



The Shepherd's Voice

September
2026

Services:

Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist
Rite I

11:00am Holy Eucharist
Rite II

11am service is live
streamed to Facebook at:
[facebook.com/
goodshepherdhayesvillenc/](https://facebook.com/goodshepherdhayesvillenc/)

Coffee Hour in the Parish
Hall following 11am
Sunday service

Tuesday

5:00pm Soaking Prayer

Wednesday

12:00pm Holy Eucharist w/
Healing Prayer

1:00 pm Lectionary
Bible Study

The Rev. Dr. Bill Breedlove,
Rector

CHAPTER 9 OF 12

september



You see what
I carried
you through?
Wait until
you see
where I carry
you to...

-God

Rooted in Faith, Growing in Generosity

In September you will begin to see and hear about Stewardship. Did you realize Stewardship is actually a very spiritual exercise? It's about so much more than tallying up financial resources so the Vestry knows how to plan its budget in January. It's a time when each member of the congregation evaluates their own time, talents, and treasure considering their commitment to God and the church; and their faith in a loving God who is ever-present.

Any resulting commitment is an act of faith. Hebrews Chapter 11 begins "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." The author goes on to cast all the great events of what we call the Old Testament in the light of people acting on faith. In Luke 17:5-6 and Matthew 17:20, Jesus goes even further to say that faith as small as a mustard seed can move mountains or accomplish great things. The stories from the Old Testament prove it, and so do the stories of Good Shepherd, which grew from four young couples meeting together as a Bible study group. Over the past 70 years, their tiny mustard seed of faith that planted this church has continued to bear fruit, spreading new seeds within its members and into the community.

Faith and generosity grew this church from rented spaces to a tiny concrete block building, then to its current location, followed by two more building expansions. Faith and generosity filled the hopeful but empty elevator shaft with a working, much-appreciated elevator. Faith and generosity started the Clay County Food Pantry in our basement, created the dental and the shelter security funds. Numerous local service organizations rely on generous support from Good Shepherd to meet the needs of our communities.

Countless individuals and families have been nurtured by this tree of faith that we call Good Shepherd. By faith they have been supported through sickness and difficult times; by faith they have grown in their trust in God's love and in love for their neighbor; they have stepped out in faith to help school children with food and supplies; they have shared their abundance in Country Fare; they have rejoiced together at Thanksgiving and Christmas and in the burning of the church mortgage. The stories of faith and generosity at Good Shepherd continue to grow with each new church member and each new opportunity. Everyone plays a part in making Good Shepherd a vibrant, welcoming and nurturing community of faith.

We demonstrate our faith by being faithful and showing up. The small Soaking Prayer ministry, for example, continued meeting even throughout the COVID quarantine: just a handful of folks making themselves available to anyone needing prayer and praying on behalf of others. You may feel like the widow who could only afford to give a pittance to the church. But being faithful and showing up, bears great fruit in God's eyes.

So, in this season of stewardship, we invite you to look inward and ask yourself: "What are my God-given gifts? What do I have to offer?" And then to look around and ask: "What are the needs of the church? Where do my gifts help fill those needs? How may I be the hands and feet of God?"

We look forward to your time, talents and treasure being added to the story of faith at Good Shepherd, because with the faith of a mustard seed, together we can do great things.

The Shepherd's Voice



With the faith of a mustard seed, together we can do great things.

Where do my gifts fit?



'Mater Sandwiches Southern Style

Someone once said "the proper tomato sandwich requires ripe tomatoes, white bread, plenty of mayo, and the good sense to eat it over the sink. If the tomato juice isn't running down your arm, you're doing it wrong"

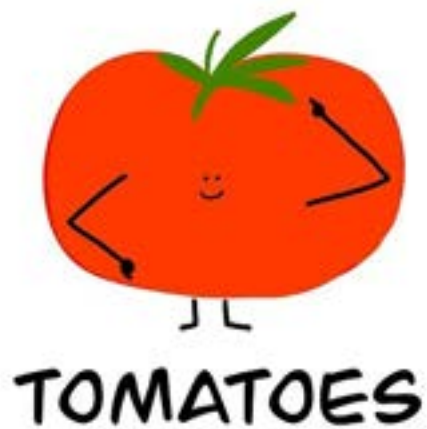
Thank you, Kathy Wright for another delicious "Mater Sunday" on August 23rd. It's a celebration we anticipate year after year. Please enjoy these photographs compliments of Mary Carol Campbell.



The Shepherd's Voice



THANK YOU FROM MY HEAD...



TOMATOES

hap-pes.

the ABC's of Praying for Students



Attitude ... Psalm 14:14
 Boldness ... Psalm 27:1
 Courage ... John 1:4
 Discernment ... Philippians 1:4-10
 Enthusiasm ... Colossians 3:23
 Friendliness ... Proverbs 18:24
 Generosity ... 2 Corinthians 9:7
 Humility ... Philippians 2:3-5
 Initiative ... 1 John 3:18
 Joyfulness ... Philippians 4:4
 Knowledge ... Proverbs 18:15
 Listening ... Proverbs 12:15
 Maturity ... 1 Corinthians 14:20
 Neighbors ... Mark 12:31
 Overflow ... Romans 15:13
 Perseverance ... Galatians 6:4
 Quiet ... Proverbs 24:11
 Respect ... Romans 12:10
 Self-control ... 2 Peter 1:5-7
 Thankfulness ... 1 Chronicles 16:34
 Understanding ... Psalm 119:130
 Victory ... Psalm 18:29
 Wisdom ... James 3:17
 eXcellence ... Proverbs 3:4
 Youthfulness ... 1 Timothy 4:12
 Zeal ... Romans 12:11



juliesanders.org



Lord, I pray that my children walk in the fruits of the Spirit. May they represent your truth to those around them and shine brightly for you. Fill them with your love, joy, peace, patience, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Help them produce good fruits and walk in truth, being a good example to their peers at school.

Father, I pray that you lead and guide my children into the good plans you have for their lives. May they prosper and have a hopeful future. Set a passion in their hearts for the things you have called them to do, and may they experience school with excitement, clarity, and a clear path of where they are going. Fill them with purpose, meaning, and a hope-filled future..

Holy Spirit, I pray that you use my children in a GREAT way and set a special calling over their lives. May they be your handiwork, and may they do good works all for your glory! You've prepared wonderful things for them, and I ask that you lead them on the path you've called them to and use them in powerful ways.

I ask you to fill my children's hearts with joy and peace this school year. Go before them and lead them each day. May they place their trust in you alone, and overflow their hearts with your hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen*



The Shepherd's Voice

Order of St. George

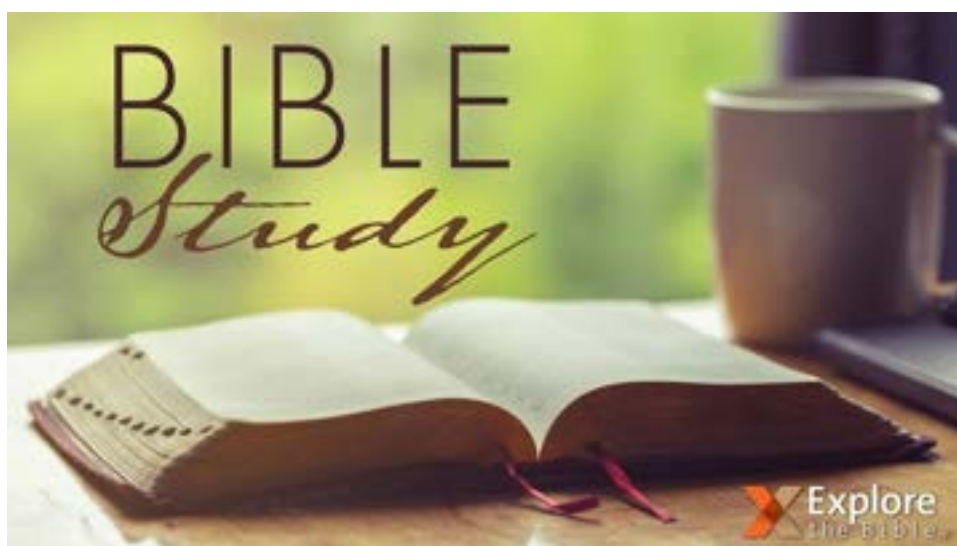
What better way to start your Thursday than with Jesus & breakfast?!?!

Order of St. George (OSG) breakfast resumed on Thursday, August 27.

Anyone who would like to attend is invited.

Breakfast is served at 7:00am and finished by 7:30am

We hope to see you there!!!



September Stamping Class

Come join us for an afternoon of creativity and fellowship! Our next class takes place on **Thursday, September 3rd from 12:30p - 4:00p** in the Parish Hall.

Class is limited to 16 participants. Sign up in the hallway. Please, see Kaye TeRonde or Jan Freeman with questions.



Gifts Discernment Workshop September 6, 2026 @ 12:30 PM in the Parish Hall

There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

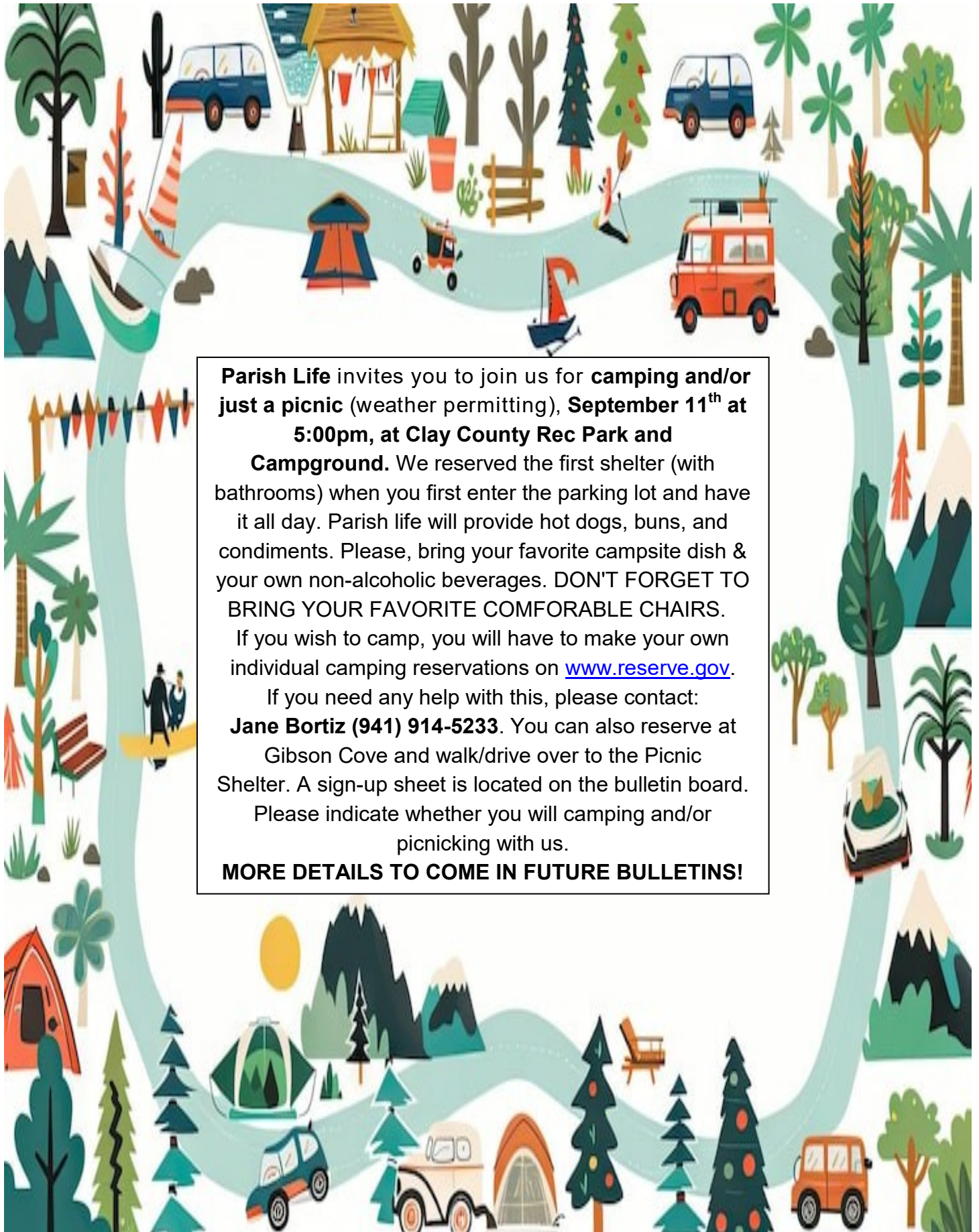
- Ephesians 4:5-7, 11-12

In this stewardship season, you are invited to a conversation on and discernment of the grace given you for the building up the body of Christ. Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers are just some of the roles within the church. For what service has God graced you? Join us and see. This workshop is led by Fr. Bill+



What's
Your
Gift

The Shepherd's Voice



Parish Life invites you to join us for **camping and/or just a picnic** (weather permitting), **September 11th at 5:00pm, at Clay County Rec Park and Campground.**

We reserved the first shelter (with bathrooms) when you first enter the parking lot and have it all day. Parish life will provide hot dogs, buns, and condiments. Please, bring your favorite campsite dish & your own non-alcoholic beverages. **DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR FAVORITE COMFORTABLE CHAIRS.**

If you wish to camp, you will have to make your own individual camping reservations on www.reserve.gov.

If you need any help with this, please contact:

Jane Bortiz (941) 914-5233. You can also reserve at Gibson Cove and walk/drive over to the Picnic Shelter. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board. Please indicate whether you will camping and/or picnicking with us.

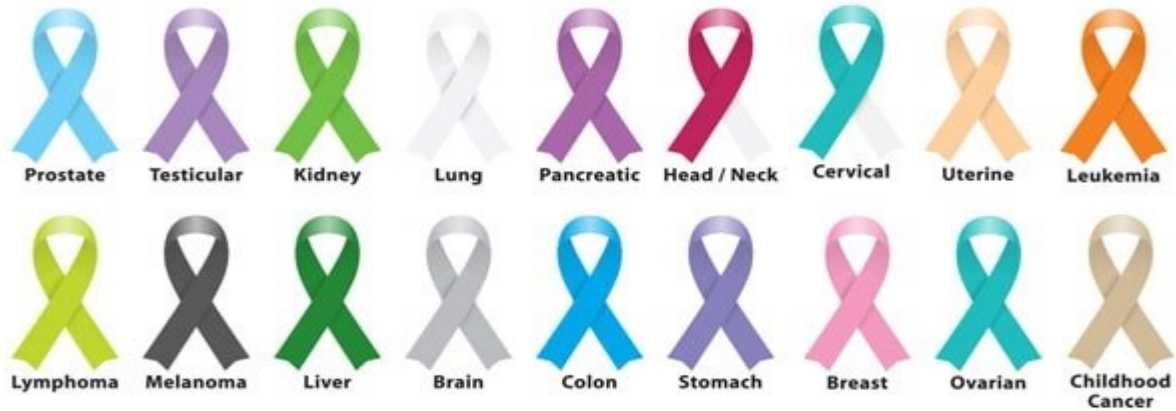
MORE DETAILS TO COME IN FUTURE BULLETINS!



Parish Life is hosting an afternoon of fellowship, community, and good times on **September 12**. We'll meet at **Crane Creek** at **4:00**. Hope you can join us!



Cancer Support Group



On Tuesday, **September 15th** we are hosting our **Cancer Support Group** in the Parish Hall at **5:30pm**. We are hoping to offer support to those on the journey of dealing with, surviving, and/or caring for someone with cancer.

Bring something to share in thoughts, ideas, and of course some food. Contact Jose Arias by email if you can't attend in person but would like to be part of the meeting by zoom: jose_m_arias@hotmail.com



Good Shepherd Cursillo Community Third Sundays in the Parish Hall

Looking for Friendly Spiritual Conversation, Guidance,
Support, and Enrichment?

The Cursillo Community Welcomes You.

Please feel welcome to join us each Third Sunday of the
month during our Cursillo-sponsored Coffee Hour.

Look for the tables on the far side of the Parish Hall.



Bethel-Guidry College Scholarship Golf Tournament



Saturday, Sept. 20th is the date of the annual Bethel-Guidry Scholarship Golf Tournament. This scholarship funds a scholarship for a student from Clay County AND Towns County!!! The scholarship awards are up to \$10,000 for a 4 year degree and \$6,000 for a 2 year degree. This has been a very impactful event and provides significant assistance to students in our area.

Please help us with your donation marked: "Golf Tournament" and mail or drop by the church. We will be collecting at weekly services in a few weeks also. We also need volunteers for the day of the event.

Please, see Sanford Freeman, Kevin Conley or Phil Klenke with questions.

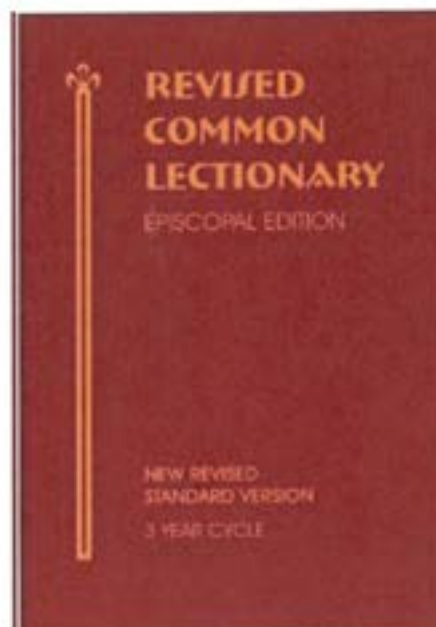




Lectionary Bible Study Wednesdays @ 1:00pm in the Library

Join us each Wednesday at 1:00pm as we work through the appointed lectionary readings for the following Sunday. From beginners through Bible scholars, all are equally sure to gain something from our time together. All are welcome.

This discussion is
facilitated by Fr Bill.





Dear Good Shepherd Friends,

We are grateful for your thoughtful care of the Forrister family on the passing of Melanie's father, Charles Forrister. The cards, phone calls, food and flowers were heartfelt expressions of the love that characterizes this parish.

With deep affection,

Melanie and Fr. Bill +

*Please, take note of our scheduled
Office closures for September*

September 7—Labor Day





September

Seasons of Waiting

Day 1: Ecclesiastes 3:11
Day 2: Psalm 27:14
Day 3: Luke 1:45
Day 4: 1 Samuel 12:16
Day 5: Isaiah 40:31
Day 6: Psalm 37:7
Day 7: John 13:7
Day 8: Philippians 1:6
Day 9: Exodus 14:14
Day 10: Hebrews 6:15
Day 11: Micah 7:7
Day 12: Romans 12:12
Day 13: Colossians 1:11
Day 14: 1 Corinthians 15:58
Day 15: James 5:11
Day 16: Lamentations 3:25
Day 17: Isaiah 30:18
Day 18: James 1:12
Day 19: Psalm 40:1-2
Day 20: Psalm 62:5
Day 21: Acts 1:4

Day 22: Galatians 6:9
Day 23: 2 Peter 3:9
Day 24: Psalm 33:20
Day 25: Psalm 130:5
Day 26: Psalm 31:14-15
Day 27: Psalm 62:7-8
Day 28: Isaiah 58:11
Day 29: Isaiah 33:2
Day 30: James 5:7

*I MAY NOT
KNOW
all HIS plans
BUT I KNOW
I'm in HIS
HANDS.*



www.TheScribesPortion.com

The only thing harder
than waiting on God
is wishing you had.

Rooted in Faith

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

- Matthew 13:31-32

He said to them, ... For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there", and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."

- Matthew 17:20

"I have a mustard seed, and I'm not afraid to use it."

- Someone, maybe you



A small seed planted in the ground, nourished by the earth and watered by the heavens, begins to sprout in silent darkness. Someone was given that seed - perhaps like a coconut grasped by its husk and dropped by a swallow.* And someone planted it. When given and planted and nourished, it goes from seed to tree. Jesus uses this bit of horticultural knowledge to illustrate the growth of God's Kingdom planted on earth. He was explaining to those with ears to listen that the Kingdom has arrived, but as a small seed quietly planted and not as a big bang. Yet the bang for the seed will be big, so big that it becomes something beyond its natural limits. What should be the greatest of shrubs by divine inspiration becomes a great tree. The tree in turn provides shelter for all those who like birds need a place of sanctuary, of rest and renewal, before going back out to do the things birds do. Like scatter more seeds and depending on migration and airspeed velocity, maybe even coconuts.*

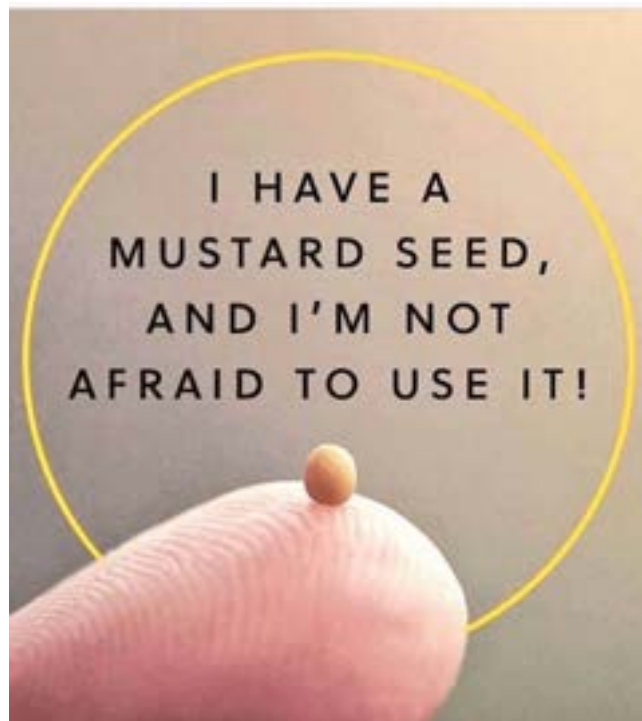
Jesus often spoke in such parables. Parables tease the mind into thinking. Do you want to know what faith is like? Do you want to know if faithfulness matters? Here is a parable for you. The kingdom of heaven is like four couples who began to meet in each other's homes, but when that meeting grew over the next 75 years it became a church where birds from all over now land and make their home.

Within that time was a lot of seed planting, a lot of faithful giving of time, talent, and treasure nourished and multiplied by God's grace. Faith is powerful stuff and this church is witness to that power. It makes trees out of shrubs. It moves heaven and earth.

Someone once said "I have a mustard seed, and I'm not afraid to use it." As we begin our intentional season of stewardship, we are asked to fearlessly consider what powerful mustard seeds of time, talent, and treasure we might commit to the ministries and mission of the church in 2027. With God's help may they grow from what is possible into things impossible, providing more than we can ask or imagine, making the Kingdom of Heaven manifested in our region, providing shelter and provision for all the birds who land here.

God's grace and peace and faithfulness be yours,

Fr. Bill+



The Shepherd's Voice

Notes from our Financial Statements

for

July 2026

Income and Expenses from Realm

Operating/Budget Report

July Operating Income	\$22,850
July Operating Expenses	41,319
July Net Income/Loss	(\$18,469)
Total Operating Income year to date	\$214,225
Total Operating Expenses	253,786
Net Income/Loss for the Year	(\$39,561)

Account Balances 7/31/2026

Operating Funds Accounts

UCBI Operating Account (Checking)	\$(7,304)
UCBI Petty Cash	1,137
Operating Funds Money Market (Edward Jones)	129,104

Restricted/Designated Funds Accounts

B&G Scholarship Money Market	132,402
Camp Henry Tuition Assistance	4,188
Capital Reserve Money Market	43,291
Rector Sabbatical Money Market	5,240

All other Restricted/Designated Accounts Obligations

Endowment Accounts

Mountain of Faith Endowment Fund	\$290,294
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Celebrate Good Times!!!

Birthdays in September

09/01 Ed Faircloth
09/06 Chosh Dacey
09/06 Tonya Penland
09/07 Warren Clayman
09/08 Mack Ratchford
09/09 Helen NaiSmith
09/13 Ron Dutton
09/14 Doris Soles
09/18 Rick Sanderson
09/21 Rachel Baughn
09/21 Glen Marcel
09/22 Pat Fox
09/24 Bill Pierson
09/24 Paul Smith
09/24 Mere Samsil
09/25 Margaret Rybicki
09/27 Peggy Dickert
09/28 Matt Wilson
09/29 Helga Reaves
09/30 Vick Lake
09/30 Dick Welton



★
★ Psst... just so you know: ★
★ You're a SUPER-wonderful, ★
★ Sparkly, all-around AMAZING ★
★ human being and I'm soooooo ★
★ HAPPY the world has ★
★ YOU in it! ★
★

Anniversaries in September

09/01 Diane & Dick Welton
09/11 Pam & Don Roman
09/12 Mary Ann & Sam Strider
09/13 Michelle & Paul Smith
09/15 Denise & Dwain Zagrocki
09/16 Doris & Furie Soles



Directory Updates:

Please note the following changes in your directory.



Please email Amanda in the church office with any birthday or anniversary updates:

gsepicsopal@brmemc.net

Lectionary Readings for *September*

15th Sunday after Pentecost

[Exodus 12:1-14](#)
[Psalm 149](#)
[Romans 13:8-14](#)
[Matthew 18:15-20](#)

16th Sunday after Pentecost

[Exodus 14:19-31](#)
[Psalm 114](#)
[or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21](#)
[Romans 14:1-12](#)
[Matthew 18:21-35](#)

17th Sunday after Pentecost

[Exodus 16:2-15](#)
[Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45](#)
[Philippians 1:21-30](#)
[Matthew 20:1-16](#)

18th Sunday after Pentecost

[Exodus 17:1-7](#)
[Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16](#)
[Philippians 2:1-13](#)
[Matthew 21:23-32](#)



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

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