



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham June 3, 2026



Good Shepherd Friends,

On Sunday we will hear the following words of Jesus from the Gospel according to Matthew: "Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.'" (Matthew 9:13) By this, Jesus was teaching us that God is most interested in our acts of love, especially toward to poor and neglected ones, and less interested in our rituals. I understand this to mean the God cares more about how we treat one another than how many prayers we say, Services we attend, or how much of the Bible we have memorized. To be right with God we must be right with one another, especially with the poor and neglected ones.

Yet, too often God's people choose burnt offering and sacrifices. Our commitment to discipleship and faithfulness to God is reduced to prayer and worship. Jesus saw that happening in his day and spoke out against it.

God desires love and mercy and justice and compassion. God wants us to see one another as part of one family. This means there is no place in the Christian heart for racism, sexism, white supremacy, violence, and any form of injustice.

Prayers, worship, and bible reading are not the end goal of a Christian. Our goal is to love as Jesus loved. Our prayers, worship, and Bible reading should help us to love as Jesus loved, or they are useless.

Jesus cared so much about us and our wellbeing that his only commandment was that we love one another. When our hearts have only room for love, then we will truly know the Kingdom of God.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE

June 7, 2026

8 AM	10 AM
<p><u>READERS:</u> CHUCK MCCULLOUGH</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> MIKE ALFONSO</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> MICHELLE MURRAY</p>	<p><u>READERS:</u> JUDY ELLIS JEAN NYMAN</p> <p><u>HOSPITALITY MINISTERS:</u> CHUCK & DONNA TOLLEY</p> <p><u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER:</u> KATHY DOYLE</p> <p><u>NURSERY MINISTERS:</u> KERRI GALLAGHER & MICHELLE MURRAY</p> <p><u>COFFEE HOUR HOST(S)</u> FRAN & RICHIE BALANCA</p> <p><u>SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS</u> DALE WINTERS, VIVI MARTY PAQUIN, S.G. PRESTON & KARIN RECUPERO</p>

A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

[SUNDAY READINGS
CLICK HERE](#)

MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

[VESTRY MINUTES
CLICK HERE](#)

[!\[\]\(3211b5d1d968fc1665909b34f9f16010_img.jpg\) ollow us on Facebook](#)

[!\[\]\(6059a5aa8b4ca7bb793408023d6c6e42_img.jpg\) arish Website](#)

1. This coming Sunday, June 7, there will be **Sunday School** as part of our 10am Service. Look below for more information. The **Sunday Nursery** will also be open this coming Sunday.

2. This coming Sunday will be the **final Sunday for Sunday School and our Sunday Nursery** until September. We celebrate and give thanks to the volunteers who make our Children's Ministries possible. To help us celebrate, ice cream will also be served at coffee hour.

3. At both Services on Sunday, June 7, we will celebrate with a prayer and a blessing those who have **June birthdays and anniversaries**.

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](#)

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 Recuperero and S.G. Preston. **Sunday Nursery Volunteers:** Michelle Murray, Kerri Gallagher, Becky Hansen, Dan Anna, Elizabeth Mandell, Andrea Lamontagne, Ally Preston, and Joella Cruz. [Thank you!](#)

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

On the first Sunday of the month we recognize, with a special blessing at our Sunday Services, those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries during that month. On Sunday, June 7, we will celebrate with those who have June birthdays and anniversaries.

An Ice Cream Celebration

To celebrate our time together in the Sunday Nursery and Sunday School this past year, on Sunday June 7 ice cream will be served 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.

The Next Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Thursday, June 11, 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 June 4.

The 2025 Race Amity Day Celebration

Race Amity celebrates and promotes friendship between people of different races. Acknowledging and promoting racial harmony is vital for building trust and dismantling the legacies of discrimination. This year's Race Amity celebration in our area is being held on Sunday June 14 (the second Sunday in June) from 11:30am-1:00pm, at Buzzards Bay Park on Main Street, Buzzards Bay (at the pavilion across from the train station). This year's speaker is our own parishioner, Peter Johnston, a former educator with a lifelong commitment to underserved populations. Peter, whose personal life is also an example of intercultural family life, also grew up with the example of his father who marched for civil rights in Selma, Alabama and was forever changed by that experience. He is passionate about having experiences where people of different backgrounds can connect and collaborate. These experiences and values align closely with the mission of Race Amity Day, which promotes friendship and understanding across racial and cultural lines. I hope you will join me in participating in the Race Amity celebration on June 14.

Pastor Dan

Church Ceiling Painting

The Vestry approved funds to have work done on the ceiling of the church sanctuary. There were some cracks and flaking paint in parts of the ceiling which were repaired and repainted. The work is now completed.

Become a Recycling Ambassador at the Wareham Gatemen Games

Recycling Ambassadors attend Wareham Gatemen games (Wareham's Cape Cod League baseball team), set up/take down recycling bins and flags, station around recycling bins throughout the game to assist fans to properly recycle, engage the crowd with recycling quizzes and kid's activity sheets, and take pictures/video to share on social media! Volunteers receive a Recycling Ambassador cap, as well as a \$10 voucher to the concessions stand per game. High School and College students are encouraged to sign up as part of any community service and school credit requirements. Also, our Good and Green Team will collect the redeemable bottles and cans to help raise funds for our sustainable initiatives! Sign up here (the Wareham Gatemen games are at the bottom of the list of other CCBL/Care for the Cape & Islands games): [Wareham Gatemen Recycling Ambassador Sign-up](#)

Turning Point Wareham Looking for Volunteers

Turning Point Wareham is seeking volunteers to contribute their time and talent in support of our Wareham neighbors in need. It is a not-for-profit, community-based organization serving as a day resource and referral center for those facing housing instability. We provide collaborative, respectful, and supportive services and are committed to empowering individuals who are ready to help themselves.

Intake Volunteer – reporting to the Executive Director, interacts with clients seeking assistance, guidance, and support for a variety of life challenges. Training provided. Minimum three-hour commitment each week.

Public Relations Volunteer – reporting to the WACH President, the PR volunteer will be responsible for framing one or two press releases each month relating to Turning Point activities and programs. The PR volunteer will contribute to the quarterly Turning Point Newsletter and will provide input to other communication pieces for Turning Point use. Commitment is a minimum of five hours each month.

Social Media Volunteer – reporting to the WACH President, volunteer will have experience with website management, Facebook postings, and FB oversight. Volunteers may also have experience with other social media platforms that may benefit Turning Point. Commitment is a minimum of five hours each month.

Direct inquiries to cwmccullough@comcast.net (WACH President) or ssantos@turningpointwareham.org (Turning Point Executive Director)

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 Shepherd's Guild Rummage Sale

Good Shepherd Guild is looking for clean clothes, shoes, household linens, white elephant items, books, and games for our spring rummage sale on June 27th, 9-1pm. You can drop off items on Friday June 26th, from 10-5 pm at the parish hall. Please no computers, tv or microwaves and large pictures as these we must pay for if they do not sell. We cannot accept furniture as this is also hard for us to sell. Thank you in advance as we appreciate your donations. If you would like to help on Friday or Saturday with set-up, sales, or clean-up, text Scooter Holcombe at 774-361-9517.

Are You Receiving Our Weekly Newsletter?

Good Shepherd now publishes a weekly electronic newsletter called "Along The Way". The newsletter is published mid-week. If you would like to receive a copy of the electronic newsletter, please email the parish office with your name and email address (goodshepherdwareham@gmail.com), or you can go to our church website (www.goodshepherdwareham.org) and subscribe to our email list which is on the home page.

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.

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!

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.

Prayer Blanket Ministry

As a way of reaching out to those who are ill or struggling in some way, parishioners have knitted blankets to be given to those who can benefit from receiving these gifts of warmth and comfort. Pastor Dan blesses each blanket before it is given. He prays that “this mantle be a safe haven...a sacred place of security and well-being... sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones.” Please contact Judy Ellis (Prayer Blanket Ministry Coordinator) or Pastor Dan if you would like a prayer blanket for yourself or someone else. *If you would like to be a part of this ministry, and join our knitting team, please be in touch with Judy Ellis (508-295-5318).* There is a very basic pattern that makes beautiful prayer blankets. All patterns, of course, are welcomed. If needed, yarn will be provided. If you would like to support the prayer shawl ministry but do not knit or crochet, ask Judy about a way you can help.

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 wall behind the coffee hour food table.

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, 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!

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. In April, due to Easter Sunday and school vacation week, Sunday School will only be held on April 12. The Sunday School is located in the church meeting room, in the office area. All Sunday School volunteers undergo CORI background checks and receive 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 final Sunday School Sundays for the school year will be June 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 downloaded from our Good Shepherd website (www.goodshepherdwareham.org). *The final Sunday Nursery day for the school year will be on June 7.*

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 2026. 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!

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, broadcasts recordings of our Sunday Services. The recorded Services 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.



[Good & Green Team Facebook page](#)



[Good & Green Team web page](#)