



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of
The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham
September 25, 2024

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

As Christians, we are called to bring the love and compassion to God's people. We are called to extend God's mercy and justice to a broken world. We are called to give of ourselves in service to the Kingdom of God. We do all this in order to help people to know of God's loving presence. And as God loving presence is made known, lives are transformed, and the world becomes a brighter place.

Let us make the world a brighter place today.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> JANET DRUM</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY:</u> RICH SOUZA</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC:</u> JOELLA CRUZ</p>	<p><u>HOSPITALITY:</u> PAT PROBERT & SCOOTER HOLCOMBE</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

1. This coming Sunday, September 29, our 10am Service will be a Children's Service. All are welcome. See below for more information.

2. 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..

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Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

Children's Sunday Service – September 29

Our next Children's Sunday Service will be held on Sunday, September 29 during our 10am Service. This Service will focus on the children of our Good Shepherd community. The prayers, music, readings, and the sermon will speak to the children. All are invited to participate in these children focused Eucharistic Services. There will be no age restriction. Everyone can benefit from these Services. Let us gather in support of our young families and their children.

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals at Good Shepherd

On Sunday, October 6, there will be a Blessing of the Animals at the church. The blessing will take place outside on the church lawn, next to the paved parking lot, beginning at Noon. All are invited to bring their animal companions to the church for the blessing (*for safety purposes, please have your pet leashed or in a carrier*). If they are not able to be present due to their shy or aggressive personalities, please feel free to bring a picture of them for the blessing. Children of all ages are welcome to bring a stuffed animal friend for a blessing as well. After an initial prayer, Pastor Dan will individually bless each animal. All are welcome, parishioners and non-parishioners alike, to come and have their animal companions blessed. In the event of inclement weather, the blessing will take place in the Church Hall.

Year of Renewal Part II Gathering

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.

Purchase Flowers in September and Help Us Feed the Hungry

Our Good Shepherd Pantry and Shepherd's Table Thursday meals have once again been selected to benefit from Stop & Shop's Bloomin' 4 Good Program, created to fight hunger across the communities we serve. For the month of September, a \$10.99 bouquet in the sleeve marked "Bloomin' 4 Good" from the Stop & Shop at Wareham will brighten a home or make someone's day while also directing a \$1 donation to our Good Shepherd Pantry and Shepherd's Table. So, if you're looking to buy flowers in September, you could also be helping us feed the hungry.

Thank You for Your Continued Financial Support

Thank you to all who are financially supporting Good Shepherd this year, especially those who made pledges for 2024. Our budget operates on a week-to-week basis, so thank you for keeping your pledge payments up to date. If you are behind on your pledge payments, please work to catch them up as you are able. If you are away for an extended amount of time, please consider mailing in your pledge payments. Again, thank you all for your financial support of the mission and ministries of the Church of the Good Shepherd!

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.