



Along The Way

**The Weekly Newsletter of
The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham
February 12, 2024**

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

What does it mean to say that one is blessed by God? How do we know that we are blessed by God? When we say that someone is blessed, do we mean that they have better health, more money, more possessions, more athletic abilities, greater intellectual abilities, or more physical beauty? If this is what it means to be blessed, what about those of us who do not fit into this criterion? Are we not blessed?

I believe that being blessed is being filled with the Spirit of God, and I believe that the Spirit of God is in each one of us. I don't believe God withholds God's blessing from anyone. With this understanding, I believe that we are all blessed by God. But in order to benefit from God's blessing we must acknowledge the presence of God's Spirit within us and allow God's Spirit to guide us in the way of love that Jesus teaches us.

So, let us live into our status as the blessed children of God that we are. And being guided by Spirit of God, let us love as Jesus loved.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> JOELLA CRUZ</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY:</u> RICH SOUZA</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC:</u> NATECIA ALFONSO</p>	<p><u>READERS:</u> CECILY KOST JO-ANN FINN</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY:</u> CHUCK & DONNA TOLLEY</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC:</u> DALE WINTERS</p> <p><u>NURSERY:</u> NO NURSERY</p>

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS
CLICK HERE](#)

MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES
CLICK HERE](#)

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[!\[\]\(3211b5d1d968fc1665909b34f9f16010_img.jpg\) arish Website](#)

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. Due to the snowstorm last weekend, the faith enrichment session originally scheduled for February 9 (on *Howard Thurman*), will be held on February 16 from 11:45-1:15. The session originally scheduled for February 16 (on Bayard Rustin) is being cancelled until a later date.
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.

[CLICK HERE FOR PARISH CALENDAR](#)



Hello good people of Good Shepherd!

This Sunday is the 3rd Sunday of the month, another Good & Green Sunday! Bring in your cans and bottles, your sneakers and enjoy the Good & Green Team coffee hour.

Our “**Good & Green Theme**” for February on our bulletin boards and web page is: “**Love One Another and God’s Good Creation**”, so appropriate for the people of Good Shepherd and the way of love. This month the Good & Green Team is highlighting the ways we can all love God’s creation a little bit more.

Remembering the 3 Rs:

REDUCE- especially our use of single use plastics by using reusable items like bags, water bottles, coffee cups and cutlery

REUSE- everything you can! Plastic bottles, jugs and containers, glass bottles and jars, paper and plastic bags, clothing, bedding and towels, newspaper, scrap paper and office paper

And after reducing and reusing, then **RECYCLING** everything you can. Be sure to know the guidelines of your town or recycling center. Don’t “**Wish-cycle**” and try to recycle items that are not accepted because they can clog up the system (even if it has the “3 arrows” symbol on it, that doesn’t necessarily mean it is recyclable, it just pertains to the kind of material that it includes). Remember the saying “*When in doubt, throw it out!*”

Love one another...and God’s good creation! More information and links

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

As always, please remember to **Reduce, and/or Reuse and then if all else fails...Recycle!**

Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

The Next Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, February 13, beginning at 6:00pm. If you would like to submit possible agenda items for consideration, you can do so through Joella Cruz (Senior Warden) or Pastor Dan by February 6.

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!

Good & Green Team: Meetings & Collection

Our monthly meetings take place on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 9-9:45am in the Church 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/>. Every 3rd Sunday of the month, the Good and Green Team collects 5 cent redeemable cans and bottles, and used sneakers; which help us raise money for sustainable efforts in our church. You can bring them in and leave them in the Church Hall before, between and after our Sunday Services. Thank you!

Pastor Dan Will Be Away

I will be on vacation from February 17-25. The Reverend Sue Lederhouse will be presiding at the Sunday Services on February 23. I will be back in my office on February 26. If you have some church-related business

which cannot wait until my return, please contact our Senior Warden Joella Cruz. Her contact information can be found in the church picture directory and on the back of the Sunday Service booklets. **Pastor Dan**

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. ***There will be no Mid-week Eucharist on Wednesday, February 19.***

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**

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.

Sunday School

Sunday School is generally held during the first half of our 10am Sunday Service on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. For the months of February, the Sunday School will be held on the 1st and 2nd Sunday due to the holiday this 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). ***The Sunday Nursery will be closed on February 16 (Holiday weekend).***

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.

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

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.