



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham November 12, 2025

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

How do you respond to bad news? How do you respond to stressful situations in life? How do you respond to disappointment and grief? How do you respond when your life is filled with uncertainty and feels out of control?

All of us have had these types of moments in our lives. Some of them pass quickly and life returns to normal, and others can take hold of our lives and last months or even years. How we respond to life's trying moments can help determine the affect they will have in our lives.

As people of faith, we trust that God is always with us. We believe in the transforming power of God's love; a power that can transform death to new life. When life presents difficulties and challenges, our response is to turn to God. We share with God our fears, our sorrows, our pain. We cry out for help and trust that God will guide us from the darkness into the light, even when we have difficulty believing God is with us in the darkness. And then, we look for God's messengers of love and light, who are most likely already present in our lives.

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 NOVEMBER 16, 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> RICH ELLIS JEAN NYMAN <u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> DAN ANNA & BECKY HANSEN <u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> RICH ELLIS <u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> ALLY PRESTON & JOELLA CRUZ <u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S)</u> GOOD AND GREEN TEAM

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS
CLICK HERE](#)

MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES
CLICK HERE](#)

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[!\[\]\(a870788d6ed9b8fd294b7654a8c8526b_img.jpg\) **arish Website**](#)

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

1. This coming Sunday, November 16, is a ***Sunday School*** Sunday. Look below for more information.
2. Thank you to all those who have submitted their ***2026 Pledge Sheets***. If you have not already done so, please either place them in one of the church offertory boxes and mail them to the church office. Look below for more information.
3. Boxes for the ***Operation Christmas Child Ministry*** can be found in the back of the church. Please return them by Sunday, November 23. Look below for more information about this Christmas Outreach ministry.
4. 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. Our Good & Green Team meeting this Sunday at 9 AM will have **Joe Still**, a member of the Wareham Select Board, will be our guest and we will be brainstorming ways to bring our initiatives to the greater Wareham Community from Don’t Trash Wareham to recycling at Wareham Gatemen Baseball games next summer. Any suggestions for us? Come join us!

We will be offering our usual yummy and healthy goodies for coffee hour too.

Since it is holiday shopping time, we have updated our “**Give Yourself Credit**” board to include **REDUCE** and **REUSE** tips for gift giving and shopping and ways to acknowledge the good you are doing already and maybe suggestions for to take on a few more sustainable practices:

- **REDUCE:** 5 Points for every “permanent” gift you buy instead of disposables
- **REDUCE:** 10 points for every gift you buy with minimal packaging
- **REDUCE:** 15 points for every holiday card you send made from recycled paper
- **REUSE:** 15 points for every holiday card you create from cards you have received in the past
- **REDUCE:** 20 points for every gift you wrap in recycled or reused wrapping paper or funny papers
- **REUSE:** 25 points for every time you **REGIFT** an item to someone who will enjoy it more (but be sure it isn’t to the person who gave it to you! 😊)

Here are some sustainable holiday shopping sites to give you more ideas:

<https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/monroeco/2023/11/13/eco-friendly-and-ethical-a-guide-to-sustainable-holiday-shopping-and-spending/>

<https://greenbusinessca.org/sustainable-holiday-tips/>

<https://www.bloomandspark.com/5-ways-to-shop-ethically-and-sustainable-this-holiday-season/>

Thank you for all your support!

Current Happenings

WEEKLY UPDATE

2026 Stewardship Pledge Drive

Our Good Shepherd 2026 Stewardship Pledge Drive has begun. Thank you to those who have returned your pledge forms. If you have not yet done so, please return your completed pledge forms to the church and place them in one of the offering boxes. If you will not be in church, please mail in your completed pledge form to the church. Extra pledge packets are available in the back of the church and on our [church website](#). Thank you!

Parish Thanksgiving Service

There will be a Parish Thanksgiving Service on **Wednesday, November 26 at 7pm**. All are welcome to gather and give thanks for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us, including our parish family. Thanksgiving Day can be very busy with many details to attend to; the Parish Thanksgiving Service is a good way to make sure that thanking God is part of our Thanksgiving celebration. The Thanksgiving Eve Service will also be available online through Facebook Live, and the recorded Service will be made available following the live Service.

The Good Shepherd's Table Thanksgiving Day Meal

On Thanksgiving Day (November 27) there will once again be a Thanksgiving meal served in the Church Hall at 1pm, preceded by a prayer service in the church at 12:30. All are welcome to share in this meal, which is open to the public. Please help us let others know about this opportunity, especially those who may be alone for Thanksgiving.

Pastor Dan Will Be Away

I will be taking time off from November 17-25. The Reverend Sue Lederhouse will be presiding at the Sunday Services on November 23. I will be back to the church on November 26. If you have a pastoral issue which cannot wait until my return, please contact Deacon Hilary. If you have some church-related business which cannot wait until my return, please contact our Senior Warden Joella Cruz. Their contact information can be found in the church picture directory. **Pastor Dan**

Food Pantry Wish List

Church of the Good Shepherd is partnering with Damien's Place Food Pantry by providing 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, jars of jelly, and juice**. 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!

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.

The Guild Christmas Fair Information and Requests

The Guild Christmas Fair is being held on Saturday, December 6, from 9am– 2pm. We encourage all parishioners to come and shop the day of the Fair. We could still use a few volunteers to help out that day, even if just for a short while, to relieve workers who would also like to enjoy shopping at the fair. As our raffle letter stated, please return your raffle tickets to the Church no later than early Saturday morning. We have more tickets if you need them! We would also appreciate more of the following, (dropped off by Friday please):

- Baked goods and/or frozen entrees (NOTE: every item must be prepackaged and marked with contents (including nuts, gluten-free, etc.)
- Used Christmas Items (in working condition)
- New and (gently) used Jewelry, Scarves and Hats

Please deliver these items early Friday morning (after 10am) for pricing and display. Thank you for pitching in to make this a fun and profitable fair for our church! **The Good Shepherd Guild**

A Guild Christmas Fair Baked Goods Request

The Good Shepherd Guild is looking for homemade baked goods donations. All baked goods need to be individually wrapped and labeled, including a note regarding potential allergen information, (e.g. "contains nuts", "gluten free", "dairy free"). Please deliver baked goods on Friday from 10:30am – 4pm, if possible, and no later than Saturday morning. The Good Shepherd Guild appreciates your help to make this another fun and profitable fair.

Church Service Booklet Ads Fundraiser

One of the main fundraisers of our church is the ad section of our Sunday Service booklets. Businesses take out ads each year, which helps them and us at the same time. [Please help us raise funds for our church](#) by giving an area business the opportunity to advertise in our Sunday Service booklets. Church ads fundraiser packets can be found in the back of the church, which will guide you on how to invite businesses to advertise with us. Ads should be returned to the church by November 23. Thank you!

A Thanksgiving Day Food Donations Thank you

Thank you to all who signed up to provide food items for the Good Shepherd Thanksgiving Day meal. These items need to be dropped off in the Church Hall kitchen on either Sunday morning, November 16 or 23, or on Wednesday the 26th from 2-3:00. Again, thank you for helping us to have a special Thanksgiving meal for all of our guests.

Operation Christmas Child – Shoe Box Ministry

Please bring your filled boxes to the church **through Sunday November 23**. Please include a \$10 check for shipping, made out to "Samaritan's Purse". You can also pay the shipping with a credit card online (see link below). Contact Jeane Wallace if you have questions: jmarg2000@yahoo.com or 508-291-2095. For more information about Operation Christmas Child, and guidelines for packing a box visit: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Donations From Our Online Community

Thank you to those from our online Sunday worship community who have made regular donations to support the ministries of Good Shepherd. It is very much appreciated. If you have never donated or have not donated recently, please consider doing so as you are able. Your donations help us to continue our mission to spread the good news of God's Love and compassion. Thank you!

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 (4:30pm). We need help with the tasks needed to make this happen and so we have created a monthly 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. For more details and to sign up, please reach out to Deacon Hilary. You can choose any week you are available. Thank you in advance for your help!

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 are November 16 and December 7.**

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 November 30 due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.**

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.

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!

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 November 19, & 26.**

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