



Along The Way

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

October 9, 2024

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

On Sunday we will read the following passage from the Gospel According to Mark:

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

For the man with many possessions, it was his possessions that held him back from fully participating in the Kingdom of God. It's not that his possessions were a bad thing, rather it was that his possessions had control of him. I believe that he was relying too much on the security of his possessions, which were a distraction for him. Jesus was asking him to let go of his reliance on his possessions and rely first and foremost on God.

I believe that Jesus knew what was holding this man back, and I believe Jesus knows what is hold each one of us back. If you were to ask Jesus, what you must do to inherit eternal life, what would he say to you? What is one thing that you are lacking most in your life? What keeps you from participating fully in the Kingdom of God? Is there something that has power over you?

I encourage you to ask God to help you to do what you must do to become more fully committed to the ways of the Kingdom of God, the way of Jesus. The more committed we become, the brighter and healthier our lives will become.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE OCTOBER 13, 2024	
8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> KAREN CLARK</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY:</u> CHUCK MCCULLOUGH</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC:</u> MICHELLE MURRAY</p>	<p><u>READERS:</u> JUDY GOVON JAN BARTON</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY:</u> DAN ANNA & BECKY HANSEN</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC:</u> DALE WINTERS</p> <p><u>NURSERY:</u> NO NURSERY</p>

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS
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MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES
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A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

- Next Thursday evening, October 17 from 6-8pm, there will be a *Good Shepherd Year of Renewal session* held in the church hall. All are welcome. Please let us know that you will be participating by putting your name on the sign-up list by this coming Sunday, October 13. See below for more information.
- Last year, a new initiative was put forth in our Massachusetts dioceses called the *Episcopal Path to Creation Justice*. Good Shepherd will be joining the initiative this coming year. An introductory meeting will be held this coming Sunday morning beginning at 11:30 in the Church meeting room. See below for more information.
- 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

Year of Renewal Part II Session – October 17

Part I: During Part I of our Year of Renewal (which took place in the Spring) we focused on the importance of Good Shepherd in our lives, who we are as a community, and the many ministries of Good Shepherd that have been important to us.

Part II: Our Year of Renewal will continue with a gathering on Thursday evening, October 17, from 6-8pm in the Church Hall. In Part II we will focus on how we welcome visitors and guests to our Good Shepherd community. We will look at our own experiences of being welcomed at Good Shepherd and develop a more intentional plan of welcome. All are invited and encouraged to attend this gathering, which will include dinner. A sign-up list will be in the Church beginning Sunday, September 29.

The Next Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, October 10, beginning at 6:00pm. If you would like to submit possible agenda items for consideration, you can do so through Becky Hansen (Senior Warden) or Pastor Dan by October 3.

From your Good & Green Team:

Last year, a new initiative was put forth in our Massachusetts dioceses called the Episcopal Path to Creation Justice. Our team decided to join the effort this year, partnering with another local parish, St. Mary's Barnstable, and work with a "companion" to guide our work. We will have our first joint Zoom meeting with our companion Rev. Russ Norris and the team from St. Mary's this **Sunday, October 13th at 11:30** (right after church/coffee hour). We will use the meeting room upstairs and everyone who wants to join us, please do! In the future we are trying to find a better time to meet. To learn more about the Episcopal Path to Creation Justice, here's their web site: <https://www.episcopalcreationpath.org/>

Church of the Good Shepherd Dinner and Theater Group

For the past few years, a group of us from Good Shepherd have been going to the Priscilla Beach Theater in Plymouth once a month on a Saturday night from June to September. It is a beautiful old barn that was built in 1937 and was wonderfully restored and reopened about 10 years ago. The theater produces musicals and has great talent. This year they are doing four shows again. We are getting ready to order tickets for next year's shows and the line-up is great; "Bright Star" (June 7) written by Steve Martin and Edie Brikell, "Shrek, The Musical" (July 19), "Hello Dolly" (August 16) and "Man of La Mancha" (Sept 20). Some of us go to dinner before the show at 5 PM at the 99 Restaurant by the Home Depot in Plymouth and our seats at the theater are together. The shows start at 7:30 and most shows end before 10. This past season there were 23 of us and we would love to have more. You must buy tickets to all four shows for this early discount order. Tickets are \$39 each (\$156 per person for the season) If you want to just choose only a show or two, those tickets can be purchased directly from the theater any time after mid- December. Please let me know if you have any questions or are interested by Sunday, October 13th. Chuck Tolley- 774-313-6281 or CNTolley@Gmail.com

Helping Communities Suffering From the Recent Hurricane

Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) is working with church and local partners to provide help to those affected by the recent hurricane. Your swift response and compassionate gift to the Episcopal Relief & Development Disaster Fund will provide supplies to help the people in these communities make a full and sustained recovery.

Visit episcopalrelief.org to make a contribution today.

Discretionary Fund Donations

Please consider donating to the Good Shepherd Discretionary Fund. It is from the discretionary fund that Pastor Dan assists those in need. You may make contributions to the discretionary fund at any time during the month by placing them in the offering box at the entrance to the church in an envelope marked discretionary fund (there are some in the back of the church) or by mailing them to the parish office. Checks should be made out to "Church of the Good Shepherd – Clergy Discretionary Fund." Thank you to those who have made contributions in the past!

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 1st and 3rd 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).

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).

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/>

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), 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

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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.