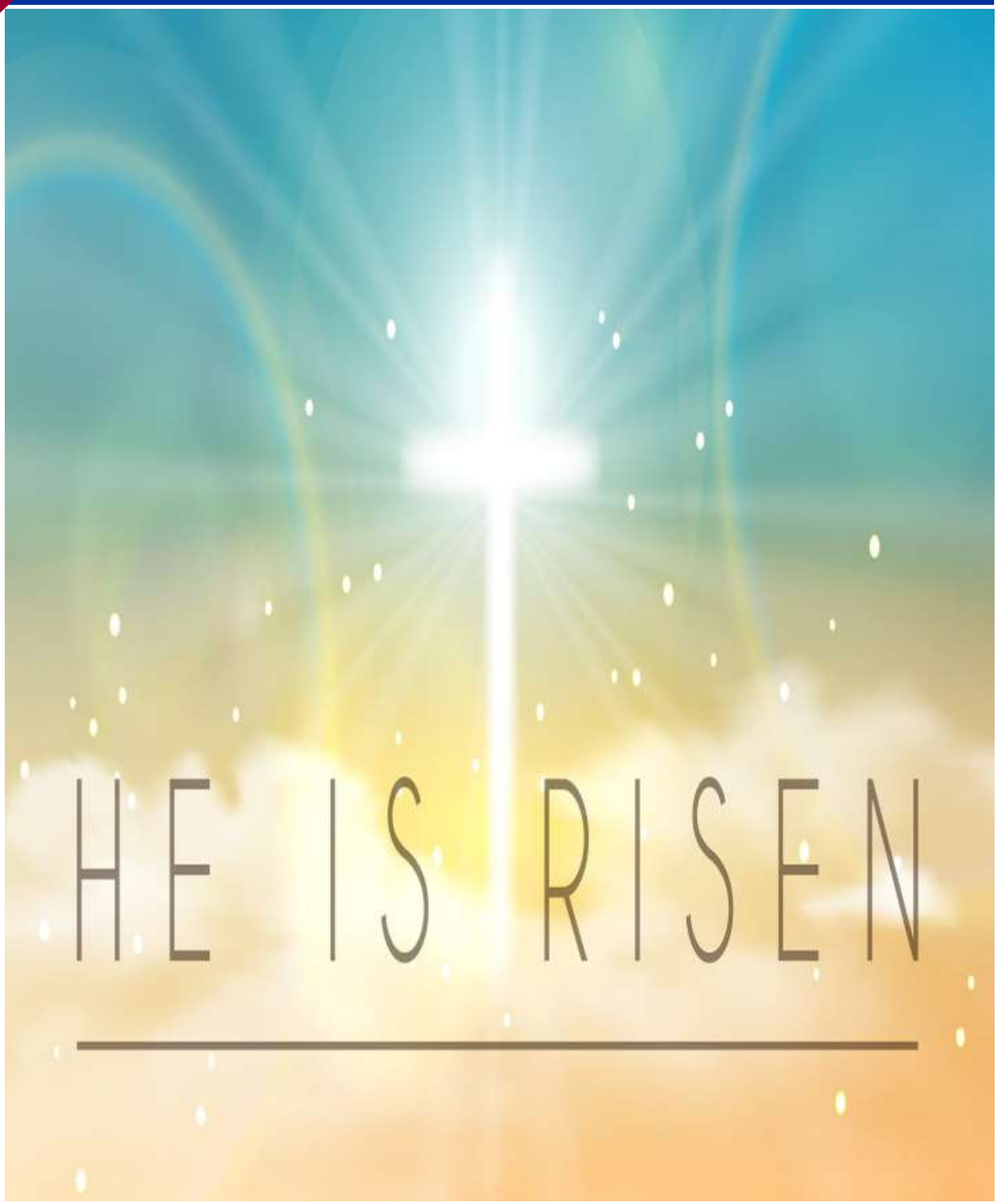


Shepherd's Tidings

APRIL 2024



HE IS RISEN

Spring Fling Save the Date!

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH
INVITES YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS TO

An Enchanted Evening

DINNER - ENTERTAINMENT - AUCTION - WINE GRAB

APRIL 12, 2024 AT 6:30PM

**HUMBLE CIVIC CENTER
8233 WILL CLAYTON PKWY | HUMBLE, TX 77338**

REGISTER ONLINE BY APRIL 1, 2024

Dear Friends in Christ,

The liturgies and readings between Palm Sunday and Easter Day can be very challenging to experience and hear. The thing is, knowing what Jesus went through the last week of his earthly life can be an anchor point of powerful hope. The power of God overcame the worst possible things that powers of the world could do to someone (in this case, Jesus). God can guide and support us in overcoming the difficulties and struggle we will encounter in our own lives. Holy Week is a mighty reminder that the light of Christ shines in the darkness, and the darkness will never overcome that light. Jesus has got this!



Over the course of my adult life, I have had some powerful experiences with the light of Christ. The light of the resurrection has lifted me out of situations and circumstances that had all but defeated me. I have been in darkness, and then resurrected by the light of Jesus' love many times. With some of those experiences "under my belt," I know where my hope lies! As darkness settles in and the waters around me began to get rough, I know that my redeemer lives! God is working something out!

I still get frustrated and confused when problems arise. There are so many worldly influences that will try to trick us into believing two lies. First, thinking there is a problem or threat that needs our total and immediate attention. Then, trying to make us think they are the only ones who can protect us from the threat they made up in the beginning. That is not the way of our Lord and Savior.

Our hearts' desire for God, revealed in Christ is the universal solution for what is troubling us. Jesus experienced all imaginable human hardship. He knows what you and I face when things seem dark and hopeless. Jesus knows! Christ will be with us in times of light and strength, and when we are lost and in the dark. There is a light that cannot be overcome by darkness, there is a love that heals and makes whole. The power of the resurrection is making everything new all the time.

I say to you and myself: Take heart! Christ has been raised from the powers of darkness and death. Somehow, some way; right now, he is reaching out his hand to us. Jesus is risen! Trust it! Reach out toward the light. It is home. It is true peace.

May you all have a rich and meaningful Easter Season.

Peace,

Bill Richter

Children's Christian Education



Our First Communion Students will be participating in First Communion at the 10:15 Service on April 7th. Please join us for a cake reception immediately following.

Confirmation will be held at 10:15 Service on April 28th. If you are an adult and would like to be Confirmed or Received please contact Heather Dumais or Father Bill.



Senior Sunday will be held on May 19th at all services. If you have a senior that would like to participate, please contact Heather Dumais or

Corky Foltz.

Adult Sunday Morning

Adult Education Sunday Mornings at 9:10am: *Spiritual Gifts & Spirituality in Daily Life* What are your spiritual gifts? How can you use them in the church? How can you connect spirituality with daily tasks? These are some of the questions we will explore in April. Join us in room 208 from 9:10am to 10:00 each Sunday.

Adult Weekday Classes and Groups

Mondays 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. (Zoom) Spirituality and Mysticism now reading: *Reconnecting to The Source: The New Science of Spiritual Experience, How It Can Change You, and How It Can Transform the World* by Irvin Laszlo. We are not meeting March 25, April 1 or April 8. Class resumes 6:00 pm on April 15.



Tuesdays 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. Rm 208 (& Zoom) Adult Bible Study: This is an open, ongoing Bible study led by Bill Richter. We read and discuss a selected book of the Bible in its entirety and move on to another. There is always good fellowship and lively discussion. We will not meet April 2, or April 9.

Believing, Belonging Becoming Continues on Tuesday Nights-Our focus for this five week session of BBB will be on what it means to be Easter people, living in light of the resurrection. This will include reflections on how to extend grace to ourselves and others and shine Jesus' light in the world around us. We will also answer practical questions about what it means to be a member of the Episcopal Church as we prepare for the Bishop's visit on April 28th. If you have come from a different denomination and are interested in being received into the Episcopal Church, this class is for you! Sign up online or email celestegeldreich@gmail.com to sign up.



Thursdays 10 – 11 a.m. Lectio Divina: Exciting News, we are now meeting in person (as well as zoom) each week in Rm 215.

This is an open, ongoing group that gathers to pray and meditate with scripture. There is no need for preparation and all are welcome to join us at any time. We do a new reading each week which I will send out on Wednesdays. Please contact Janet Mansfield for more information at 281-360-5143. Contact Judith Light for Zoom instructions at 832-723-4422.

Saturday 9:00 -10:00 a.m. (Zoom) Christian Meditation: This open and ongoing group is a part of the World Com-



munity for Christian Meditation. We gather at 9:00 and spend a few minutes for check-in and introductions. We listen to a presentation on a meditation related topic for 15-20 minutes and conclude with a 25-minute silent meditation. Facilitated by Kipp and Bill Richter. To learn more, visit www.wccm.org.

For more information or to join a group please e-mail Bill Richter at wtrbout350@gmail.com.



Spiritual Gifts Can Be Practical Too,
By Rev. Celeste Geldreich

A friend and spiritual mentor of mine once said, “You can’t think of spirituality like the dessert in a TV dinner, sectioned off in its own compartment of your life, never to touch the meat, potatoes, and gravy. The Spirit is meant to infuse all aspects of your day-to-day life.” Making connections between our everyday activities and our spirituality may not always be easy, and this

seems to be especially difficult when we encounter the question of our spiritual gifts.

The term “spiritual gifts” likely evokes these verses from I Corinthians 12:

“To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.” (I Cor. 12:8-10)

Coupled with the action of the Spirit, these things may sound really “woo-woo” – unless you are naturally an intuitive person or someone with a past in a more charismatic Christian community. If you are a very down to earth, practically minded person, you may think, ‘that’s fine for others, but it’s not my thing. I guess I just don’t have a spiritual gift.’

But Paul’s exploration of gifts and Christian community continues, using the metaphor of the body. We have hands and feet, ears and eyes, parts of the body we show to others, and parts of the body that are hidden. All the parts are needed for the body to function, even the parts we don’t think about often like the little toe and the taste buds.

Paul gives another list in verses 28-30 that includes these additional gifts, not mentioned in earlier verses: “teaching, forms of assistance, and forms of leadership.” These gifts seem a bit more ordinary. They include those who help others learn, those who serve others practically, and those who take a leadership role. In our Believing, Belonging, Becoming class, we used a questionnaire for identifying the gifts we have that might be used in service to the church and the world (see the inset list). Some of these might not seem “spiritual” at first glance, but all of them can be used to build up the body of Christ and serve those in need.

1. Administration
2. Artistry
3. Discernment
4. Evangelism
5. Exhortation
6. Faith
7. Giving
8. Hospitality
9. Intercession
10. Knowledge
11. Leadership
12. Mercy
13. Music – Vocal
14. Music – Instrumental
15. Pastoring
16. Service
17. Skilled Craft
18. Teaching
19. Wisdom

Whether it is setting up drinks for coffee hour (service), leading a committee (administration/leadership), encouraging someone (exhortation), or introducing a visitor to others (hospitality), ordinary tasks, done with love in the name of Jesus demonstrate your spiritual giftedness. The questionnaire can help you identify the tasks you are good at and enjoy.

Understanding them as gifts to use in and out of the church helps ordinary tasks become spiritual practices, and connects faith with daily life. If you would like to get a copy of this questionnaire, email Mother Celeste at celestegeldreich@gmail.com. Good Shepherd needs your gifts, whatever they are, for our community to carry out its mission to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to our community and invite all people into our loving fellowship.

Stewardship

A Record of Our Faithfulness in Worship and Giving Year-to-date as of February 2024

Cash received for Operating Budget:	\$229,142.12
Less Operating Expenses:	(\$ 162,024.16)
Cash received over (under) expenses:	\$ 67,117.96
Required debt payments:	(\$ 11,238.26)
Additional principal payments:	(\$ -0-)
Cash received over (under) expenses & principal payments:	\$ 55,879.70
Loan balance this month	\$ 299,716
Electric Bill Balance	\$ 20,700
Amt. pledged for 2024 Operating Budget:	\$ 728,044 (140 Pledges)
Amt. pledged for 2023 Operating Budget:	\$ 704,811 (148 Pledges)
Amt. pledged for 2022 Operating Budget:	\$ 740,770 (141 Pledges)



Rooted in Abundance Intention To Give Update

Thank you to those who have turned in your pledge and if you have not yet, please prayerfully consider doing so. This will enable your vestry, clergy and staff to plan and execute our ministry in line with our shared priorities.

For those of you that are taking required minimum distributions (RMD's) from an IRA, one **tax advantaged** option is to do a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) directly from your IRA to Good Shepherd or another registered charitable organization. If you meet the eligibility requirements, a QCD is a direct transfer from your IRA to Good Shepherd, which counts as part of your RMD but is not taxable income to you (the donor), even if you don't itemize. **The key is that the transfer must be directly from the IRA to the charity.** Your IRA custodian (Vanguard, Fidelity, Schwab, etc.) should be able to assist, but if you have questions, you can also contact me at treasurer@goodshepherdkingwood.org.

There are other tax advantaged options available to you, such as donating appreciated stock and Donor Advised Funds. If you have a financial advisor, he or she should be able to explain these concepts as well.

QR Code for Giving



Budget Update

2024 Budget Update March 18, 2024

Vestry approved a 2024 operating budget of \$1,063,584 (\$35,000 or 3.4% above 2023 expenses) with projected revenues of \$935,344 (\$17,500 or 1.9% above 2023 revenues which includes current pledges received plus estimates for other income), resulting in a current deficit of **(\$128,240)**. **The current budget only funds the second priest position and paid secretarial staff through June and also combines the Youth and Christian Education positions into one position at mid-year.**

Significant expense increases over 2023 levels include: (all items except EYC are non-discretionary)

- ◆ **Music Director \$15,755** - Hired a new music director at a competitive rate to ensure our music ministry continues to enrich our services and inspire our congregation.
- ◆ **Employee Health Benefits \$8,551** – Annual premium increases to continue providing our dedicated staff with health insurance, ensuring they can serve our community with peace of mind.
- ◆ **Major Maintenance \$8,525** - To cover some of our most pressing deferred maintenance needs. This covers some essential repairs and upkeep, safeguarding the integrity of our church home.
- ◆ **Diocesan Assessment \$8,351** – Our shared financial responsibility to the wider church community, contributing to our priest's health insurance, collective missions and ministries beyond our local congregation.
- ◆ **Insurance \$6,944** - This is a reflection of the broader economic trends and ensures that our church is protected against unforeseen events.
- ◆ **Utilities \$6,410** - Mirroring the hikes in energy prices affecting everyone.
- ◆ **EYC \$4,736** – Increased investment in the future of the church.

Some of the Significant expense reductions over 2023 levels include: (reductions agreed to by Finance Committee and Vestry)

Repairs	\$9,966
Reserve Fund	\$6,000
Flowers	\$3,950
Janitorial Service	\$3,639
Staff Sabbatical	\$3,000
Family Ministry	\$2,705

Our second priest position has been funded through grants and private donations. Those funds will be exhausted around mid-year and funding after that time will require additional budgeted funds. Retaining staffing at current levels through the entire year would increase our deficit by the following amounts unless additional funding is received:

Second Priest	\$42,181	Total Deficit	(\$170,421)
Separate CE/Youth	\$14,226	Total Deficit	(\$184,647)
Secretarial	\$12,410	Total Deficit	(\$197,056)

Respectfully,
Good Shepherd Finance Committee



Feed My Lambs

April 23

Please join us Tuesday April 23rd at 10:15am as we prepare sack lunches for our

friends at White Oak Apartments - we will meet in the Parish Hall. This is a great way to meet new people in a small setting. Please let Maureen know at gibmo5961@gmail.com if you can prepare and/or deliver the lunches.

Casserole Patrol

Please call if you would like to join us or if you need meals. We need more wonderful cooks in our group!

Please consider joining us in one of the compassion ministries at Good Shepherd. We take turns providing meals for families in crisis, parishioners who have new babies or have been ill, hospitalized, injured, etc. The group is coordinated by Janet Mansfield at 281-360-5143 or Janetmansfield1943@gmail.com.



Prayer Request Box



Did you know that there is a Prayer Request Box in the hallway open to all who visit or worship at Good Shepherd? Inside

the box, there are note cards to submit requests for prayer concerns. Your request will be forwarded to the Daughters of the King and added to our confidential Prayer Chain. Whether you are thankful, happy, sad or hurting, the Daughters of the King would like to add our prayers with yours in a community of faith. Please look for the DOK Prayer Request Box the next time you visit Good Shepherd!

Blood Drives

Future Blood Drives with Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center: April 7, June 9, August 11, October 13



The FDA changed its eligibility requirements and those who were once at risk for transmitting variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (linked to mad cow disease) after living in or spending a significant amount of time in Europe are eligible to donate blood. FAQ's answered at www.giveblood.org.



Please remember that all donations need to be in bag/box and clearly marked for HAAM. These donations help support their resale stores which in turn helps fund their many projects in the community.

Boy Scouts

If you have an American Flag that needs to be retired, please bring it to the church office. Our Boy Scouts will respect it with a ceremony honoring the Stars and Stripes.



Automatic Pledge Payments

-If you would like to set up your pledge on Automatic Payment, you can do so through your personal bank account. Most banks call this Bill Pay. You can check with your bank to see how they do this. All you will need is the church's address. They will send a paper check to the church each month.

Happy Anniversary



April 1 **Trish & Bob Kessler**

April 7 **Maria & Jake Listvan**

April 4 **Judy & Greg Blizman**

April 25 **Jan & Jim Sizer**

April 4 **Lynn & Martin Young**

April 26 **Barbara & Jimmy Hemphill**

April 6 **Debbie & John Zurita**

Happy Birthday

April 1 Daniel Czubik
April 1 Margaret Dydek
April 1 Beth Hebert
April 2 Shawn Biazar
April 2 Kipp Richter
April 6 Tiffany Fulton
April 6 Gabriel Greene
April 6 Suzy McDermott
April 6 Patricia Roberts
April 7 Shawn Coker
April 8 Claire Browning
April 8 Suzanne Montgomery
April 8 Dinichi Ojirika
April 9 Christa Elliott
April 9 John Hunter Jr.
April 12 Riley Johnsen
April 13 Becky Lippman
April 13 John Rood
April 14 Bill Bagley
April 16 Paul Barker
April 17 Jane Robles
April 17 Wyatt Wood
April 18 Claudia Reyna
April 19 Heather Dumais
April 20 Wyatt Sheppard
April 21 Fred Dydek
April 22 Katha Fields
April 22 Jan Sizer
April 22 Martin Young

April 23 Lexi Beswick
April 25 Wesley Foltz
April 25 Joe Jones
April 26 Eddy Johnson
April 26 Aden Lowther
April 28 Henrik Fagerstrom
April 28 Becky Little
April 29 Sofia Collison
April 29 Lynn Young
April 30 Sue MacHugh
April 30 Gareth Williams



Good Shepherd School Camp



4 SESSIONS OF SUMMER FUN

1-9 years old

9:30-2:30

\$150 per session

Non-refundable payment due on or before June 1st

Lunch & Snack included!

Week 1 June 4-6

Week 2 June 11-13

Week 3- June 18-20



Wonder Week



Water, Water Everywhere!

Week 4

June 25-27



Good Shepherd School Camp

Good Shepherd Summer Camp 2024

Camper Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Session 1 2 3 4

Parent Name _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number: _____

****Families not currently enrolled at Good Shepherd School will receive a link via email to set up a Procure account.**

***** ACH payment via Procure is due for all sessions on June 1, 2024.**

Session 1- June 4, 5, 6

Session 2- June 11, 12, 13

Session 3- June 18, 19, 20

Session 4- June 25, 26, 27

Vacation Bible School Registration

Good Shepherd Vacation Bible School will be July 8, 2024- July 11, 2024 from 9:00 am- 12:00 pm. Registration will begin online on April 1, 2024.



Senior Warden Report



Dear Beloved Good Shepherd Family,

As we enter a new season of stewardship and spiritual growth, we want to express our gratitude for our journey together. We are grateful for the increased pledge participation and expansion of our church's resources over the past year. Your unwavering support has helped us get closer to achieving our aspirations.

However, we find ourselves at a crossroads with a vision that exceeds our current financial means. Our goals for 2024 reflect not only our ambitions but also the very essence of our faith and community. We aim to build an Effective Structure that will enhance our communication and collaboration, allowing us to share our identity and mission more profoundly with the world.

In line with our goal of Empowered Leadership, we want to invest in our youth and future leaders, ensuring that our faith continues to flourish for generations to come. This includes revising our youth program goals and setting up vestry liaison committees to mentor emerging leaders within our congregation.

Our commitment to Passionate Spirituality calls us to deepen our relationships with God and each other, fostering a community where every individual feels invited, valued, and connected. We will increase fellowship opportunities, reach out to young adults, and celebrate the rich diversity that adorns our church family.

To bring these goals to fruition, we humbly ask each of you to reflect on the role your pledge can play. Your pledge is not just a contribution but a cornerstone of hope, enabling us to continue with a second priest, distinguish our Christian Education and Youth programs, and support our dedicated staff throughout the year.

Let us unite in this sacred act of giving as we prepare for a year marked by meaningful progress and heartfelt service. Together, we can turn our deficit into a surplus of love and action. Let's make 2024 a year in which our financial resources mirror the richness of our spiritual lives.

With profound appreciation and faith in our collective strength,

*Bob Kessler
Senior Warden*

Calendar

Good Shepherd April 2024 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 PM Train Club - Rm 205 <i>April Fool's Day</i> Office Closed	2 5:30 PM Prize Timers 6:30 PM -9:00 PM Boy Scouts - Parish Hall, Great Hall 7:00 PM Believing, Belonging, Becoming Rm 208 7:00 PM Property Commission Meeting- Rm 215	3 8:45 AM Good Shepherd School Chapel - Sanctuary 10:00 AM Good Shepherd Handbell Guild - Choir Loft 12:00 PM Noonday Prayer with Healing- Chapel 7:00 PM Good Shepherd Choir - Great Hall	4 8:45 AM Good Shepherd School Chapel - Sanctuary 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Lectio Divina, zoom & Rm 215 11:00 AM -1:00 PM Good Shepherd School - Parish Hall 5:00 PM -9:00 PM Kingwood Area Quilt Guild - Parish Hall, Great Hall	5 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM Kingwood Area Quilt Guild- Parish Hall, Great Hall 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM KnitCrochet Group- Rm 205	6 8:00 AM -12:00 PM Parish Workday 9:00 AM -10:00 AM Meditation Group with Father Bill - Zoom
7 8:00 AM H.E. Rite I 9:00 AM -10:00 PM Blood Drive-Coach 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Family Celebration Service - Great Hall 10:15 AM 1st Communion 10:15 AM H.E. Rite II 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM Youth Bell Choir Sanctuary 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II - Chapel	8 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Lake Houston Garden Club - Parish Hall 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Alzheimers Support Group - Rm 206	9 6:30 PM -9:00 PM Boy Scouts - Parish Hall, Great Hall 7:00 PM Believing, Belonging, Becoming Rm 208	10 8:45 AM Good Shepherd School Chapel - Sanctuary 10:00 AM Good Shepherd Handbell Guild - Choir Loft 12:00 PM Noonday Prayer with Healing- Chapel 6:30 PM Parent Dinner -Narthex 7:00 PM Good Shepherd Choir - Great Hall	11 8:45 AM Good Shepherd School Chapel - Sanctuary 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Lectio Divina, zoom & Rm 215 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM Good Shepherd School - Parish Hall 11:45 AM -12:45 PM Youth Choir - Sanctuary 12:00 PM -2:00 PM Womens Book Group Rm 205/207 6:00 PM -9:00 PM Scout Round Table - Great Hall & Parish Hall 6:30 PM -8:30 PM Golf Support - Rm 205,207	12 6:30 PM -10:00 PM Good Shepherd Gala- Humble Civic Center	13 9:00 AM -10:00 AM Meditation Group with Father Bill - Zoom
14 8:00 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Family Celebration Service - Great Hall 10:15 AM H.E. Rite II 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM Potluck Luncheon - Parish Hall 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM Youth Bell Choir Sanctuary 3:00 PM -4:00 PM Cub Scouts - Great Hall, Parish Hall 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II - Chapel	15 6:00 PM Spirituality & Mysticism - Zoom 7:00 PM Daughters of the King - Rm 211	16 9:30 AM Bible Study - Rm 208 & Zoom 4:00 PM Finance Meeting- Rm 211 5:00 PM -9:00 PM NCL - Great Hall, Parish Hall, Rm 205,207, 211, 215 7:00 PM Believing, Belonging, Becoming Rm 208	17 8:45 AM Good Shepherd School Chapel - Sanctuary 10:00 AM Good Shepherd Handbell Guild - Choir Loft 12:00 PM Noonday Prayer with Healing- Chapel 7:00 PM Good Shepherd Choir - Great Hall	18 8:45 AM Good Shepherd School Chapel - Sanctuary 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Lectio Divina, zoom & Rm 215 10:00 AM Needlepoint Group- Rm 205 11:00 AM -1:00 PM Good Shepherd School - Parish Hall 6:00 PM Safety Meeting - Rm 208	19 3:00 PM -8:00 PM Train Group- setup Parish Hall/Great Hall	20 9:00 AM -10:00 AM Meditation Group with Father Bill - Zoom 9:00 AM -4:00 PM Train Club- Parish Hall/Great Hall
21 8:00 AM H.E. Rite I 9:10 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Family Celebration Service - Great Hall 10:15 AM H.E. Rite II 11:45 AM Vestry Meeting - Rm 208 11:45 AM -12:45 PM Youth Bell Choir Sanctuary 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II - Chapel	22 6:00 PM Spirituality & Mysticism - Zoom 6:30 PM -8:00 PM Jack & Jill Moms Group- Great Hall, Parish Hall	23 9:30 AM Bible Study - Rm 208 & Zoom 6:30 PM -9:00 PM Boy Scouts - Parish Hall, Great Hall 7:00 PM Believing, Belonging, Becoming Rm 208	24 8:45 AM Good Shepherd School Chapel - Sanctuary 10:00 AM Good Shepherd Handbell Guild - Choir Loft 12:00 PM Noonday Prayer with Healing- Chapel 7:00 PM Good Shepherd Choir - Great Hall	25 8:45 AM Good Shepherd School Chapel - Sanctuary 10:00 AM -11:00 AM Lectio Divina, zoom & Rm 215 11:00 AM -1:00 PM Good Shepherd School - Parish Hall 6:30 PM -8:30 PM NCL -Great Hall, Parish Hall	26	27 9:00 AM -10:00 AM Meditation Group with Father Bill - Zoom 2:00 PM -3:00 PM Funeral - Sanctuary, Narthex
28 8:00 AM H.E. Rite I 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Family Celebration Service - Great Hall 10:15 AM -11:59 PM Bishop Fisher Visit Confirmations 10:15 AM H.E. Rite II 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM Youth Bell Choir Sanctuary 5:00 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II - Chapel	29 6:00 PM -8:00 PM NCL - Great Hall, Parish Hall 6:00 PM Spirituality & Mysticism - Zoom	30 9:30 AM Bible Study - Rm 208 & Zoom 6:30 PM -9:00 PM Boy Scouts - Parish Hall, Great Hall 7:00 PM Believing, Belonging, Becoming Rm 208				

Safety Committee



In an effort to maintain a safe but welcoming church environment, the Vestry recently formed the Church Safety Committee.

This group of about 15 to 20 people meets every month to define for Good Shepherd what it means to be part of a “safe church”. We want people in our community to feel that, if they come to our church, they are confident they will be entering a safe place that has prepared for all emergency contingencies and still continues to welcome anyone and everyone.

The Safety Committee is addressing issues such as:

- making the physical building safe,
- monitoring safety during and after a church activity or service
- training everyone in what to do in a weather related emergency such as a hurricane or flood, a fire, or a serious health emergency such as a heart attack, a stroke or a fall
- identifying and training people who have the talent and desire to assist during an emergency and perhaps to participate by serving as a “watchdog” usher or greeter
- the appropriate use of first aid, CPR and the AED (defibrillator) like the one outside the doors
- the addition and maintenance of warning devices such as fire alarms and smoke detectors
- Providing updated and informative maps to identify exit routes and location of fire extinguishers, AEDs and first aid equipment
- educating the congregation about how to react in these kinds of emergencies
- creating a thorough written safety policy about which everyone in the congregation will be educated and which will guide us in future safety planning.

We invite you to attend the meetings to give input and to share your thoughts and ideas. Watch the weekly bulletin for dates and times.

Farewell Party



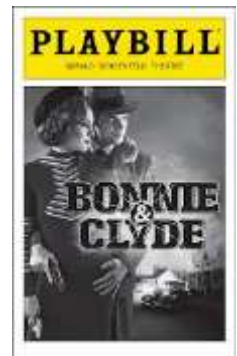
FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR HEATHER DUMAIS

Heather Dumais will be leaving her positions at Good Shepherd Church and School effective May 31, 2024. She began working at the school in 2007. She and her family have been an important part of this church and school community for many fruitful years. We have planned a farewell reception for Heather on May 5, 2024 at 11:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Everyone is invited to join us. Details are still being finalized and more information will be forthcoming. If you would like to donate to a “purse” for Heather, you can make checks payable directly to her, or to Good Shepherd marked, “Dumais Purse.” More details to follow. Please keep Heather in your prayers as she prepares to move and begin a new chapter in her life. If you would like to help with the reception, please contact Corky Foltz at cfoltz@goodshepherdkingwood.org.

Road Runners

Road Runners

For the inquisitive mind and for those that enjoy a good belly laugh, we have an event planned on Friday April 5 that you won't want to miss. Join us when we visit two Humble hidden gems. First up will be a docent led tour of the Humble Museum where we'll learn the history of Humble and the surrounding Lake Houston area. Then we will enjoy a picnic supper on the museum grounds before we attend the Charles Bender Performing Arts Theater for the production of the musical comedy "Bonnie and Clyde". The Museum is free, Bonnie and Clyde is \$25.00 and a small donation will be accepted to cover the cost of our meal. Watch the bulletin board for details and for sign up. Tickets need to be purchased in advance and will be limited.



Muisc Ministry

Youth Music Opportunities.

There are two upcoming music opportunities for youth grades 7-12 that involve few rehearsals and little commitment.

The first is a weekend choir trip to New Orleans June 14-16. We will combine with the Youth Choir of Moody United Methodist Church - Galveston. There will be five rehearsals before the trip. The first rehearsal is on Sunday, May 5th. Each rehearsal will be after the 10:15 service and will last an hour. There will also be a small snack before each rehearsal. During the trip, we will visit the French Quarter and surrounding area as well as sing for a church service in the New Orleans area on Sunday morning.

The second opportunity is a Youth Bell Choir. There will be only four one-hour rehearsals after the 10:15 service beginning April 7. Each rehearsal will also include a snack. After the four rehearsals, we will ring on May 5th during the 10:15 service.





Prayers for Healing in the Chapel

At our Sunday morning services, members of Good Shepherd's Healing Ministry team are available to pray with you for any need. Please go to the Chapel area after receiving communion to request prayer. We have also added a Wednesday at noon Healing Prayer Service in the Chapel.

Pray for men and women in the Military

If you have a family member in the military and would like the Church Family to pray for him or her, please send their name to donnaclifford@goodshepherdkingwood.org. We will be publishing the names in the newsletter each month. Thank you.



Please Pray for Staff Sgt. Jeff Hawes, US Air Force, Captain Michael J. Van Kleeck, US Army (Aviator), Major Trey Taylor, US Air Force, Seaman Scott Barber, United States Coast Guard, Lt. Noah Brinsden, USMC.



Prayers & Blessings

The Priest will offer prayers and blessings on Sundays for those having birthdays and anniversaries during the week.

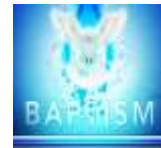
Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) take communion to parishioners who are homebound or in care facilities. Please contact Mother Celeste if you wish to receive this ministry at celestegeldreich@gmail.com.



Baptism

If you would like to be baptized or have your child baptized, please contact the Church Office at 281-358-3154.



Let's Keep In Touch!

The Instant Church Directory is a wonderful tool the church provides for our members to be able to contact each other. You can go online or download the app ([Instant Church Directory](#)) and have people's contact information at your fingertips. Each family decides what information they choose to make accessible and are able to add/delete/edit their preferences. The church database is separate from this and will not automatically put details that may be considered confidential, so if you wish to enter specific items such as birthdays or anniversaries, you can login to add those. If you've never created an account, please consider doing so. This is a quick and simple way to keep in touch with each other.



Flower Guild

The Flower Guild's mission is to beautify our church throughout the year, particularly during the Christmas and Easter seasons. The 17 members of the Flower Guild offer their dedication and creativity to the beauty of worship at Good Shepherd Church not only by decorating the church on special occasions, but also through their Flower Ministry. In this ministry our members repurpose the Sunday sconces after services to be rearranged and delivered to parishioners in need. Please consider helping make our worship beautiful by volunteering behind the scenes with the Flower Guild. Volunteers serve on a team approximately once a month and at Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving. Email Andrea Dixon, Flower Guild Director, for more information at adixon44@gmail.com.

Worship Schedule

Holy Eucharist Rite I Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Family Celebration Service Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II Sunday 10:15 a.m.

Also on YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK
(Child care provided for infants through age 4 for all morning services)

Holy Eucharist Rite II Sunday 5:00 p.m.

Service Wednesday 12 noon
Healing Prayer Service in the Chapel
We will also have communion every fourth Wednesday.

Service Thursdays 5 p.m.
Prayers for Peace, Hope & Love
on YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour needs more food for the families attending the 9:15 service. Please consider donating breakfast type foods like pastries, fruit, etc. Also, if you are entertaining at home and have leftovers, we are more than happy to take it off your hands!! If you have any questions or donations, please contact Nicole Lowther at 832-977-6495. Thank you.



Sanctuary Flowers Request for Thanksgiving or Memorial Flowers

*I would like flowers placed
in/on the (check one):*
 Sconces
 Columbarium
with a dedication on

(date)

(Please check one)

- In Memory of
- In Thanksgiving for
- In Honor of

Given by (as you would like it to read):

*A suggested donation of \$75 per dedication
should be placed in an envelope with this form.
Please leave the envelope in the
offering plate or in the church office.*

The Flower Guild thanks you.





Train Club April 1

The Train Club meets the first Monday of the month.

The next meeting is April 1 at 7 p.m. in Rm 205. Any questions, please call Bill Knapp at 281-358-5422.

Knit/Crochet Group April 5



The **KnitCrochet Group** will meet on

Friday, April 5, 1:30-3:30 in Rm 205. Newcomers are welcome to join our group. We enjoy knitting and crocheting items for ourselves and our families, plus hats, scarves, and prayer shawls for outreach. Free patterns are available for outreach items. Contact Emily Maas at emaas926@gmail.com.



Parish Work Day April 6

The church will conduct a Parish work day on Saturday, April 6 at 8:00 a.m. This church activity is an opportunity for all at Good Shepherd to contribute. For more information, please contact Martin Light at 713-557-6953.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support April 8



Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group - a support group for family members and caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia related disorders, serving the Kingwood and Lake Houston area. Meetings are the second Monday of each month, at 7:00-8:30 p.m. Reservations are required. Contact Barbara Hemphill to learn more and reserve your spot at our next meeting at 281-851-7504 or barbara@synapsesite.net

Women's Book Club April 11



The Women's Book Club invites all readers to join our group as we review enjoyable fiction and non-fiction. Meetings begin at noon in Rms 205-207. The rooms will be open at 11:30 for those who wish to chat with friends prior to our meeting. A light snack with beverages will be provided. Our upcoming meeting will be on Thursday April 11th, we will be reviewing "The Diamond Eye" by Kate Quinn. We look forward to seeing you soon. For more information, please contact Judith Light at jk4slah@icloud.com.



Grief Support April 11

Grief Support at Good Shepherd.

A monthly support program meets at Good Shepherd on the second Thursday of each month for individuals who have experienced the death of a loved one. The program is facilitated by Anne Palmer (annepalmer2014@gmail.com) and Dave Kerkes (djkerkes@gmail.com). The meetings are from 7:00 to about 8:30 p.m. in Rm 205. Interested individuals need to contact either Anne or Dave prior to the meeting. Reservations are required.

Potluck luncheon April 14



Join us for a delicious potluck meal and fellowship following the 10:15 service on April 14th! You can choose to bring anything from a main meat course to a side dish and delectable dessert. Sign-up sheets will be going up the end of March so please be sure to put your name in. Also looking for volunteers to help with set up and clean up. If you have any questions, contact Nicole Lowther at 832-977-6495.

Announcements

Daughters of the King

April 15

The Daughters of the King will meet in Rm 211 at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 15. Please join us! If you have any questions please contact Janet Mansfield at 281-360-5143.



Memorial Tree

Memorial Tree: In memory of long time parishioners Mike and Lynn Boyd, plans are underway for a dedicated Magnolia tree to be planted on church grounds. If you would like to contribute to this memorial fund, please make donations payable to Good Shepherd Episcopal Church with a note in the memo line that it is for the Boyd's Memorial Tree."

Safety Meeting

April 18

The Safety Committee will meet on Thursday, April 18 in Rm 208 at 6 p.m. Members, please make plans to attend. We will begin reviewing the draft of the Safety Policy.



Good Shepherd EYC Getting Ready for Easter on St. Patrick's Day



Special Thank you

A big thank you to Mother Celeste, Jennifer Hawes, Roger Horton and John Ballay for making our front garden beds beautiful again.





2929 Woodland Hills Dr.
Kingwood, TX 77339

www.goodshepherdkingwood.org

The May Newsletter deadline is April 12th.

Good Shepherd's Mission Statement

*With God's help and gifts, we proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ
to our community and invite all people into our loving fellowship.*

STAFF

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