



The Shepherd's Voice

January 2019

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 EST/7:00 pm DST
Healing with Soaking
Prayer

Wednesday:

Noon Holy Eucharist with
Healing Prayer

The Rev. Dr. Bill
Breedlove
Rector

The Rev. George Choyce
Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Turner Guidry
Deacon

Deepening our Journey at Good Shepherd

Whenever our parishioners try to describe what attracted them to Good Shepherd, they often describe a spirit of welcoming, of joy, of being loved and of homecoming. None of us can take particular credit for this – rather, it is the fruit of the presence of the Holy Spirit working in us to create the Kingdom of heaven one person at a time.

As members of the body of Christ, each of us is invited to open ourselves to the transforming work of the Spirit, healing and empowering us to minister to others. No one is a bystander, and each of us is called to our own adventure in prayer, our own relationship with God.

There are all kinds of prayer: contemplation and meditation, worship and praise, intercessory prayer for the needs of others, prayers for healing of the inner person or of the body... There is prayer for every human activity and emotion. Many of us don't have the personal discipline to consistently seek God on our own, so Good Shepherd provides a variety of worship and prayer opportunities to suit each personality or need or schedule. Have you tried them all?

Sunday Healing Prayer – Following the early service and after receiving Communion at the late service, one or two Good Shepherd Healing Ministry members are available to pray aloud with you in the side chapel. More intense prayer may be possible following the services upon request.

Monday 9:30 am Morning prayer - Led by volunteers in the side chapel. The side chapel is always open for anyone wanting a quiet retreat.

Tuesday 5 pm (7 pm during DST) Healing Prayer and Meditation - This short contemplative service

is led by two Healing Prayer ministers. Silent prayer is offered as ministers stand behind you with hands gently placed on your shoulders to pray for whatever you have written on the provided index card. This is an excellent practice to calm the mind and sit quietly in God's presence. Many community members have attended this service (as well as the Wednesday Healing Eucharist) and have experienced healing in mind and body.

Wednesday noon Healing Eucharist - Led by Fr. Bill or Fr. George, this celebration of Eucharist includes a litany of healing. Following the service, laying on of hands for specific requests is offered – often followed by lunch at Ingles!

Friday 2 pm Centering Prayer - Centering Prayer is a prayer discipline of quieting the mind and sitting with God in silence. The group meets in the library and usually watches a teaching video by Father Thomas Keating who helped develop the method before settling into 20 minutes of silent contemplative prayer. The teachings help us understand human psychology and the emotions and issues that may get stirred up as we allow God to transform us from the inside.

Prayer Chain - If you have an urgent prayer request but are unable to come in person for prayers, please allow your community to help carry your burden to God in intercessory prayer for your or your loved one. You may write your prayer request and place it in the wooden Prayer Box in the narthex, or you may contact the office by phone or email and ask Lynne to send the prayer request to the prayer chain. Prayer requests will remain confidential unless you want them to be added to Prayers of the People.

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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

- **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

Suzanne Wagner



Suzanne Wagner was born in Cincinnati, OH to Harold C. and Mary Lou Sparks. She is the second oldest of six children.

The family soon moved to Indiana and resided there until she was 6. They returned to Ohio and lived in Newton until they moved to a farm in Fayetteville, OH in 1951.

Suzanne says they had cows, chickens and pigs and she did

indeed milk the cows before going off to school.

Several years later Suzanne moved to FL where her grandparents resided. Soon afterwards, she was introduced to Jim Stephenson while boating with friends. They were wed in 1966.

It was at this time Suzanne was confirmed as an Episcopalian. She and Jim enjoyed sailing in Florida, the Bahamas, and the Virgin Islands on their 26-foot sailboat in which Jim had previously crossed the Atlantic.

Sadly, Jim passed away in 1972.

Suzanne was employed with Honeywell in St. Petersburg, FL until 1975. During this time, she met and wed Scott Wagner. They enjoyed their lives together until his untimely death in 1980.

At this time she began her own accounting and tax business. Suzanne operated the business until 2002 as an Enrolled Agent.

In 1992 she was led to Young Harris, GA to assist her parents with the operation of the William Holland Lapidary School. Her parents built this school in 1982. She just recently retired as the director and administrator from the school, but she continues to serve as the CEO.

Suzanne first attended Good Shepherd Episcopal for a Christmas service in 1982. She says she immediately felt comfortable with the Good Shepherd community. Suzanne currently serves on the Altar Guild.

She and Sassie (her Yorkie) enjoy traveling to Florida for the warmer weather. While in Florida Suzanne enjoys sailing. She also enjoys reading, seed beading (working with very small beads), and chaining (opening and closing bell rings).

Cindy Nodine, Interviewer

Seniors and Friends Lunch

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church Seniors and Friends Lunch. Saturday, January 19, 2019. Chili Soup Lunch 12:00 p.m. Dessert and Coffee and Program 12:30-1:30 p.m. Program - "Reminiscing, Storytelling and Capturing Family History - Taking the First Step!" with Storyteller Kanute Rarey. There will be good food, good fun and good

fellowship. Please sign up in the hallway to let us know you are coming or call the church office 828-389-3397 to let us know that you plan if you plan to attend. For questions, contact Helga Reaves at 727-418-2239 or Kanute Rarey at 502-525-7272 or email: kanutetells@gmail.com.

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Epiphany

There are people who like surprises and there are those who do not. Even when those are what most would say are good surprises, like a surprise visit or gift or party, some would rather not be surprised. Maybe that is a control thing or maybe there is just so much going on already that surprises, even good ones, are too disruptive. I think both of those are understandable. Having our lives set and in order, and with some certainty that we can manage what we do and what happens to us, is comforting. And, when the world seems to be falling apart around us and we are wearied by constant changes, it can be hard to welcome the interruption of a another surprise.

Epiphany is a surprise. It is a sudden and surprising realization. There are many experiences that may lead to an epiphany, but often it is when people have had some kind of encounter with the spiritual that something powerful yet hidden becomes known. Often this epiphany will lead to a significantly new way of thinking and living. Does that sound to you as a welcome surprise?

For Christians, Epiphany is a season in which we remember the revelation to the world that the baby born in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph is no ordinary baby. The Feast Day of the Epiphany recalls the visitation of the Magi, an encounter that represents the manifestation of God incarnate to the Gentiles. Surprise! The long awaited messiah was born not to a royal family in a palace, but to a humble family in a cave. Surprise! The long awaited messiah is revealed first to people outside the covenant rather than to God's chosen people. Surprise! Neither Caesar nor Herod nor any other earthly ruler is the true king or true son of God. The true one is the baby of Bethlehem.

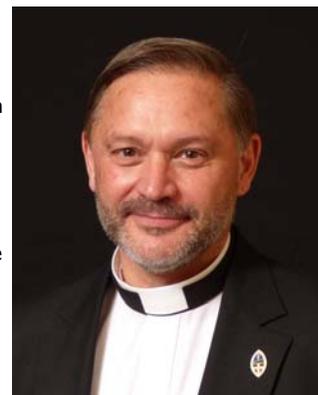
That kind of surprising encounter and revelation continues. Do we look for and welcome that surprise, do we expect that, do we pray for that? To do so might mean that we look beyond our own faith tradition to how God is speaking to non-Christians. I was surprised by how devoted both Jews and Muslims in the Holy Land were to very

public expressions of their faith. As I watched a number of Bar and Bat Mitzvah processions near the Western Wall in Jerusalem, it was an Epiphany to me that our American Christian expressions are comparatively muted and far less public and that we are free to do something different. What would a more public celebration of our Episcopal tradition look like? To look for and welcome that surprise

might also mean that we look for the Spirit of Christ in unexpected people and places. My cab driver from Jerusalem back to Tel Aviv was a Muslim man. We talked about a few trivial things along the way and then his phone rang. Although I am thoroughly monolingual, I shortly realized that he was talking to his wife and then his child, an almost one year old as I found out. The baby would make cooing and gibberish noises and his father would repeat them. That is a universal language. I saw many holy places, and many people dressed in holy garb doing holy rituals, but for me this man talking to his child had a sweetness and holiness beyond all else I had experienced. It was the sharing of a love that all parents, regardless of their religious beliefs or nationality, have for their children. It was a reminder in that very divided land that we all love and want to be loved, and it was an Epiphany of that spirit of love implanted by God in all our hearts, a love that seeks relationship and expression. Imagine with me this Epiphany season, what good news it could be for all of us if we looked for what is loving and good in others and gave praise to God for those epiphanies.

Grace and peace,

Bill+



Financials (November 30, 2018)

2018 General Fund Balance:

General Fund Balance on January 1, 2018	\$20,700
Income year to date	360,422
Expenses year to date	<u>-352,787</u>
General Fund Balance on November 30, 2018	\$28,335

Balance on bank mortgage \$126,068

Balance on Mt. of Faith loan \$11,500

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

From Fr. George

While talking to a friend of mine here in Hayesville, a siren blared by on State Road 64. His eyes immediately darted back and forth. *You never get a day off, do you?* I both stated and inquired. *No. Never,* was his instant and emotionless response. He then smiled and laughed as he finished with uttering, *Well, what did I expect when being hired as a public employee for Clay County?*

He was not complaining by any means. In fact, he finds his work to be thrilling, challenging, and never dull. He has true story after story to reinforce his point of view and has no regrets in never having a day off. He is so skilled in what he does that he continues to get promoted.

Some of us still do what many would be considered working by going into an office or out in the field and receiving a weekly or monthly paycheck. Most of us are retired and live off of our savings and investments. This article is not about working in the job sense; it is about our work in the vocational sense as Christians.

What would it be like to take a day off without living as a Christian? This may seem like a silly question. It really turns out to be a challenging question. Think about it. There is no one hawking over you to see how you *perform* on the job. You do not get a raise, nor do you get fired. You could get away with it; that is, taking a day off

from your vocation of being a Christian.

As we start this new year, this question about taking a day off is both a provoking and straightforward one to ask yourself each day. Or is being a Christian a Sunday thing only. Start simple. Cut out the prayer below and place it on a bedside table or a convenient place for you. Perhaps start off each morning is with this prayer:

A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* BCP, p. 100

Cut out this prayer and place it on a bedside table and read it as you begin your day. May God bless you in this new year in your vocation as a Christian.



Icon Workshop

Our Arts and Spirituality Ministry announces an Icon Writing class, March 25-29, 2019, with renowned Iconographer, Teresa Harrison. The class is limited to 16 participants. Watch for a sign up sheet with registration forms in the hallway in mid-January. Tuition is \$425.00 and must be paid in full by March 1, 2019. A deposit of \$100.00 is required

when the registration form is submitted. A limited number of scholarships are available.

Contact Arts and Spirituality Chair, Kathy Marcel, 225-937-2030 or kfmarcel@gmail.com with any questions.

Vestry Nominees

Voting for Vestry Members will take place on **January 6 and 13**. Ballots will be available in the Narthex after the services to vote for four of the nominees below, who will each serve a 3-year term



Name: Gail Criss

Family: Birch Criss and I will be married 49 years next February. Our daughter, Dallas Criss, her husband, Glen Fagan, and two fine step-grandsons, Connor and Liam Fagan bring joy to our lives.

Occupation: In 2008 I retired as the

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principal of Hayesville High School; since then I've worked part-time for Western Carolina University supervising student teachers in Clay, Cherokee and Graham Counties.

Church History (including ministry participation at Good Shepherd): During my childhood my family was not affiliated with a specific church, but at age 16 I joined the Presbyterian Church. Birch is a Cradle Episcopalian, so after we married I began attending the Episcopal Church and was drawn to the beauty of the liturgy and the church's social responsibility to the greater community. I was confirmed in 1972. We moved to Hayesville in 1992 and found a church home at Good Shepherd. During the 1990's I enjoyed a term on the Vestry and was a member of Good Shepherd's first class of Stephen Ministers. An "eight o'clocker," I serve on the Altar Guild, as a Lector and Intercessor, and represent Good Shepherd on the Clay County Christmas Care committee.

Outside Activities and Hobbies: I enjoy reading, gardening, sewing, embroidery and Pat Jordan's exercise class. I've volunteered with various community organizations, but during past few years have limited my involvement because of family considerations.

Vision for Good Shepherd (include comments on challenges and opportunities): From my observation, Good Shepherd actively strives to fulfill its mission of "Boldly engaging the world as God's shepherds, sharing God's blessings and creating Heaven on Earth one person at a time." Through our varied programs we provide multiple opportunities for members to develop spiritually, and our outreach programs are examples of God's people serving the needs of the community.

Balance is the challenge of the future: balancing the needs of an aging (sorry, "mature") congregation with a commitment to serving younger congregants and families. Although we presently have fine programs to serve them, attracting young people and families should continue to be a goal.



Name: Kathy Marcel

Family: My husband is Glenn and we have two sons and two grandsons. Our older son, Bert, resides in New Orleans and Alec and his family live in our hometown, Baton Rouge, LA. We share our Hayesville home with our fur-babies, Hayes and Pearl.

Occupation: Retired

Church History: I was confirmed Episcopalian in 1964 and was active in St. Luke's Episcopal Church from 1967 until we moved to

Hayesville in 2017. My activities at St. Luke's included serving three terms on the Vestry, including one as Junior Warden, co-chair of a Search Committee, Hospitality Chairman, Chairman of the Columbarium Board, member of the Altar Guild, Sunday School teacher and youth group leader. At Good Shepherd, I am a member of the Altar Guild, the Moms' Connection Ministry, a Nursery helper and will serve as chairman of the Arts and Spirituality Committee for 2019. I also enjoy helping with Coffee Hour. Last year after meeting with representatives of Matt's Ministry and learning that they did not have enough funding to provide diapers for their clients, I proposed that we create a Diaper Ministry in order that we might provide aid to both clients of Matt's Ministry and the moms who participate in our Moms' Connection Ministry. Thanks to your kindness and generous spirit, we have provided diapers to Matt's Ministry and the participants in our Moms' Connection group since January 2018 and it has been a huge success!

Outside Activities and Hobbies: I am a Great Leaps tutor at Hayesville Elementary; volunteer at Matt's Ministry; and, volunteer with Meals on Wheels (summer). I enjoy travel, reading and spending time with my grandchildren.

Vision for Good Shepherd: Good Shepherd is truly a warm, welcoming parish filled with many talented folks. I love that our parishioners are involved in so many diversified activities throughout the community. Of course, I would very much like to see that continue and grow. It has been heartwarming to see our Children's Church grow during the past year and I encourage and support continued outreach toward young families and youth.

I also believe we need to continue our outreach to the homebound and those in need of nurturing and healing prayer. My vision for Good Shepherd is that each of us – in our own special way – will make every attempt to practice our parish mission statement. By practicing those words, we will reach out to members of our parish family and the community who are in need, and we will create "Heaven on Earth, one person at a time."



Name: Carol Smucker

Family: Husband: David. Three married children, four grandchildren.

Occupation: Retired RN: work included medical-surgical/ hospital staff, nursing educator, Parish Nurse, Parish Nurse Program Director, writer (two nursing texts).

Church History: Methodist and Presbyterian (U.S.A.). Deacon,

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Elder, and Commissioned Lay Pastor in the Presbyterian Church. Confirmed at Good Shepherd in 2002 when David and I moved to Brasstown from Knoxville, TN. Have served in several ministries since coming to Good Shepherd. Currently serving: Choir Accompanist, Lector, Prayer Chain, Adult Spiritual Formation teacher, and Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Outside Activities and Hobbies: playing piano, reading, writing, quilting, Peacock Performing Arts Center Accompanist for musicals, taking ICL and Folk School classes, baking, and travel.

Vision for Good Shepherd: David and I were attracted to Good Shepherd first by its liturgy and weekly Eucharist; secondly by the warm welcome we received. Being a small church, Good Shepherd has challenges and opportunities that larger churches do not have. For example, building a sense of community is easier; having enough people to serve and teach is a challenge. For a small church the generosity of members, both financially and in many ways that benefit our local communities, is exceptional. The ongoing challenge is to maintain and expand all these characteristics of Good Shepherd that mean so much to our congregation and community. We want to be known as a welcoming congregation that looks beyond its own needs to those of its neighbors. We do not want to become too comfortable within our own walls or our own group of friends but to extend to others the warm welcome we once received, inviting others to "Come and See" this special place we call Good Shepherd.



Name: Carole Ann Webber

Family: Blended family of 5 sons, a daughter, 12 grandchildren and 5 greats!

Occupation: Retired; however, I substitute teach in the Clay County School System.

Church History: I grew up in New York and attended Community Church at the Circle. I've lived in many locations (NY, Italy, Florida, Connecticut and NC) so have been a member of many churches.

Currently I am a Hospital Visitation Minister along with my therapy dogs. I "babysit" in the nursery and am part of Mom's Connection. My favorite ministry is coordinating the annual Pet Celebration on the Square! In the past, I've been in the church choir, taught Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and also worked with many Youth Groups.

Outside Activities: Mainly make therapy dog visits (10 a month) to the Clay County Care Center, Murphy Rehabilitation and Nursing (formerly Murphy Medical Center Nursing Home), do a reading

program with the Special Ed students of Hayesville Middle School, read to the Head Start kiddies at our public library, play with the children at Truett Children's Home, go to Bridging the Gap Family Care Center and make home visits to church members.

Hobbies? Do I really have time for them? Guess it would be Yoga, swimming and walking (NOT hiking) in the country, mostly along the river or lake (I love water).

Vision for Good Shepherd: I'm so new to all of this, that at this time, I'll simply follow the lead of those with more experience, but I will speak up. There is a saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." That's how I feel about Good Shepherd – nothing is broken.



Name: Laurie Wright

Family: Husband - Jack Wright; daughter - Erika Fitzpatrick; two granddaughters - Kenley and Senna Fitzpatrick; and son-in-law- Mike Fitzpatrick

Occupation: I am happily retired after teaching high school English for 33 years and then scoring AP tests for another 4 or 5.

Church History: I have been an Episcopalian all my life, being baptized and confirmed in our home church in Saginaw, Michigan. After leaving there, I have found wonderful Episcopal churches wherever I have settled. Primarily this was Jacksonville, FL and Franklin, NC. Here in Hayesville, Good Shepherd has provided me the comfort, familiarity and spirituality that I've sought.

I am active in the church choir, the Flower Guild, Lectoring, and class participation in other offerings such as Arts and Spirituality, Icon painting, yoga and Mission trips. I love the large selection of activities offered here, and recognize this as a growth church in many ways.

Outside Activities and Hobbies: I love to travel when I get the opportunity -- and I've had many -- seeing new places and meeting new people is important to me. I also love to read, to discuss new ideas and to express myself in writing, painting and poetry.

Vision for Good Shepherd: As a relatively new member of Good Shepherd (three years is only toddler stage) I am still being impressed with this church's commitment and active living into its mission statement. I see Good Shepherd's influence and endeavors in many walks of life. That being said, few things are perfect, and change and growth is a constant need for us all.

#1- I would like to see Good Shepherd's welcoming of new faces extend beyond its doors. Follow-up visits by both clergy and parishioners might be a start. I was welcomed in this way before I

Parish News

Birthdays in January

- 2 Hannah Jones
- 6 Barrie Lyden
- 7 Dorman McLamb
- 9 Mike Campbell
- 12 Cindy Nodine
- 17 Wendy Walker
- 21 Becky Van Gorder
- 24 Elizabeth Rybicki
- 25 Carolyn Cline-Griffiths
- 29 Ed Reynolds, Chuck Van Gorder

Anniversaries in January

- 12 Meliss and Jon Czarnecki
- 25 Krista and Doug Strain
- 27 Kathleen and Barrie Lyden

In Sympathy we are thinking of:

Meliss Czarneck and her family on the death of her sister, Terry Scott.

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

✠ ✠ ✠

Thank you!

Thank you to the men's group for installing the wonderful ramp at my home.

Doris Etler

joined, and it very much influenced my decision.

#2- Good Shepherd has a large and extensive number of ministries within it, and they are recognized in our prayers, our newsletters and communications, and open invitations to join. However, what if these ministries were celebrated for their vital significance to our church and its continuity in the community? Perhaps each ministry could create a symbol of itself and explain this and its function to the congregation on a given Sunday. Its volunteers could all take part in the presentation and demonstrate some of its activities. In this way, we could show the unity, the inclusiveness, the diversity, and the spiderweb effect of our mission statement.

#3- Finally, adult and children's education and spiritual growth could be further addressed. Small group Bible studies, field trips and classes at various times and places, led by both clergy and interested communicants might be investigated and extended beyond what we have now. Ultimately, enjoyment in learning and freedom and comfort in expression of opinion should be a goal for us all.



Name: David O. Werdin

Family: Reddy, Traveller, Sophie and Jack, kids

Occupation: Home and yard maintenance

Church History: Member since 1990. I am a cradle Episcopalian starting in Newton, MA. Served on vestry in late 1990s. I have been on 2 medical mission to India with the help from Fr. John. Help with grounds and maintenance.

Outside Activities and Hobbies: Member of Clay County Fire and Rescue. I like to hunt, fish, camp and boating. Also enjoy offroading with my Jeep.

Vision for Good Shepherd: I would like to see the church grow with younger families from the area. I believe older members will still join after retiring to the area. Continued outreach programs to get the word out about our church and continue to bring in new members.

The Shepherd's Voice

Lectionary Readings for January

The Epiphany
January 6

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

1 Epiphany
January 13

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

2 Epiphany
January 20

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

3 Epiphany
January 27

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21



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