

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD
I SHALL NOT WANT
HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN
IN GREEN PASTURES • HE LEADETH ME BESIDE
THE STILL WATERS • HE RESTORETH MY
SOUL • HE LEADETH ME IN THE PATHS OF
RIGHTeousNESS FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE • YET THOUGH I WALK THROUGH
THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH
I WILL FEAR NO EVIL FOR THOU ART WITH ME • THY ROD AND THY STAFF
THEY COMFORT ME • THOU PREPAREST
A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRE-
SENCE OF mine ENEMIES • THOU
KNOWEST MY HEAVY BURDEN
GIVE REST UNTO MY SOUL • SURELY
GOODNESS AND MERCY SHALL
FOLLOW ME ALL THE DAYS OF
MY LIFE AND I WILL DWELL
IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD
• FOREVER •

**Church
of the Good
Shepherd**

2006



"Good Shepherd and Landscape, 1909" panels of stained glass photos used with permission granted by the Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass and Collection of The New York Historical Society.

Our Mission:

To share a place of
worship and fellowship
where our hearts meet
God's Light ...

Our Vision

To be a vibrant
community that knows
Christ and makes Him
known.

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June 2011

From the Desk of Reverend Susie Skinner

“Beating the Bounds”

“Beating the Bounds.” Rogation Days. Ring a bell with anybody? In the early Western church, Rogation Days were special days observed in the spring by prayer and fasting “beseeching” God for a fruitful harvest. (The word “rogation” comes from the Latin “rogare” meaning to ask or to beseech.) Today Rogation Sunday and the Rogation Days are traditionally observed on the Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday preceding Ascension Day (June 2nd this year.)

Rogation Sunday was marked in the churches by “beating the bounds.” The priest in full regalia walked the perimeters of the church property. Round and round the perimeter he walked chanting prayers and praises. Tramping along behind him were the mayor and all the people of the village including crowds of children. It was a day for celebrating the awesomeness of God’s creation and acknowledging our part in caring for “this fragile earth, our island home.” Rogation Sunday and Rogation Days were, and are, days to celebrate our relationship with the earth and all creation.

In the beginning, in God’s creation of the world, we are called into a sacred, covenant with all that has life. In this covenant, we are dependent upon God for the gifts of the earth. And God is dependent upon us for the care of those gifts. It is a sacred partnership. Rogation Days call us to be faithful to that partnership with God – loving the creation, caring for it and tending it.

Hildegard of Bingen was a theologian, preacher, and poet of the 12th century. She had a deep understanding of the sacred partnership God calls us to in the creation covenant. She proclaimed again and again that in injuring creation’s interdependent balance, we destroy our own lives. Her words from the 12th century are amazingly appropriate for 21st century.

“Now in the people that were meant to be green, there is no more life of any kind. There is only shriveled barrenness. The winds are burdened by the awful stink of evil selfish goings-on...“The air belches out the unseemliness of the peoples. There pours fourth an unnatural, a loathsome darkness that withers the green, and wizens the fruit that was to serve as food for the people...”

“Sometimes this layer of air is full, full of a fog that is the source of many destructive and barren creatures that damage the earth, rendering it incapable of sustaining humanity.”

As we seek to be faithful partners with God in caring for creation I commend to you the prayer for Rogation Days.

*O Merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the need of every living creature: Make us always thankful for you loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, One God, forever and ever.
Amen. (Book of Common Prayer, pp. 259)*

From the Junior Warden

Building and Grounds News

This Spring has been a busy time. We had hail and wind damage to the rectory and received an insurance check that allowed us to replace the rectory roof, upgrade the privacy fencing at the rectory, and replace three windows in the choir loft with commercial grade windows. We have also applied for a grant from the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri for Church Assistance Endowment. The Diocese will make a decision on the grant approval in June. The grant if approved will be used for improved walkways, handicap ramp/door and retaining wall replacement.

The Adopt A Garden Spot gardeners have been doing a great job this Spring. Our thanks to Lynn Hedrick, Rick Braznell, Ted and Kelly Rodgers, Wayne and Linda Eveland, John and Mydie Sant, Carol Wilson, Nannette Musgrave, Carie Kennedy, Paul Mercurio, Gloria Wilson, Rick Wall, and Kathy Moran. If you like to garden and would like to help maintain our 10 assigned gardens, contact me.

For security reasons, we are changing the combination to the main front door (to the hallway and Parish hall) effective June 11. If you wish to have the new combination, please contact Joan Rath who will keep a log of everyone assigned the number. We also activated a door bell which is located near by the door which will allow members of the staff to answer the door if it is locked during working hours during the week.

And, if you haven't noticed, the 10 foot back lighted cross has been installed on the front of the Church.

Mickey Harrison
Junior Warden

VESTRY MEETING SYNOPSIS MAY 18, 2011

The Vestry of The Church of the Good Shepherd held its regular meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. The Reverend Susie Skinner called the meeting to order and began with prayer.

The agenda as submitted by Susie Skinner was approved.

The Minutes of the April 2011 meeting were approved.

Susie asked that all Vestry members update the committee list and get them into the office. Lesley McIntire reported that five members of the youth group would be working on a program with The Good Shepherd School from June 6 to June 10. Lynn Hedrick and Jerret Reagh will be working with the youth each day.

Susie commented on the Holy Week and Easter. Susie will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of her Ordination on June 12, 2011. She would like to have a service on that Sunday afternoon to commemorate the occasion. She also reported that an anonymous gift had been made for special music offerings.

Mary Mercurio discussed the financial statement for April. Mary also mentioned that the Good Shepherd Foundation balance is approximately \$180,000.00.

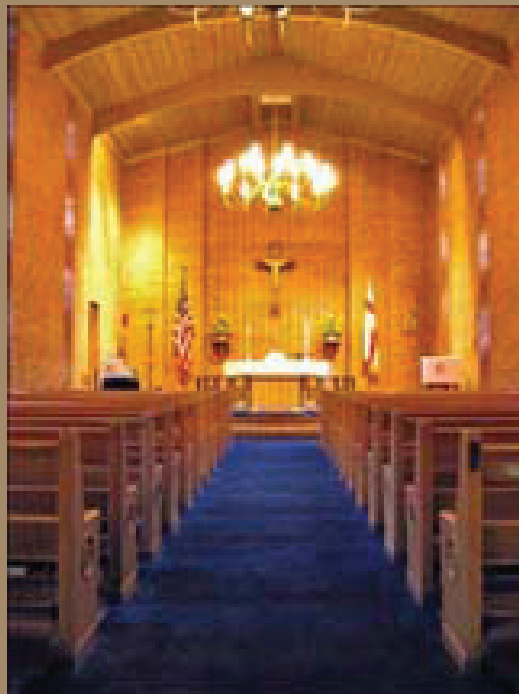
Mickey Harrison has updated the Adopt A Garden list. Mickey has also submitted the proposal to the Diocese for a grant for major improvements. We should have an answer sometime in June.

We concluded with prayer and adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Brooke H. Forsyth
Secretary

Dates to remember: Next Vestry meeting: June 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Please remember our Vestry is here for you. Do not hesitate to contact us.



Senior Warden and Parish Life

It is hard to believe that June is already at hand. I am sorry to say that we were unable to come up with a fund-raising idea for the spring - but that just means that we will have to make all of our money at our Annual Trivia Night and Silent Auction on October 15th!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Four months is not really that far off, so please begin thinking about filling your tables now.(8 at a table). As always ,if you don't have your own table of 8 - sign up anyway and we will put you at a table with other players from Good Shepherd. Also, begin gathering unused items, gifts you've received but will never use, gift certificates etc., and I will make baskets for the silent auction. There will be much more info in the next newsletter (theme, dress, cost) BUT START PLANNING.

Our next BRING A FRIEND will be a Pulled Pork Barbeque on July 10th. You bring a side and some friends and I will make the pork!!

And, on Sunday afternoon, June 12th, there will be a service at 4:00 to celebrate 30 years of Susie's priesthood. Immediately following that service, the Daughters of the King will hold a reception with light refreshments. (Susie will be celebrating at a dinner afterward with family) Please plan to attend this service to show Susie how much Good Shepherd appreciates her and her kindness to us and to honor her accomplishment.

As always, I ask for your prayers for me, your Vestry and Search Committee as we move toward a new rector for our parish. Continue to be patient and understanding as we go through this process, please.

God's Peace
Linda Eveland
Senior Warden

The Church of the Good Shepherd Foundation

The reward for our walk in faith is life eternal while our walk in life on earth is merely temporal. Just as we are instructed to prepare for our eternal life through prayer and worship, we should prepare for the end of our temporal life on earth by ordering our affairs through an estate plan and other life directives.

While some of you may have already addressed these estate planning and end of life issues, the task of beginning the process may seem like a daunting challenge. To assist you in assuring that what you have is up to date or is getting under way, we are offering a “Dessert and Discussion” to be held at The Church of the Good Shepherd at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evening, June 15. in the Parish Hall

The seminar will be led by Jennifer Davis, a trust and estates attorney with the firm of Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale as well as our own Carrie Kennedy and the Reverend Susie Skinner.

Topics to be covered:

- Creating a well conceived estate plan
- Creating a “living will” and “medical directive”
- Having a thoughtful conversation with your priest that can help you decide what you would like to include in your will or other directives about your funeral and/or memorial service arrangements and other faith issues.

Please RSVP to the Church of the Good Shepherd if you will be attending.

The Directors of The Church of the Good Shepherd Foundation

The Bible is meant to be read aloud

In the ancient world, when hand-copied manuscripts of scripture were rare and expensive, the oral aspect of the Bible was practical. People encountered scripture by hearing it read aloud, and they did so mostly in Church. The essential oral quality of all literature was such that almost no one would read silently, even when there were no other listeners. Everyone moved their lips and at least whispered the words aloud. Modern primary teachers would not approve. Julius Caesar and Bishop Ambrose of Milan (fifth century) were exceptions to rule, and people considered them at least eccentric because of their silent reading.

Many translations of the scriptures into English are done with this oral quality in mind. Notable among these translations is the Authorized Version of 1611, usually called the King James Bible, whose four-hundredth anniversary is this year. Accuracy in meaning mattered for the translators of this Bible, yes, but so did the sound of the words read aloud. They tried to avoid tongue-twisters, and they sought beauty in the spoken Word, aiming for a serious and sonorous tone. To this end, they chose a slightly archaic style of English and, for the first edition, even an archaic, black-letter typeface, similar to Gothic. (You can view the original Bible online <http://tinyurl.com/63bjsub>.) The first edition was available only in pulpit size—eighteen inches tall, twelve inches wide, six inches thick, and weighing thirty pounds! This Bible was not going to travel.

This year, in commemoration of the significant anniversary, I am reading the daily office in the Authorized Version, and I am finding both the beauty and strangeness of its language, which become more apparent whenever I read the words aloud. The density of the language, and sometimes its impenetrability, will put off a modern reader, as will its absence of sensitivity in matters we deem important, gender reference being but one of them. The New Revised Standard Version is but the latest translation in the tradition of the Authorized Version. It too is translated for accuracy of meaning and to be read aloud. But it also translates for purposes of clarity of meaning and sensitivity. And it is easy to recognize that these two Bibles belong in the same tradition.

In corporate worship, this oral quality is essential to the experience of scripture. This quality has ancient roots and modern expressions. The

choice of a translation for worship matters, and not every translation has how the words sound as a criterion. The Good News Bible: Today's English Version does not, for example, nor does The Message. It also matters how the reader prepares to proclaim the Word—a seriousness of purpose but without melodrama: that balance seems about right.

In the liturgical setting, there is also something right about reading aloud from an enormous and weighty volume, not unlike that first edition of the Authorized Version. It bespeaks the dignity of the Word.

Speaking the Word aloud, and hearing it: just some thoughts for Lent, during a Bible's significant anniversary year.

Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

Bishop Wayne Smith





The Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri

Dear Friends,

Two requests:

1. The Diocese of West Missouri has set up a relief fund for Joplin: checks payable to Diocese of West Missouri, with notation "Joplin Tornado Relief Fund" sent to PO Box 413227, Kansas City, MO 64141. They are also coordinating congregation and individual volunteer opportunities. More details and information on our diocesan website: diocesemo.org

2. Many hearts in this diocese were touched by the preaching and presence of Stephen Dokolo, who is now the Bishop elect of Diocese of Lui, Episcopal Church of Sudan. We are taking up a collection to purchase vestments for him. You can donate online at diocesemo.org/donate or send a check to the office with designation information. Dates to keep in mind: June 10, Bishop and Debbie Smith in Sudan for the funeral of Bullen Dolli; June 26, ordination of Dokolo as Third Bishop of Lui.

Debbie Smith wrote: One of the things I remember best from the crazy months after Wayne was elected Bishop of Missouri and before his ordination and our move to St. Louis is the kindness and generosity of the people in the Dioceses of Missouri and Iowa in providing him with the many very expensive things bishops have to have to support them in their job. So I'm quite aware of the list of things Stephen needs and the difficulty of paying for it (or even finding it) in Sudan.

Anne in Blackmore Vale, Marie in Lund, and I have been talking with Stephen about his needs and with each other about how we can help

him. The vestments he needs can be made in Uganda, and the ECS office in Uganda is willing to pick them up for him and get them to Lui in time for the consecration on June 26th. The cost of them is about \$1000 with shipping and so forth included. He also needs -- and can't get in Uganda -- a pectoral cross, a ring with a purple stone, and a crozier, aka bishop's staff. He has asked if Wayne and I could bring these items with us to the funeral, or if Goran and John from Lund could bring them when they attend the consecration.

Knowing how much Stephen is loved, I'm guessing that there are people who'd like to give Stephen a gift on the occasion of his consecration. If you want to contribute to the cost of his vestments, you can send a contribution with that designation to the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri. We'll let Stephen know who contributed to this gift, and if there are funds leftover after paying for the vestments, we'll work on funding those other items. Anything left after those are purchased will be given to Stephen's discretionary fund.

Faithfully,
Beth
Beth Felice
Director of Communications
Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

Update:

Thank you for your prayers and for your kind offering to assist in the response to the tornado which struck Joplin.

St. Philip's Church in Joplin was spared and is relatively undamaged. While injuries have been sustained by some members of our Joplin area congregations we give thanks that at present we know of no loss of life. However, many members and relatives and friends of members have lost their homes, their businesses, and, at present, their source of livelihood. So there is much to do.

How can you help?

Financial Response: Checks payable to Diocese of West Missouri, with notation "Joplin Tornado Relief Fund" sent to PO Box 413227, Kansas City, MO 64141.

Update noon May 28: Archdeacon John McCann reports: Fr. Jason Lewis drove down a truckful of supplies into Joplin today and was turned away from the site that had said they needed items, then turned away from a second site, then finally had to unload the truck himself at the third site. At another site Nurse Barbara was asked to take away supplies that had just been delivered. Please hold on shipments. Of everything. We are in that stage where goodwill has far outstripped organization. Let's take a breather on stuff until it catches up.

Volunteers for clean-up phase: The next step will be for the diocesan office to build a data base of persons who are willing to volunteer. At present there is not an overall volunteer coordinator for Joplin and so at this point rather than sending people we are mustering our troops! This information should be sent to Archdeacon John McCann at JMcCann@ediowestmo.org



A Reflection on Prayer: What, When, Where, Who and Why?

Prayer is complicated yet simple. Prayer for me used to be rote, prayers we learn as children and the Lord's Prayer. After becoming a Daughter of the King in 1995, I learned many different kinds of prayer, such as intercessory prayer, healing prayer, soaking prayer, bullet prayer, centering prayer, praying the labyrinth and praying the Anglican Rosary. The possibilities are endless, but need not overwhelm us.

What is prayer? Prayer, put simply, is a conversation with God. This conversation can take many forms depending on the situation. It can be a one way monologue on our part where we tell or ask God what we need. It can be a simple recitation of rote prayers. It can be a dialogue between God and us when we open our hearts to God and listen for His response,

or perhaps we open ourselves to His presence and listen for Him to speak to us. This type of prayer is the one that takes the most practice, listening for God to speak to us. Prayer takes many forms, such as adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication, where we intercede for others or petition God for our own needs. Sometimes in my personal prayer time, I utilize all of these and finally end with quiet time listening for God's response.

When and where do we pray? I would surmise that the greatest amount of prayer takes place on Sunday mornings around the world when Christians gather corporately to participate in church services. Because Daughters of the King take vows to pray daily, they typically have special prayer times, be it early in the morning to start the day, which is my preference, or at the close of the day. Many pray throughout the day as prayer needs arise, perhaps when they see a homeless person on the street, an ambulance with flashing lights or any seemingly dangerous situation. We may give thanks for a beautiful spring day, a phone call from a friend, or a positive compliment that someone has shared with us. All good and perfect gifts come from above, and we are called to give God thanks at all times, not just in church or just for our meals.

Who can pray? Prayer is not only for clergy, those in lay ministry or the DOK. We are all called to pray. Prayer is our connection to the Father or our bridge to the Father through Jesus Christ. Many are challenged by the practice of prayer thinking that they have to do it "right" when there is no true right or wrong way. Likewise, there is not right or wrong posture for praying. The Father knows our hearts, and He is glorified when we make an effort to communicate with Him. He is pleased when we acknowledge Him in all things and in all our ways. Everyone can pray. "Let everyone who has breath praise the Lord." It is just that simple.

Why pray? Besides being called into communion with the Father, prayer gives us peace. So many times in our lives we are in the midst of situations in which we have no control. These circumstances can many times be overwhelming, infuriating and stressful. If we truly have no control, all we can do is pray, give control to the Holy Spirit and let the stress, anger or hurt go. We must trust that He is in control. Being able to give up control to the Holy Spirit is very liberating and peaceful. He is the omnipotent, omniscient Prince of Peace. When we pray and give up control to Him, we find peace, the peace that surpasses all understanding.

Chesley Vohden, Daughters at Large Chair