Jesus’ message of love and compassion with our Wareham community, and also let people know about our Good Shepherd community.

### **Prayer Request Book**

In the back of the church on Sunday mornings, there is a Prayer Request Book. As you come into the church each Sunday, you are welcome to record in the Prayer Request Book the names of those who need prayers. During the prayers of the people, we pray for “all those whose names have been recorded in the Prayer Request Book.”

### **Sunday Coffee Hour**

Every Sunday, following the 10am Sunday Service, coffee hour is held in the Church Hall. Coffee hour is an opportunity for us to further get to know one another and share our lives with one another. The wearing of a facemask is welcome, for those who choose to wear one. Like all other indoor church functions, if you are not feeling well, please do not participate at coffee hour.

### **Good Shepherd Table**

Good Shepherd’s Table serves a free in-person meal, which is open to the public, every Thursday at 4:30pm. Take-out meals are available from 4:30-4:45pm for those who choose not to eat indoors with others. Like all other indoor church functions, if you are not feeling well, please do not participate in the Good Shepherd Table indoor dining.

### **Food Pantry Schedule**

The Food Pantry is open on the First Tuesday of the month from 3-6pm. People can pick up food from the Food Pantry one time per month.

### **Good Shepherd Food Pantry Wish List**

We are looking specifically for cereal, toilet paper (4 packs), and individually packaged paper towels. Donations to the Food Pantry can be dropped off on Thursday afternoons from 2:00-4:00 or can be left in the back of the church on Sunday mornings.

### **Pastoral Care**

If you would like yourself or someone else placed on the Good Shepherd prayer list, please contact me (Pastor Dan). The Good Shepherd prayer group prays daily for those on the prayer list. If you need or would like a pastoral visit from the priest, please let me know. My contact information can be found below and is also on the back of the weekly Sunday Service Booklet. The only way I know that you need a pastoral visit is if you let me know. You might want to keep my contact information (cell # 603-953-3659 for emergencies) somewhere handy, so you know where to find it if the need arises. Pastor Dan

### **Contacting Pastor Dan**

You can contact me by email ([pastor.dan.bernier@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.dan.bernier@gmail.com)), by calling the church number (508-295-2840) and leaving a message, or if it is an urgent matter by calling me through my cell phone (603-953-3659). Pastor Dan

### **Please “Like” us on Facebook**

Please like us on Facebook (“Church of the Good Shepherd Wareham”) so we can get the word out about what is happening in our parish community, especially about our Facebook Live Services.