



The Shepherd's Voice

December 2018

Services

Sunday:

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
Rite I

9:15 am Adult Spiritual
Formation (Nursery
available)

10:45 am Holy Eucharist
Rite II (Nursery
available)

10:45 am Children's
Church (Children go
directly to Children's
Church)

Tuesday:

5:00 pm Healing Prayer
and Meditation

Wednesday:

Noon Holy Eucharist with
Healing Prayer

The Rev. Dr. Bill
Breedlove
Rector

The Rev. George Choyce
Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Turner Guidry
Deacon

Why do we have a "lift station" and what is it?

The simple answer to the above question is that most members and visitors of this parish want indoor plumbing. The more complete answer is how we do this.

First some history.

When the current church was started on this site in 1980-81, we had a small building with two restrooms and a kitchen and basically the same type and size of septic system that would be required for a 3-bedroom home. The restrooms, kitchen, parish hall and office were all located in the undercroft with the Nave located above.

In 1991 the church was expanded adding some limited additional restrooms, a new parish hall, new kitchen and offices. The septic system was unchanged. How these ever met the state requirement for either number of restroom spaces or septic system capacity remains a mystery to me today. I am sure that it was also a mystery to ladies waiting in the hall for access to the ladies' room before services and at events. It was a long way down to the restrooms in the undercroft.

When we started looking at additions to the church in 2006 - 2007 **we realized we had a major problem** to meet the septic system needs and to meet the state requirements for restroom capacity. We did not have enough land to have the larger required drain field. Basically, we could not expand the church on this site and meet the state requirements for a building permit.

Then a fortunate change occurred in that "The Ridges" need to tie their sewer system to the Clay



County Water and Sewer System and they paid to build a sewer main on the north side of Hwy 64 from The Ridges to Hayesville. We were then able to add a sewer lift station (pumping station) to Good Shepherd and pump our waste from our site under Hwy 64 and tie into this main line. We also were

required to tie into the county water system also going under Hwy 64. Along with adding parking lot capacity, building the lift station was the first thing we did. It was completed in 2009.

Hidden behind our entrance sign is the "lift station" or sewage pump station. It pumps sewage under Hwy 64 to the main sewage line.

Now the problem!! The lift station can not handle, baby wipes, disposable diapers, sanitary pads, insulin needles etc. All parish members, children and visitors must limit what is flushed down our toilets to body waste and toilet paper. No exceptions. **Even if the container of wipes says they are flushable – don't – they still clog the pumps and valves.**

This is also the reason we do not have a garbage disposal in the kitchen.

Repairs to the lift station are very expensive and also have the potential to shut down restroom usage as we just experienced.

THINK BEFORE YOU FLUSH !!!!

NO WIPES !!

Dave Smucker

The Shepherd's Voice

Christian Education

Ongoing

- **Lectionary Bible Study** meets on Sundays at 9:15 in the library as we work through the appointed readings for the following Sunday. All are welcome.

Upcoming

- **Advent Quiet Day: The Christmas Songs of Luke** On December 8, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. On this Advent quiet day we will use Lectio Divina to read, meditate, pray, and reflect on the three Christmas songs in the Gospel according to Luke: The Song of Mary, The Song of Zechariah, and The Song of Simeon.

Lectio Divina is a traditional Benedictine practice of spiritual reading, meditation, and prayer intended to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's Word.

No prior experience is necessary. A simple lunch will be served. Please sign up in the hallway if you plan to attend.

- **Rector's Bible Study — The Pentateuch**
Mondays at 10:00 am in the Library
 - ◆ January-February — The book *Genesis*
 - ◆ March — The book *Exodus*
 - ◆ April — The book *Leviticus*
 - ◆ May — The book *Numbers*
 - ◆ June — The book *Deuteronomy*
- **Rector's Brown Bag Book Read**
Tuesdays at noon in the Library
 - ◆ February 19 — *Quarantine* by Jim Crace
 - ◆ April 30 — *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis
 - ◆ June 18 — *When Prophecy Fails* by Leon Festinger
 - ◆ August 20 — *The Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Trish Warren
 - ◆ October 22 — *The Sunflower* by Simon Wiesenthal
 - ◆ December 10 — *The First Christmas* by Marcus Borg and John Crossan.

Annual reports needed from ministries

Good Shepherd's annual meeting will be held on January 20, 2019. The annual report will be produced to be distributed for that meeting. If you are a ministry head, we'd like to include in that report information about what your ministry has been doing in 2018. This is a way to let others in the congregation know more about the great

work of your ministry. Reports are due by December 31. Send them to gsepiscopal@brmemc.net or bring/send a copy to the church office.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office. If your ministry has completed their activities for the year, please consider submitting your information earlier than December 31.

Financials (October 31, 2018)

2018 General Fund Balance:

General Fund Balance on January 1, 2018	\$20,700
Income year to date	327,568
Expenses year to date	<u>-318,381</u>
General Fund Balance on October 31, 2018	\$29,887

Balance on bank mortgage \$127,336

Balance on Mt. of Faith loan \$12,000

The church's financial statements are posted each month on the bulletin board by the office door.

For any questions, please contact our church bookkeeper, Susan Wyman in the office on Mondays.

The Shepherd's Voice

Inside Story Headline

You will sometimes overhear clergy say rather tongue-in-cheek and partially truth-be-told, "well there's a sermon example for you." I would like to add, "well there's a [Shepherd's Voice](#) illustration for you." Effective clergy communicate through the use of story. You see this phenomenon of the use of story throughout the entire Bible. The Bible is not a lecture, nor is a sermon for that matter. Even parish magazine articles can choose to utilize story as a part of the publication. It is simply a part of my daily pattern to glimpse for daily life examples that can communicate the gospel.

If I entitled my articles this one would be "The Spiritual Lessons Learned from a Dog." First, let me confess - yes confess - that my dog Snickers and I have never been super close. Oh, we get along fine. I just do not get down on the floor and roll around and play with him. Snickers was a last-minute Humane Society rescue dog, and he is now frail due to his health. Who knows how much he could reasonably frolic before doing something unknowingly to hurt himself. Snickers is, however, fed twice a day and walked four or five times daily. Sometimes we will even walk across the Chatuge Dam at a determined, although passive, pace. From time to time, Snickers ends up with me here in Hayesville due to schedules back in Tennessee.

What are some of these spiritual lessons? Some of the most complex Seasons of the Church Year to me are Advent and Christmas. What does Snickers reveal about both of the Seasons of Advent and Christmas?

For example whatever the time is that I return from Good Shepherd to my house, Snickers is in a position facing the door patiently and eagerly waiting for me. His two front paws are stretched out towards the door in a longing, yet calm, expectation of his "master" to return. I would even portray it as a position of doggie prayer.

You know, and I have to admit, his simple act still stirs me. He is waiting. Waiting. It is not laziness. It is waiting. There is something active about this act. I guess it is inspiring to me because I am not a

patient person. In this Season of Advent there is a spiritual theme of anticipation. Can you flip the scene and put yourself in Snickers' position? Can you wait patiently and prayerfully for Jesus to return? Guess what happens when your Savior returns?

The official advertisements for Christmas began in full-force back in November. They launched their presence in some of the tremendous commercial chain stores even earlier in the year. Let me put it in writing - you do not need that "stuff." As someone who has been in the process of moving for months now, the "stuff" the Choyce family has received in the way of presents is literally overwhelming. Most of those presents were from the Christmases of the past.

Is that the meaning of Christmas? Perhaps this will give us more insight into Christmas. On practically all of those walks up a certain part of the driveway, the silence has only been broken by the gentle clomping of hoofs from both the left and right side. Pastures and barns and horses dot the landscape. It is completely clear that these majestic farm animals are drawn to about ten awkward pounds of fur. They are not drawn to me; they are gazing down in a sort of reverence to simple Snickers.

What does the nativity story tell us? When we hear the birth story of Jesus, farm animals, along with the shepherds, made their way on the night of Jesus' birth to adore him. Perhaps in the mysterious and beautiful silence of that holy night, only the gentle, clomping of hoofs was heard.

Thank you, ten pounds of fur named Snickers, for showing me in a way I never imagined my Savior named Jesus.



Seniors and Friends Lunch

Mark your calendar and plan to join us at Good Shepherd on Thursday, December 13 at Noon for a Seniors and Friends Christmas lunch. There will be good food, caroling, and a white elephant gift exchange.

Please sign up in the hallway or call the church office 828-389-3397 to let us know that you plan to attend. If you have questions, contact Helga Reaves at 727-418-2239.



The Shepherd's Voice

Nominations for Vestry

The nominating committee consisting of Rachel Baughn, Carolyn Cline-Griffiths, Jan Freeman, Dave Larson, Don Roman and Tom Wilkerson is now soliciting input for the elections of vestry members. Four new vestry members will be elected in January 2019. To be eligible to run for vestry a candidate must meet the following requirements:

- Members – All persons whose Baptism, Confirmation, Reception or Letter of Transfer has been recorded in this church, and who have been confirmed or received by the Bishop. (Canon I.17.1 of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church of the United States.)
- Communicants in Good Standing of Good Shepherd – All members of this Church who for the previous year have been faithful in corporate worship and have received Holy Communion in this Church at least three times, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving

for the spread of the Kingdom of God. (Canon I.17.3 of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church of the United States and Canon 10.7 of the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Western NC.)

- No less than 18 years of age, who have agreed to serve on the vestry for the elected term (3 years), to serve on one committee, and to attend Church functions.
- Have no spouse serving concurrently on the vestry.
- Shall be a contributor of record through faithful monetary giving to Good Shepherd.

If you would like to nominate a member of the parish for vestry, please contact one of the members of the nominating committee before December 23.

Absentee Voting Procedures for Vestry Election

The procedure for absentee voting is:

1. Absentee ballots may be requested from the Parish office during normal business hours, in person, by phone, by mail or by email. When an absentee ballot is requested, the Parish office issuing the ballot will mark the requester's name from the master list of Parish members eligible to vote, and such person will not be permitted to vote in person without first surrendering the absentee ballot in blank.
2. Absentee ballots must be physically received in the Parish office no later than Friday noon preceding the last Sunday of regular voting.
3. An absentee ballot will be sealed in a plain envelope without the voter's name appearing. The envelope containing the ballot will be placed in a second envelope that does include the voter's name so that it may be checked as received.
4. All absentee ballots will be opened as soon as the ballot boxes are closed, and their count will be supervised in the same manner as regular ballots.
5. The vestry election will take place on January 6 and 13 after both services. Absentee ballots may be requested now but will not be mailed before December 30. Absentee ballots must arrive back in the church office by noon on January 11.

Remember the Church Staff for Christmas

Your vestry requests that you place your gift in the collection plate using the envelopes in the pew pocket or the narthex or send it to the church by December 16.

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Holy Eucharist	3 8:00am Exercise class 7:00pm Higher Calling	4 10:00am Yoga class 5:00pm Healing Prayer & Meditation 6:00pm Brotherhood of the Fire	5 8:00am Exercise class 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers 7:00pm Choir rehearsal	6 7:00am Order of St. George 10:00am Yoga class	7 8:00am Exercise class 2:00pm Centering Prayer 7:00pm Choir Christmas party	8 9:00am Advent Quiet Day 11:00am Flower Guild luncheon
9 8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Holy Eucharist	10 8:00am Exercise class 10:00am Crafts Group 7:00pm Higher Calling	11 10:00am Yoga class 5:00pm Healing Prayer & Meditation 6:00pm Brotherhood of the Fire	12 8:00am Exercise class 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers 7:00pm Choir rehearsal	13 7:00am Order of St. George 10:00am Yoga class	14 8:00am Exercise class 2:00pm Centering Prayer	15 10:00am Choir rehearsal
16 8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Holy Eucharist	17 8:00am Exercise class 6:30pm Vestry meeting 7:00pm Higher Calling	18 10:00am Yoga class 5:00pm Healing Prayer & Meditation 6:00pm Brotherhood of the Fire	19 8:00am Exercise class 12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers 1:00pm Stamping Group 7:00pm Choir rehearsal	20 7:00am Order of St. George 10:00am Yoga class	21 8:00am Exercise class 10:00am Moms' Connection 11:00am Blue Christmas lunch 12:00pm Blue Christmas 2:00pm Centering Prayer 5:30pm Grazers potluck	22 6:30pm Choir Concert and Caroling
23 8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Holy Eucharist	24 Christmas Eve Office closed 4:00pm Holy Eucharist 11:00pm Holy Eucharist	25 Christmas Day Office closed 10:00am Holy Eucharist	26 8:00am Exercise class	27 10:00am Yoga class	28 8:00am Exercise class 2:00pm Centering Prayer	29
30 8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:15am Sunday School 10:45am Holy Eucharist	31 8:00am Exercise class 7:00pm Higher Calling					

DECEMBER 2018

Sunday, 8:00 am:	December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23	December 30
Eucharistic Ministers	Kathy Wright Heyward Wilson	Heyward Wilson Mary Anne Kooš	Pat Jordan Kathy Wright	Amy Nicolson Mary Anne Kooš	Mary Anne Kooš Amy Nicolson
Lector	Michael Wright	Kathy Wright	Michael Wright	Jan Freeman	Kanute Rarey
Intercessor	Amy Nicolson	Michael Wright	Mary Anne Kooš	Heyward Wilson	Susanne Treacy
Usher	Gil Nicolson	Wally Figura	Wally Figura	Wally Figura	Gil Nicolson
Altar Guild	Gail Criss	Pat Jordan	Gail Criss	Pat Jordan	Gail Criss
Coffee Hour	Wrights	Figuras	Wrights	Jordans	Jordans
VPOD	Dudley Hall	Teresa Gribble	Tom Wilkerson	Jan Freeman	Tom Wilkerson
Ingles Cards	Suzi Herbert Joy Fox	Kanute Rarey Kathy Rarey	Susan Morgan Elizabeth Rybicki	Sanford Freeman Jan Freeman	Elizabeth Rybicki Susan Morgan
Sunday, 10:45 am:	December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23	December 30
Eucharistic Ministers	Georgia Bethel Kathryn Hoyt	Kathryn Hoyt Tom Griffiths	Jim Reynolds Georgia Bethel	Carolyn Cline Griffiths Cindy Nodine	Tom Griffiths David Hourdequin
Lector	Dave Larson	Robert Schneider	Doug Stuart	Andy Dickert	Carol Smucker
Intercessor	XXXXXXXX	Laurie Wright	Jerry Taylor	Laurel Adams	Dave Smucker
Ushers	Sanford Freeman Jean Gora	Jean Gora David Hourdequin	David Hourdequin Jan Chatterton	Georgia Bethel Tom Griffiths	Jim Reynolds Deanna DuBose
Greeters	Mary Stewart King Fred King	Mary Stewart King Fred King	Mary Stewart King Fred King	Jane Stuart Doug Stuart	Jane Stuart Doug Stuart
Altar Guild	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 4
Altar Linens	Betsi Wilson	Carolyn Cline-Griffiths	Mary Stewart King	Barb Redmond	Pat Jordan
Nursery	Judy Bourne	Barb Field	Peggy Dickert	Jean Gora	Georgia Bethel
VPOD	Tom Griffiths	Mary Ackerly	Randy Williams	Cindy Nodine	Teresa Gribble
Counters	Randy Williams Kathryn Hoyt	Tom Wilkerson Mary Ackerly	Dudley Hall Randy Williams	Mary Ackerly Cindy Nodine	Tom Griffiths Teresa Gribble
Flower Guild	Advent-No flowers	Advent-No flowers	Advent-No flowers	Advent-No flowers	Joy Fox
Ingles Cards	Susan Morgan Laurie Wright	Pat Fox Joy Fox	Pat Fox Joy Fox	Jan Chatterton Randy Williams	Sanford Freeman Jan Freeman
Tuesday 7:00 pm:	December 4	December 11	December 18		
Leader	Bill Breedlove	Harry Baughn	Beth Hitchcock		
Prayer Minister	Elizabeth Rybicki	Deanna DuBose	Rachel Baughn		
Wednesday 12:00 pm:	December 5	December 12	December 19		
Eucharistic Minister	Deanna DuBose	Kathryn Hoyt	Kathryn Hoyt		
Altar Guild	Becky Van Gorder	Kathryn Hoyt	Becky Van Gorder		

The Shepherd's Voice

Parish News

Birthdays in December

- 1 Nick George
- 3 Kathy Marcel
- 6 Joan Mahon
- 7 Pat Hicks, Gil Nicolson
- 10 Cheryl Notchie
- 12 Marilyn Clark, Teresa Gribble
- 15 Carolyn Rice, Joan Walter
- 16 Patty Bilitzke, Abigail Embry
- 17 Carol Smucker
- 19 Sean Riley
- 26 Ed Kelley
- 27 Vicky Schwartz, Birch Criss
- 28 Sandra Green
- 30 Meliss Czarnecki, Karen Foster, Fred King
- 31 Tally Breedlove, Gail Criss, Dudley Hall

Anniversaries in December

- 7 Angela and Joe Martin
- 16 Jean and Mike Gora
- 19 Abby and Jonathan Bethel
- 22 Randye and Kelly Williams
- 29 Susan and Mark Barbaro
- 31 Becky and Chuck Van Gorder

In Sympathy we are thinking of:

Susan Gray on the death of her brother Jeff.

Give rest, O Christ, to Thy servants with Thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

† † †

Christmas services

Blue Christmas

Friday, December 21 at 11:00 am

Lessons and Carols

December 23, 10:45 am (8:00 am will be Rite I Holy Eucharist)

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm and 11:00 pm

Christmas Day

10:00 am

Weekday services

The Soaking Prayer services on December 25 and January 1 as well as the Holy Eucharist on Wednesday, December 26 have been cancelled.

End of Year Donations

All donations for 2018 must be in the church office or postmarked on or before December 31, 2018. Any contributions received or postmarked after that date will be credited to 2019 contributions.

To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2018 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church.

Moms' Connection

Moms' Connection is a big hit with Moms and kids!! We met on October 19th for a Pumpkin Painting Party. The Moms really love to create or paint as part of our ministry, so we have incorporated this into many of our onsite meetings in the Parish Hall. On November 16 we will be creating lovely pinecone holiday candles, and on December 21 we will be gathering for a Christmas Party (details to follow). We have wonderful fellowship, snacks, great door prizes and free childcare for kids 0 to 5 years. If you are in need of refreshment and encouragement and want to connect with other Moms, please join us!! Go to [momsconnectionhayesville](https://www.facebook.com/momsconnectionhayesville) on Facebook or contact Susan Gray at 828-361-7175.



The Shepherd's Voice

Lectionary Readings for December

1 Advent December 2	2 Advent December 9	3 Advent December 16	4 Advent December 23	1 Christmas December 30
Jeremiah 33:14-16	Malachi 3:1-4	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Micah 5:2-5a	Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalms 25:1-9	Canticle 16	Canticle 9	Psalms 80:1-7	Psalms 147:13-21
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Philippians 1:3-11	Philippians 4:4-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7
Luke 21:25-36	Luke 3:1-6	Luke 3:7-18	Luke 1:39-55	John 1:1-18

Christmas Memorials

If you would like to contribute to the decoration of the church for Christmas as a memorial or in honor of a loved one. Please use one of the envelopes you will find in the narthex or fill out the information below and return it to the office with your check marked "Christmas Plants." These memorials will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

The deadline to get the memorials in the bulletin is December 1.

Bulletin statement:

"Christmas decorations are given to the glory of God by

_____ (Your name)

() in loving memory of

() in thanksgiving for



Mailing Address:

PO Box 677
Hayesville NC 28904

Location:

495 Herbert Hills Dr.
Hayesville NC 28904

Phone: 828-389-3397

E-mail:
gsepiscopal@brmemc.net

Web address:

goodshepherdhayesville.org