



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham October 15, 2025

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

On Sunday, we will read the following from Luke's Gospel: "Jesus told his disciples a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart."

What does Jesus mean when he says we are to pray always and not lose heart? I believe Jesus was encouraging his disciples to approach prayer as he approached prayer. Prayer was a regular part of his life. We hear frequently in the gospels that Jesus took time to go off by himself and pray. Through prayer his relationship with God stayed strong and intimate. He and God were one. This helped him through some very difficult and stressful times in his life and ministry. Though difficulty continue to come his way, he was at peace. He knew he was loved and that God was at work in his ministry.

Sometime we forget that prayer isn't mainly about getting things from God, it is about turning to God and drawing near to God. It is about allowing God's love and peace to settle into ones mind, body and spirit. Through a life committed to prayer, a life lived in God's presence, we are able to weather any storm that comes our way; trusting that we are not alone.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

Remember, God is with you today and every day. Look for acts of love, kindness, compassion and acceptance and you will find God's presence.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE OCTOBER 19, 2025	
8 AM	10 AM
<u>READERS:</u> CHUCK MCCULLOUGH <u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> MIKE ALFONSO <u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> JOELLA CRUZ	<u>READERS:</u> BECKY RYDER JUDY ELLIS <u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> CHUCK & DONNA TOLLEY <u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> ELAINE GRAYBILL <u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> DAN ANNA & BECKY RYDER <u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S)</u> THE GOOD AND GREEN TEAM

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

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MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

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A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. This coming Sunday, October 19, there will be *Sunday School* during the 10am Service.
2. The sign-up board for the "*Evening of Music and Fellowship*" on November 8 will be in the back of the church beginning this coming Sunday. Look below for more information.
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](#)



From the Good & Green Team

Once again, this Sunday is "Good & Green Sunday!" Thank you in advance for your donations of cans, bottles, sneakers and funds to support our sustainable initiatives. I am away this Sunday, so there will be **NO MEETING at 9AM** this Sunday.

We have updated our "**Give Yourself Credit**" board: "How Do You Already **REFUSE**,,, **REUSE**, **REPAIR** or **REGIFT**?"

- 5 Points for every plastic bag or take-out utensils you **REFUSE**
- 10 points for every item you **REUSE** 3 times or more
- 15 points for every item you **REPAIR** instead of throwing out
- 25 points for every time you **REGIFT** an item (refrain from buying or borrowed or loaned out)

Thank you for all your support!

Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

Discretionary Fund Donations

Good Shepherd has a Pastor's Discretionary Fund. It is from the Discretionary Fund that Pastor Dan is able to assist those in need. There are envelopes at the entrances of the church for you to use to make donations to the Discretionary Fund. Place your donations in one of these envelopes and place the envelope in one of the offertory boxes in the church, or you can mail the donation to the church office with a note that the donation is for the Discretionary Fund. Thank you to those who have contributed to the Discretionary Fund over the years. Those who have benefited from your donations are always very grateful.

2026 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 26**, 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 2026. Thank you for your ongoing financial support in 2025. Your contributions keep our faith community alive and active in the lives of many people, both within and outside of our Good Shepherd community.

Good Shepherd Evening of Music and Fellowship

SAVE THIS DATE: On Saturday Evening, November 8 from 6:30-8:00, all are invited to participate in an evening of music and fellowship. We will gather in the church sanctuary at 6:30 to be entertained with music performed by our fellow parishioners and guests. Following the musical entertainment, we will proceed to the Church Hall to enjoy desserts that parishioners are asked to bring and share with one another (please leave them in the Church Hall when you arrive. *If you are interested in performing at our Fall Music and Fellowship evening, please reach out to Jon Andrews by October 19.* If you plan to attend this event, please sign up on the board in the back of the church starting October 12.

Operation Christmas Child – Shoe Box Ministry

It's almost time for the "Operation Christmas Child" shoe box ministry. This is a *global* ministry where boxes filled with toys and useful items are sent to children across the world, along with messages of God's (and *our!*) love for them. Shoe boxes and more information will be available at the back of the church beginning October 26. The shoe boxes will need to be returned by November 23.

Children Invited to Wear Halloween Costumes to Church

Children are invited to wear their Halloween costumes to church on Sunday, October 26. The preference is for fun type costumes over horror costumes. If you are not sure about the appropriateness of the costume reach out to Pastor Dan.

Children's Sunday Service – October 26

Our first Children's Sunday Service for the school year will be held on Sunday, October 26 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.

Please Help Good Shepherd's Table Serve Our Neighbors

Every Thursday for the past 25 years, Good Shepherd's Table has served a community meal. We need help with the tasks needed to make this happen and so we have created a sign-up sheet for the tasks each week. No job takes longer than 45 minutes and you can help set up, plate food, serve food, or clean the dining room after the meal. We especially need help cleaning the dining room after the meal. The sign-up sheets for November and December will be in the back of the church or you can reach out to Deacon Hilary for more details and to sign up when you can help. You can choose any week you are available. Thank you in advance for your help!

Theater Group Invitation for 2026

For the past few years, a group of Good Shepherd parishioners have gathered once a month during the summer to go to Priscilla Beath Theater in Plymouth. It is a beautiful old "theater in a barn" that puts on four musicals per season. The 2026 line up looks like another good year. The season kicks off with "9 to 5" (The Dolly Parton Musical), then "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", the August show is the "Wizard of Oz" and the season ends with "Million Dollar Quartet" featuring the music of Elvis, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins and Jerry Lee Lewis. For more theater information; PBTTheater.org

For this year we have two show options, either a Sunday matinee or Saturday night. See below for the shows and the dates. Tickets are \$164 per person for the season (for the group you must get all four shows) Choose either Sunday matinee or Saturday closing night (sorry no mixing).

If you are interested, we would love to have you join us. Tell your friends and neighbors, maybe even relatives and see if they would like to take part in the fun. I would like to order tickets by October 26, 2025 to ensure we get good seats and I will need the money in November. Please let me know if you have any questions. **Chuck Tolley**

Sunday 2pm Shows: May 31, July 12, August 9, September 13

Saturday 7:30pm Shows: June 6, July 18, August 15, September 19

Sunday School

The Good Shepherd Sunday School is held during the first half of our 10am Sunday Service, usually 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 found in the church and can be downloaded from our Good Shepherd website (www.goodshepherdwareham.org). *The next Sunday School Sundays: October 19 and November 2 & 16.*

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 found in the church and can be downloaded from our Good Shepherd website (www.goodshepherdwareham.org). *The Sunday Nursery will not be open on October 26 due to there being a Children's Service that day.*

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!

Please Stay Home When You're Not Feeling Well

This is a reminder that if you have or may have covid, the flu, 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. Please stay home, rest, and participate online.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

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. Every household is invited 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 and more information can be found on the food table during coffee hour.

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 the Good Shepherd Guild holds “Craft Night” in the Church Hall, which begins at 4:30pm. 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.

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.”

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

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.