



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham June 18, 2024

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

What do you understand God to be like? What is the nature of God? Do you have an image of God? I imagine all of us have asked these questions, and you may be asking them at this time in your life as well. There is no right or wrong answer to these questions. They are questions that our ancestors in faith have attempted to answer in every generation. The truth is that God is beyond our complete understanding. We only have glimpses of God.

I have come to believe that God is the power or energy behind all of creation. I believe that God is not distant from us but lived among us through the life and ministry of Jesus and still lives within us through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit being God's abiding presence in my life, which can empower me as I strive to follow Jesus in love and compassion for all.

Through Jesus, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, I have come to understand that God is love, and that all God wants for us is to accept God's love and generously share God's love with others. This isn't always convenient and easy, but it is what faithfulness to God is all about.

Ask me in a couple of years, and my understanding of God will likely be a little different. Every year brings new experiences of life, which help form my understanding of God. Our ancestors in faith also evolved in their understanding of who God was for them, which is how they were able to declare that God is Father (Creator), Son, and Holy Spirit; three aspects of the presence of God in their lives.

So, I ask you again, what do you understand God to be like? What is the nature of God? Do you have an image of God? Since no person can know the fulness of who God is, your answers to these questions are likely different today, than they were 10 years ago. And that is okay. Actually, that is good and healthy.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE JUNE 22, 2025	
8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> KAREN CLARK</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTER:</u> CHUCK MCCULLOUGH</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> MICHELLE MURRAY</p>	<p><u>READERS:</u> CHILDREN'S SERVICE</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> DAN ANNA & BECKY HANSEN</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> RICH ELLIS</p> <p><u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> NO NURSERY</p> <p><u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S)</u> DONNA & CHUCK TOLLEY</p>

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS](#)
[CLICK HERE](#)

MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES](#)
[CLICK HERE](#)

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. This coming Sunday, June 22 at 10am, is the final *Children's Service* of the children's ministry years. Look 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

Thank You Sunday School and Sunday Nursery Volunteers

We give thanks for the volunteers who have made our Sunday School and Sunday Nursery such a blessing for the children of our Good Shepherd community.

Sunday School Teachers: Vivi Marty-Paquin and Dale Winters. **Sunday School Assistants:** Karin Recupero and Michelle Murray. **Sunday Nursery Volunteers:** Jessi Merrick, Kerri Gallagher, Becky Hansen, Elizabeth Mandell, Andrea Lamontagne, Ally Preston, Preston (S.G.), and Dan Anna. Thank you!

Children's Sunday Service – June 22

Our final Children's Sunday Service for the school year will be held on Sunday, June 22 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.

Ice Cream Social on June 22

To celebrate our time together in the Sunday Nursery and Sunday School this past year, on Sunday June 22 there will be an ice cream social as part of Coffee Hour following the 10am Service. All are welcome to participate and celebrate with the Nursery and Sunday School children and volunteers.

Food Pantry Wish List

Church of the Good Shepherd is partnering with Damien's Place Food Pantry by provided needed items for those using the pantry. These items are difficult for Damien's to purchase from the Greater Boston Food Bank. Damien's is looking specifically for cereal and jars of jelly. Donations can be left in the baskets in the back of the church on Sunday mornings or dropped off at the Church Office on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am-1pm. Thank you!

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 2025. 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 Flower Donations

Please consider donating for the purchase of altar flowers for our Sunday Services in memory of deceased loved ones or in thanksgiving of blessings in your life. More information about how this works can be found in the "Sunday Flower Donations" envelopes which are located in the back of the church, and on our "Church of the Good Shepherd Wareham" website. Please check the Sunday Flowers board in the back of the church, or call the parish office (508-295-2840), to determine which upcoming Sundays are available in 2025.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

We would like to invite every household to host coffee hour, which follows our 10am Sunday Service. You can host by yourselves or join with another household. Coffee hour hosts are asked to bring a quart size carton of half-n-half, a half-gallon carton of juice, and some snacks to feed 6-8 children and about 30 adults (for example: cake, pastry, cookies, brownies, cheese and crackers, fruit, cut up veggies, etc.). Hosts arrive at the church by 9:15 to set up for coffee hour. Judy Govoni will be there to assist you. Hosts are also asked to clean up after coffee hour. The idea is that each household would host coffee hour about every three or four months. The sign-up list can be found

on the food table during coffee hour.

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.

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.

The Good Shepherd Sunday Nursery

The Good Shepherd Sunday Nursery, for children through kindergarten age, is closed for the summer. It will reopen on Sunday, September 7.

Sunday School

Our Good Shepherd Sunday School, which is held during the first half of our 10am Sunday Service (usually on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month), is on summer break. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 7.

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

Wareham Media (WM) Sunday Service Coverage

Wareham Media, the Wareham local access channel, will now be broadcasting recordings of our Sunday Services. The recorded Services will air a week later. WM 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.

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.