



# The Shepherd's Voice

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March  
2024

## Services

### Sunday:

9:00 am Holy Eucharist  
Rite I

11:00 am Holy Eucharist  
Rite II

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

Coffee Hour in the Parish  
Hall following each  
service

**Save the Date!!! Fish Fry!!!**

Good Shepherd's annual Lenten Fish Fry will take place Friday, March 22, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm in the parish hall. ALL ARE WELCOME! Menu includes cod/catfish, French fries, coleslaw, dessert and beverage. Advance tickets will be sold after services March 10 and 17, or at the door. Prices are \$10, 12 years to adult; \$5, 6 to 11 years old; under 6, free. The dinner is open to everyone so bring friends. All proceeds from the fish fry go to community outreach. Volunteer sign up sheets will be in the hallway, so please consider signing up to help. For questions or more information, contact Mary Rose Figura.



### Tuesday:

7:00 pm Soaking Prayer

### Wednesday:

Noon Holy Eucharist  
with Healing Prayer

The Rev. Dr. Bill  
Breedlove  
Rector

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## To the Parish

A HUGE thank you to all who helped with yet another very successful Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. To the many who volunteered for set up, kitchen duty, clean up, purchasing tickets to eat the delicious pancakes and sausage, making donations, and to the youth and youth parents who served at the tables. All proceeds (which at first glance grossed over \$3,400) go to support our youth programs, and we are most grateful for all who contributed to that success.

Betsi Wilson and on behalf of David Smucker, David Gribble, John Brazeale, Turner Guidry, and Fr. Bill.



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## Notes From Our Financial Statements January 31, 2024

### Income Statement

Income Received for the Period:	\$ 24,623
Expenses for the Period:	<u>\$ 30,905</u>
Net Income/Loss for the Month:	\$ (6,282)

### Balance Sheet

Total Invested CD's:	\$145,975
Mountain of Faith Endowment Fund:	\$195,393
General Fund Balance December 31, 2023:	\$119,044

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## Christian Education

**Lectionary Bible Study**—meets on Wednesdays at noon. This group works through the appointed readings for the following Sunday. Please contact Fr. Bill for more information.

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## DON'T TOUCH THAT DOG, HE'S WORKING!!

And that is a SERVICE DOG. His job is to assist and protect one person ("his" person) and is not to be disturbed when he's doing that.

So just what is a THERAPY DOG? The exact opposite!

A Therapy Dog wants to be touched, talked to and loved. Your Good Shepherd Healing Prayer Ministry has had five of these wonderful pups, three have passed (Rusty and Bran, both Golden Retrievers, and Henry, a St. Bernard). Today we have Suzie Q. (Golden Retriever) and Teddy Bear (Great Pyrenees). We currently visit nursing homes, private homes and The Still Place (a retreat for seriously ill children). For a short time, cares are set aside as we sit, listen and visit (sometimes in silence). His furry love brings smiles to the faces of those we see.

More in the next issue of our GSEC Newsletter.... Carole, Mike, Suzie & Teddy – The Stringer Pack



## Bearing Fruit

Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. John 12:24

Not long ago I started again to garden. A friend sent me a hydroponic growing system for Christmas and some heirloom seeds. It is a compact unit with twelve circular spaces for holding seed bearing cones. Inside the unit is water mixed with a small measured amount of plant food, parts A and B. Above the unit is an extendable lid with multicolored lights that produce the light spectrum optimal for growth. A small motor circulates the water to keep it aerated. A combination of seeds, cones, water, plant food, and light has produced many greens. With such success, I added a second unit and have begun to transfer young plants from the hydroponic units to my outdoor garden. Another part of my new adventures in gardening was to build a couple 8'x4' raised bed boxes. My friend who started me on hydroponics came from her home in St Louis and helped me plant some seedlings from her garden. I had filled those boxes with a combination of rich materials including cow exhaust, mushroom compost, and ash from my substantial burn pile. Wow, did those plants produce. With help.



Jesus says, “unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain.” So true. But if put into the ground, it bears much fruit. True as well. My black cherry tomatoes, the ones that fell to the ground instead of being harvested, produced more volunteer plants than I had originally planted. But they only did so with help. Seeds need help to die and bear fruit. They need fertile soil. They need water and sun. They often need support and protection from disease and pests and natural elements. And so it is with you and me. No one dies to self without the loving support and reassurance of others that they are loved for who they are and not only for what they can do. No one bears much fruit without help from others who are to them the rich soil that feeds them, the water and the sun that replenish them, the sturdy stakes that support and protect them.

As we move into March and the planting season, and as we follow Jesus to Jerusalem, let us be mindful that our fruit-bearing depends on each other, that some need us to help them bear fruit by providing them with loving support and encouragement. Jesus does his part going to the cross. It is an act done in love and by love, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and with the assurance of his father's love for him. It is his father's love that brings him back from the dead. The fruit his death and resurrection bears is a group effort. As it is for God, so it is for us.

Grace and peace,

Fr. Bill+

# The Shepherd's Voice

## A Lenten Day Away



10 AM - 3 PM  
**SAT. MARCH 16**  
+ + +  
+ + +  
+ + +  
**CHURCH OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD  
HAYESVILLE, NC**

THE WESTERN DEANERY PRESENTS  
**A LENTEN DAY AWAY**

# The Divine Mercy

- WHAT IS MERCY?
- HOW DO WE RECEIVE IT?
- HOW DOES GOD USE MERCY TO RESTORE US AND FREE US FOR GREATER JOY?

**FREE TO ALL!**

**TALKS | GUIDED MEDITATION | POETRY | SILENCE | MUSIC | LUNCH |  
SMALL GROUP SHARING | EUCHARIST**

RSVP: [ADMIN@GRACEWAYNESVILLE.COM](mailto:ADMIN@GRACEWAYNESVILLE.COM) & INCLUDE  
NAME/CHURCH/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

QUESTIONS? [RECTOR@GRACEWAYNESVILLE.COM](mailto:RECTOR@GRACEWAYNESVILLE.COM)

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## From the Theologian in Residence

### ***“With Eyes Wide Open”***

Baptist minister and social work professor Tony Campolo tells of a time he was on a supervisory visit to missions in Haiti where his undergraduate students did internships. One evening he left his hotel and went across the street to a small restaurant. He was placed at a table beside a large, first floor window that looked out on the street. It was a working dinner - he was eating alone. He kept his head down as he carefully checked over the mission files and travel plans he had laid out on the table. It was only when the waiter brought his food that he looked up and noticed the group of small boys outside his window. They had bare feet, sad eyes, and distended bellies. The boys leaned against the window, shading their eyes so they could see as they stared at his meal of chicken and rice with fruit. After placing the food in front of Tony, the waiter pulled down the shade and said, *“Don’t let them disturb your dinner.”*



The season of Lent is a good time for us to lift up our eyes and hearts from the day-to-day business of our lives to take a good look around at the world's needs. Too often we are like the waiter, seeing the needs of others as a disturbance rather than as an opportunity to love and serve.

The needs of the world should disturb us, must disturb us. To stand by while children starve, others suffer from curable diseases, and still others are subjected to inhuman living conditions by corrupt and evil governments - this is participation in evil as surely as if we had directly made the decisions that condemned so many to so much suffering. *“Things we have done or left undone,”* the prayer of confession says. **(Book of Common Prayer, p. 360)**

Our call as Christians is to keep the shade up; to focus the light of God's love and righteousness on the world's great inequities and injustices. Our call as Christians is to find creative ways to make a difference, to do our part to chip away at issues of poverty, disease, and oppression; both across the ocean and across the street. We are not permitted the luxury of turning our heads and looking the other way. There used to be a little religious comic strip called Pontius' Puddle. The characters were frogs and tadpoles and dragonflies and such. One day a frog said to a dragonfly, *“Why doesn't God do something about all the bad things in the world?”* The dragonfly replied, **“God Did! God made you, didn't he?”**

Peace, Delmer

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## Good Shepherd's Good Womens' Good News

### AGAIN.....and AGAIN.....and AGAIN

Fr. Bill's sermon of Lent 2 asked us to consider *again* as a concept with theological meaning. It was introduced in conjunction with the reading from Genesis, of the giving of the covenant by God to Abram, *again*. And then came the question, "Why *again*?" Was not something as important as a promise from God Almighty worthy of being remembered from its first granting?

I have found myself musing on the concept of *again*. It seems to me that the word itself could indicate judgment or opportunity. "Do I have to tell you *again* to move the dirty dishes from the sink to the dishwasher?" Or, "Great job on that report. Could you do it *again* with this new material?"



I think that our relationship with God can, in a way, be described by *again*. Prayer C in Holy Eucharist II (BCP 370) uses these words: *Again and again you called us to return.* Is this judgment or opportunity? I see both. We have fallen short of the fullness of life to which God calls us, but at the same time, we are graciously given the opportunity to try *again*.

The contemplative nature of the season of Lent is, I believe, a perfect time to ponder *again*. I find myself overwhelmed with gratitude for *again*, both the judgment and the opportunity. The judgment aspect calls me to assess what has gone wrong, and the opportunity aspect bids me try again. Is that not really what repentance is about? What are the ways we can receive and embrace God's gracious gift of *again*? I invite you to prayerfully allow *again* to become part of your spiritual life as we continue our observance of Lent. Entering *again* into communion with God, may new paths be open to you. Bev+

## Parish News

### Birthdays in March

03/02 Delmer Chilton  
03/03 Cameron Bethel  
03/03 Patricia Champ  
03/03 Joe Rybicki  
03/04 Jonathan Bethel  
03/05 Barbara Wood  
03/06 Krystyna Wilson  
03/08 Cheri Pinner Quillen  
03/08 Suzanne Wagner  
03/09 Deb Sellers  
03/11 Beth Hitchcock  
03/12 Barb Redmond  
03/17 Benita Esposito  
03/17 BJ Schweikert  
03/17 Pat List  
03/23 Marilyn Pierce  
03/25 Jane Oliver  
03/26 Kathy Wright  
03/28 Jack Bethel  
03/28 Jon Czarnecki  
03/29 Steve Champ  
03/28 Sanford Freeman

### Anniversaries in March

03/03 Kaye and Paul TeRonde  
03/16 Judy and Clark Bourne  
03/21 Bev and Dave Larson  
03/31 BJ and Bob Schweikert

### Directory Updates:

Please note the following changes in your directory.



### Holy Week Schedule

March 24 Palm Sunday, Choir Cantata, one service at 10am; Confirmation Class at 11:30am  
March 26 Tuesday, Generational Healing Eucharist at 11am with lunch to follow. No Soaking Prayer at 7pm  
March 27 Wednesday, **No** Holy Eucharist at 12pm; **No** Bible study at 1pm  
March 28 Thursday, Maundy Thursday at 7pm; Overnight watch 9pm—7am  
March 29 Friday, Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 7am, Holy Eucharist at 12pm  
March 30 Saturday, Lighting of the New Fire and Holy Eucharist at 7pm  
March 31 Sunday, Easter services at 9 and 11am with brunch and Easter Egg Hunt to follow

## Lectionary Readings for March

3 Lent  
March 3  
Exodus 20:1-17  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
John 2:13-22  
Psalm 19

4 Lent  
March 10  
Numbers 21:4-9  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

5 Lent  
March 17  
Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33  
Psalm 51:1-13

Palm Sunday  
March 24  
Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Mark 15:1-39  
31:9-16

Easter  
March 31  
Acts 10:34-43  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
John 20:1-18  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

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## Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

### 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](mailto:gsepiscopal@brmemc.net)

### Web address:

[goodshepherdhayesville.org](http://goodshepherdhayesville.org)

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