



Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

101 Walnut Street
Allegan, Michigan 49010

Cross and Staff

February 2018 / March 2018

Lent - Pray for Healing

Coming Events

Lent 1 - Sunday, February 18:

10:00 AM: Eucharist

Lenten Study

Wednesday, February 21:

6 PM: Soup Supper

6:30 PM: *Jesus was an Episcopalian*

Musician Workshop

Saturday, February 24, 2:30 PM:

Church musicians will work with Nate Mattson to expand their knowledge and techniques on the organ, and enhance hymns

Lent 2 - Sunday, February 25:

10:00 AM: Eucharist

Lenten Study

Wednesday, February 28:

6 PM: Soup Supper

6:30 PM: *Jesus was an Episcopalian*

Bishop's Workshop

Saturday, March 3:

9:30 AM: St. Luke's, Kalamazoo

For all members of the congregation

Lent 3 - Sunday, March 4:

10:00 AM: Eucharist

Lenten Study

Wednesday, March 7:

6 PM: Soup Supper

6:30 PM: *Jesus was an Episcopalian*

Lent 4 - Sunday, March 11:

10:00 AM: Eucharist

Lenten Study

Wednesday, March 14:

6 PM: Soup Supper

6:30 PM: *Jesus was an Episcopalian*

Lent 5 - Sunday, March 18:

10:00 AM: Eucharist

Bishop Houglund is scheduled to join us.

Vestry Meeting & Workshop

Hello Good Friends at Good Shepherd

By Pastor Dean Beckwith

I appreciate this opportunity to share my thoughts about a book I referred to in a recent sermon. I was speaking about our Lord taking St. Peter's mother-in-law by the hand and healing her of her fever. Wow! Healing her so thoroughly she could rise immediately and wait on Jesus and his friends.

I have come to believe we have lost the practice and expectation of such healings. In our day we say something like, "Well, Jesus did those healing miracles to show his power and divinity to his contemporaries." Since he is no longer here on earth in the flesh these miracles no longer happen.

Now we say this despite the fact Jesus did such miracles (recorded in the gospels) and his followers were told to go and do likewise AND THEY DID SO - - we need only read Acts, or Paul's writings! Healings were a regular experience. We have largely lost this central practice of the early church folks.

The book, *Psychology, Medicine, and Christian Healing*, was written by Morton Kelsey, an Episcopal priest, counselor, writer, and retired professor at the University of Notre Dame. In his book, he traces the history and prevalence of Christian healing from the first century to about the 17th century when it fell to the wayside. With the advances of our knowledge of the physical world and science, our thinking of the spiritual realm has diminished. Kelsey shows how we live in a time when most of us have separated God and His realm from our lives and ourselves. God is in heaven "out there" or "up there somewhere" but seldom seen as right here with me at McDonalds, or with me in my living room chair.

We think of a divine or heavenly realm and a physical, material, earthly realm and the two are separate. Hence, we don't expect God or ask Him to step into our daily lives with his special action. We don't ask Him to heal or remove our physical ills, we don't ask for help with emotional travail, nor do we seek his healing for our poor relational functioning.

I do think Episcopalians are ahead of many Christians in that the two Episcopal Churches I am most familiar with do have special healing services. Here at Good Shepherd - once a month after Sunday worship; and, at Epiphany in South Haven - every Wednesday at noon.

Father Kelsey is a very readable and understandable author, and I invite you to read his book, *Psychology, Medicine, and Christian Healing*. If you read it, let me know what you think of it.

Vestry Notes

The Vestry Meeting for February is being done online. Here is a recap of the items they will be addressing:

1. **Vestry Clerk:**

The vestry needs a person who will take Minutes during vestry meetings.

2. **Event Planning Calendar:**

A list of possible activities is being reviewed and chairpersons will be identified. Parishioners will be sought to coordinate activities throughout the year.

3. **Event Planning Template**

To assist chairpersons with planning events, a planning template is being approved to ensure that all elements are covered.

4. **Facility Use Guideline:**

The guidelines for using the church for anything from weddings to funerals to group gatherings are being updated.

5. **Parishioner Opportunities:** The Bishop's Workshop for our area was moved to March 3rd at St. Luke's in Kalamazoo. All parishioners are welcome to attend. You can register on the Diocesan Website

http://www.edwm.org/news_and_events.html.

There is no cost. Registration is at 9:30; 10 AM sessions begin; 12 lunch; about 3 PM conclude.

6. **Values in Action: Healing Racism:**

We have now heard about racism and how so many people. The question is now: What ACTION can we take to reduce racism?

7. **Christian Formation:** Fr. Mike Wood the Christian Formation Opportunities for information regarding Inquirer and enrichment opportunities which begin on Shrove Tuesday.

8. **Treasurer's Report**

Income:	Budget	Actual
Pledges	\$3,250.00	\$4,294.00
Altar flowers	\$ 58.00	\$ 5.00
Cash Balance 1/31/2018		\$1,078.20

9. **Elected church leaders:**

Senior Warden: Judy Buchanan

Junior Warden: Sue Squiers-Frank

Buildings & Grounds: Kandi Gibson

Treasurer: Ray Lewis

Bookkeeper: Mike Buese

Clerk: unfilled

Like us on Facebook: The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Check our Webpage:

<http://goodshepherdallegan.weebly.com/>

Christian Formation Opportunities

Lent has arrived, and along with it many opportunities to find new ways to live out Jesus' teachings.

Fr. Mike Wood starts us with an **Inquirer's Dessert Night on Tuesday, February 13th**. This will be just the beginning of the Lenten Soup Supper series.

Pull up a Stool

Soup Supper / Lenten Series:

We will use The Rev. Chris Yaw's book *Jesus was an Episcopalian (And you can be too)* and accompanying video vignettes (<http://www.jesuswasanepiscopalian.org/>) to ignite discussion and questions.

Wednesday, February 21:

An intro to our Thinking (Fr. Mike Wood)
"Anglicanism stands...for comprehension for the sake of truth." Archbishop of York, C. F. Garbett

Wednesday, February 28:

The 3-Legged Stool (Fr. Mike Wood)
"The Episcopal Church is the roomiest Church in Christendom..." a convert to the Episcopal Church

Wednesday, March 7:

Scripture and Prayer (Gari Voss)
"The Bible must not always be taken literally, though it must always be taken seriously." As one Episcopalian said, "How lovely! It has so many nice quotes from the Prayer Book."

Wednesday, March 14:

How our Past reaches into our Future (Gari)

Wednesday, March 21:

Pulling it together (Fr. Mike Wood)

Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John

<http://meetingjesusinjohn.org/>

from the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE)

Have you ever wished to deepen your relationship with God? To experience a warm friendship with God? Maybe even fall in love with God – again – or for the very first time?

With a beautiful prayer journal, facilitation guidance for small groups (and more) from the Center for the Ministry of Teaching, and videos from the monks of SSJE, Meeting Jesus is a six-week journey and reflection on the Gospel According to John.

Have Another Blessed Year!

Birthdays

February 7: Jim Wheat
 February 11: Todd Zimmerman
 February 16: Cyle Slater
 February 18: Vicki Barber
 February 23 – Angie Sinden
 February 26 – Butch Iehl
 February 26 – Katie Lange
 February 27 – Michelle Cook
 February 28 – Kate Nameche

March 4 – Ryan Krickow
 March 7 – Robert Cornell
 March 8 – Ron Wedge
 March 11 – Nathan Tibbitts
 March 14 – Judy Buchanan
 March 14 – Pam Sinden
 March 18 – Marty Hesse
 March 18 – Evie Keck
 March 21 – John Iehl
 March 27 – Rev. Thomas Toeller-Novak
 March 28 – Ray Lewis

Anniversaries

February 14: Lynne and Steve Winters
 March 26: Todd and Debbie Holubar

How Can I Help?

Parishioners often ask how they can help around the church, or from home because they cannot come to church. Here are some ways...

1. Community Closet

The Closet needs: children's clothes sizes 3-12; blankets; towels; boots; winter coats; men's clothes

2. Baby Closet

baby wipes: 72-count Costco packages; new multi-piece outfits sizes 6 or 9 months, especially for boys

3. Bring a parishioner or friend to church or to an activity during Lent.

4. Call or Send a note to a Parishioner:

We have several parishioners who live away from the church and would love to hear from others. If you would like to do this, please call Gari at 269 303-0451 or Sharon at 269 673-2254 to get the names, addresses and/or phone numbers of possible people.

5. Altar Flowers:

Donate a few extra dollars to have special prayers said for loved ones or just to thank God for your blessings. Flower donations are \$15, and lamp oil is \$5. (Note: This is the minimum amount for a Sunday, a larger donation is always welcome.)

6. Snow Shoveling:

If you are in town, please pick up a snow shovel and clean a walk. Thank you!

Server Schedule

(If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please arrange for a substitute.)

	Feb. 18, 2018	Feb. 25, 2018	Mar. 4, 2018	Mar. 11, 2018	Mar. 18, 2018
Clergy	Rev. Dean Beckwith	Father Bill	Rev. Dean Beckwith	Fr. Bill Fleener	Bishop Wayne Hougland
Chalice Bearer	Kate Nameche	Gari Voss	Kate Nameche	Judy Buchanan	Kate Nameche
Crucifer	Ray Lewis	Wendy Simmons	Gari Voss	Ray Lewis	Wendy Simmons
Lector # 1	Gari Voss	Ann Perrigo	Judy Buchanan	Wendy Simmons	Sue Buese
Lector # 2	Ann Perrigo	Wendy Simmons	Kandi Gibson	Gari Voss	Ann Perrigo
Lector # 3	Judy Buchanan	Kandi Gibson	Wendy Simmons	Ann Perrigo	Judy Buchanan
Altar Guild	Lynne Winters	Gari Voss	Kandi Gibson	Carrie Burza	Kate Nameche
Usher	Betty Miner	Kandi Gibson	Jim Wendt	Betty Miner	Ray Lewis
Vestry Duty	Vickie Barber	Kate Nameche	Lynne Winters	Judy Buchanan	Sue Squiers-Frank
Musician	Siqi Li	Katherine Plier	Siqi Li	Pufan Wang	Siqi Li
Coffee Hour	Gari Voss	Kate Nameche	Judy Wendt	Judy Buchanan	Lewis/Burza

Lenten Living

Quite often, people equate Lent with “giving up” something. If someone is asked what they are doing for Lent, the answer often heard is... giving up chocolate or cigarettes or ... Which is great if it is an unhealthy habit, but what about “taking on” something.

Many authors promote increasing something that will improve your spiritual, mental or physical health - like walking every day, reading religious literature, taking 10 minutes for prayer, not eating when driving, ...

Maybe you would like to get back in touch with friends who are living away from our congregation. Here is some info of Good Shepherd friends to whom you might wish:

to send a card

Ken Mills
c/o Friendship Village
1400 N Drake Rd.
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

Margot Rolfe
Resthaven Room # 621
5 East Eighth Street
Holland, MI 49423

Joan Northrup
420 Ida Red Parkway
Apartment 314
Holland, MI 49423

Charles and Linda Pullen
1744 Lincoln Road
Allegan, MI 49010

Katherine Mankin
c/o Briarwood
620 Ely Street
Allegan, MI 49010

Gretchen Wedge
c/o Allegan Co. Medical Care
3265 122nd Street
Allegan, MI 49010

Or, to remember in prayer:

Ken, Chuck and Linda, Greg, Dawn, David, Bill, Jordan, Herb, Daniel, Bob, Ron and Gretchen, Butch and Robin, Linda

Salud! That's Thank You!

Let it Snow!

Thank you, **Jim Wendt** for all that snow shoveling and blowing!

Baby Buntings

Thank you to **Sharon Carper** and **Lynne Winters** for delivering 3 layette bags and helping a father get car seats for the two young children. There are three moms enrolled to receive layettes in the next few weeks.

Clothing those in Need

Special thanks to **Judy Wendt** and **Sally Hummel** for assisting the family who lost their home and all their belongings to a fire. In addition, thank you to **Chris Thomas, Sue Buese, Pat Pullen** and **Carol Hiscock** for making the Community Closet available every Tuesday and Friday all year!

Prayers for Peace

Thank you to **Lynne Winters, Marv Voss, Betty Miner** and **Sharon Carper** for opening the church doors for those who wish to enter and pray on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Prayer Chain

Thank you, **Ann Stough** for keeping the Prayer Chain going. If you are not on the email prayer and would like to receive notices, please send your request to: anniestough539@yahoo.com

Squeaky Clean

If you are ever at church on Mondays, you will find **Betty Miner** dusting, washing, vacuuming and mopping to keep our facility bright and clean. Thank you, Betty!

