



Along The Way

The Weekly Newsletter of The Church of the Good Shepherd - Wareham July 22, 2026

Reflections

*From the
Pastor*



Good Shepherd Friends,

Weeds. What a pain it is to have weeds in your garden. I have no idea how many hours I have spent on my hands and knees pulling weeds, perhaps hundreds of hours. It's a lot of work. When the plants are just starting out and are very small, it is easy to move so quickly in pulling out the weeds that you pull out some of your desired plants as well. That has happened to me too many times. Weeds are difficult, but if we don't remove them from the garden they can quickly take over and rob the desired plants of the moisture and nutrients they need to thrive. So, it's important to remove the weeds.

It's also important to remove the weeds from our personal lives. Weeds are things that are contrary to the Way of Love that Jesus teaches. What are the weeds in your life? What has taken root in your life and is keeping you from living fully in the love of God?

Let's be more aware of the weeds that inevitably pop up in our lives, they are so much easier to remove when we get to them early. If these weeds are not removed, they can take over our lives. But don't lose heart, even the deep-rooted weeds can be removed with determination and with God's help.

Peace,

Pastor Dan

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE July 26, 2026	
8 AM	10 AM
READERS: JOELLA CRUZ HOSPITALITY: CHUCK MCCULLOUGH EUCCHARISTIC: CHERYL DENTON	READERS: BECKY RYDER JAN BARTON HOSPITALITY: DAN ANNA & BECKY HANSEN EUCCHARISTIC: KATHY DOYLE COFFEE HOUR HOST(S): TBD NURSERY: NO NURSERY

WEEKLY SCRIPTERS

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MONTHLY VESTRY MINUTES

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A FEW NOTES & REMINDERS

- Those who are interested in receiving the *Sacrament of Confirmation or being Received* into the communion of the Episcopal Church, or in getting more information about these, are invited to an informational meeting with Pastor Dan this coming Sunday, July 26, beginning at 11:30am. Look below for more information.
- There will be a *Music from Land's End Wareham concert* at Good Shepherd this coming Sunday, July 26, beginning at 5pm. Look below for more information.
- Our *Mid-Year Financial Appeal* is under way. If you are able, the Vestry asks that you to consider making an additional donation to help with the church's 2026 budget shortfall. Look below for more information.
- 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

Confirmation/Reception Informational Meeting – July 26

Those who are interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation or being Received into the communion of the Episcopal Church, or in getting more information about these, are invited to an informational meeting with Pastor Dan on Sunday, July 26, beginning at 11:30am. This meeting will last about 30 minutes and will take place in the Good Shepherd meeting room (which is near the church offices). At this meeting information will be shared about the Confirmation/Reception Service, which will be held at the Bishop's Visitation Service on September 20 during the 10am Service, and the preparation sessions beforehand. All are welcome.

Bishop's Visitation with Our Good Shepherd Community

Please save the Date of Sunday, September 20, which is the date that Bishop Ian Douglas, an Assisting Bishop of our Diocese, will be visiting with our Good Shepherd community. Following the 10am Service, there will be a brunch held in the Church Hall. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to be with our bishop and recognize the greater Episcopal Community to which we belong. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate.

Music from Land's End Concerts

Music from Land's End Wareham is returning to Good Shepherd this year. Wareham summer resident Ariadne Daskalakis said she started this series as an intimate summer chamber music festival. At Music from Land's End Wareham, Ariadne and her husband Sebastian Gottschick have created fascinating programs combining different musical styles. It will be open seating and donations for the concerts will be accepted at the door. There will be two Sunday concerts at Good Shepherd this year, one on July 26 at 5pm and the second on August 16 at 5pm. For more information about the concerts, and for the full schedule, please visit the Music from Land's End website www.mlewareham.org.

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.

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

We have no one signed up to host coffee hour for most of July and August. 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.

Mid-Year Financial Appeal

The Vestry is asking each of us to consider making a mid-year financial gift to help support our church's budget and reduce our budget deficit. A mid-year financial appeal letter and donation envelope were distributed at the Sunday Services on June 21, and mailed to others on June 22. The letter can also be found on our Good Shepherd Wareham website. You can make a contribution by mailing it to the church, or by placing it in the offertory box on Sundays through the end of July. The Vestry appreciates your ongoing financial support of our Good Shepherd Community. We also appreciate any additional financial gift you can make and understand if you are not able to do so. Thank you!

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.

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 13.

Sunday School

Our Good Shepherd Sunday School, which is held twice a month during the first half of our 10am Sunday Service, is on summer break. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 13.

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.

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.

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!

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.

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.”

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.



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