



# The Shepherd's Voice

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January  
2026

CHAPTER 1 OF 12

january



## 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

7:00pm Soaking Prayer

### Wednesday

12:00pm Holy Eucharist w/  
Healing Prayer

1:00 pm Lectionary  
Bible Study

The Rev. Dr. Bill Breedlove,  
Rector

HELLO  
January



## The Celtic Way



It goes by several names: the Emerging Church, Emergence Christianity, the New Monasticism. Take your pick, they all are used to describe a modern and growing form of Christianity community that looks to the future largely by looking to the past. Recovering what they believe to have been true of the earliest faith communities, these contemporary faith communities adapt and adopt ancient principles and practices to life in the modern world. What they have recovered is the church that existed before dogma and doctrine, the church before creeds. What they have recovered is the church grounded in practice - a way of life - more so than one resting upon correct doctrine. This is a church of relationships, a church about the business of caring for others, and a church that was passionate about sharing what it had with others. Luke describes it this way in the Book of Acts:

"All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

Meeting people in community, sharing with and caring for the needs people, and praising God for that privilege and all else they were given - these were the hallmarks of the first Christian communities, and people joined them in large numbers. More a movement than an institution, the earliest Christian communities were communities in the world, responding to the love of God and sharing the love of God. They were communities that fully embraced what we mean when we say "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord." To go was to go out from the church into the community and to minister the grace of God to those in need.

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In their ministry to and conversion of the pre-Christian people of Ireland, St Patrick and the Celtic monks who followed him, employed a model of evangelism (there is that scary word) that brought them into close relationship with the Irish people. They lived on the land with the Irish. They listen to their stories and came to see the world through the eyes of the Irish. They took care of the basic needs of the Irish and explained the Gospel to them in a way that made sense to the Irish world view. They gained credibility among the Irish because they knew the Irish and the Irish knew them. And they did not seek to turn the Irish into non-Irish people. They did not seek to make them follow the Roman way, learn Latin, follow Roman church practice, and so forth. Rather, they entered into the Celtic world and developed an indigenous Celtic Christianity. Like the Celtic monks, new monastics are a people who are sent out in peace to love and serve the Lord.

For a long time, the church has been trying to figure out how to get people into the church. The church has developed programs and advertising and a number of other tools for drawing people in, but it seems to take more and bigger attractions to grab attention and pull new people into community. There is another model and it helped turn Ireland and Scotland toward Christianity. It is a model of going out to where the people are living and working. It is a model of coming alongside others, getting to know them and helping them with their needs, and sharing with them in terms they understand the good news of God in Christ. My hope in the coming year for our Good Shepherd family is that we can begin to find our future in something that looks very old. That we can talk about going out and being a faith community in the community, and then do it. May it be for us as we pray on Sundays, "And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen."

Fr. Bill+

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motto of  
the month:

detox

January



M O R E

- + detox teas
- + water
- + cardio
- + yoga/stretching moves
- + air cleansing: sage/open windows
- + detox baths
- + journaling: write out toxic thoughts to release bad emotions

L E S S

- screens
- sweets
- processed foods
- negativity

practice:

positive thinking  
& releasing  
perspectives that  
bring you down





# **CHOOSING A WORD OF THE YEAR**

## **SETTING YOUR FOCUS FOR THE NEW YEAR!**

### **PRAY & LISTEN**

Spend some time with God. See where He is calling you to grow.

### **REFLECT**

What were your victories and struggles in the past year? Where do you want to be this time next year?

### **DIG IN TO THE BIBLE**

Find verses that speak into your goals. Read about people in the Bible with similar goals.

### **LOOK FOR A PATTERN**

Do you notice a word or idea that stands out?

### **NARROW IT DOWN**

Pick one word that sums it up. Use a thesaurus if it helps.

### **WRITE A STATEMENT OR VERSE**

A Mission Statement or theme verse that will give you direction in the upcoming year.

### **PRAY!**

Ask God to empower you to accomplish His will.

# January

## Striving For Holiness

Day 1: 1 Thessalonians 4:7

Day 2: 2 Corinthians 7:1

Day 3: Isaiah 35:8

Day 4: Leviticus 19:2

Day 5: Romans 12:1

Day 6: Matthew 5:48

Day 7: Ephesians 1:4

Day 8: 2 Timothy 2:21

Day 9: Psalms 139:23-24

Day 10: 1 John 1:7

Day 11: 1 Peter 1:14-16

Day 12: Philippians 2:5

Day 13: Luke 1:75

Day 14: Hebrews 12:14

Day 15: 2 Timothy 1:9

Day 16: Exodus 3:5

Day 17: 1 Corinthians 3:16

Day 18: Romans 6:22

Day 19: Leviticus 11:44

Day 20: Psalms 119:9

Day 21: Ephesians 4:20-24

Day 22: Isaiah 6:3

Day 23: Colossians 3:12

Day 24: 1 Samuel 2:2

Day 25: 1 Peter 2:9

Day 26: Psalms 51:10

Day 27: Leviticus 20:26

Day 28: John 17:17-19

Day 29: Ephesians 5:3

Day 30: Isaiah 1:16

Day 31: Psalms 139:23-24

Theology Brown Bag  
Mondays at 12:00-1:30pm  
in the Parish Hall  
January 2026

**Theology**

*noun* the·ol·o·gy \thē-'ä-lə-jē\

the study of religious faith, practice, and experience;  
*especially*: the study of God and of God's relation to the world.

***Brown bag***

1. to bring (one's own liquor) to a restaurant or club, especially one that has no liquor license.
2. to bring (one's lunch) to work or elsewhere, usually in a small brown paper bag.

An open conversation and pondering of all things concerning God and our lives as God's people. You are invited to bring your lunch and something to share.

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**Voting for new vestry members** will take place after each service **January 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>**.

To be eligible to vote, one must be a member of this parish. If you are not yet a member, please complete a membership form (forms can be found on the credenza in the Narthex) and return to the Office.

If you are currently a member of another Episcopal Church, you must have your membership *transferred* to Good Shepherd in order to vote. By church law, only those who are members of this parish can vote in the vestry election. If you are unsure of your membership status or have other questions, please talk with Fr. Bill or Senior Warden, David Gribble.



Vestry  
Candidate Bios



Please take a few moments to get to know our  
2026 Vestry Nominees!

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# The Shepherd's Voice

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## VESTRY NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY FORM

**Name:** Barry Benson

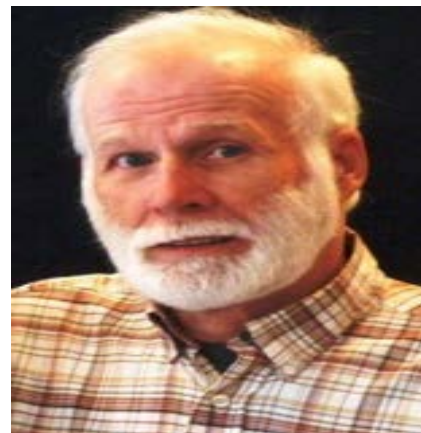
**Family:**

Wife- Sandy

2 daughters (adopted)

**Occupation:**

Retired



**Church History:**

I have been a member of Good Shepherd since 2018

**Outside Activities and Hobbies:**

Automotive paint/body & detail, Archeology, Family Genealogy, Local History

**Vision for Good Shepherd:**

My vision is for the church to grow in numbers, to continue to offer meals on special holidays and to share lunch together on Sundays. I'd also like for us to continue to provide help for the homeless and needy in our area.

# The Shepherd's Voice

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## VESTRY NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY FORM

**Name:** Jane Boritz

**Family:**

My husband and I have been married for 40 years and are blessed with 3 adult children and two grandsons.

**Occupation:**

Currently, I am an Exceptional Student Educator at Murphy Elementary, assisting students in K-1<sup>st</sup> grade with various disabilities.



**Church History:**

I am a cradle Episcopalian. I was baptized, confirmed, and married in Episcopal churches as well.

In Florida, the ministries I participated in were Youth Ministry, Altar Guild, Eucharistic Minister, Visitor, and Reader. I also was an integral part of Family Promise, which was a ministry that housed and fed homeless families for a week. I also provided meals, stayed overnight at the Promise House. SURE (Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity) was a ministry that brought social injustices of the community to the forefront of all faith organizations. Restorative Practices was my focus in the school system. Revive Florida was a ministry that was a nondenominational ministry that raised up people to act in the community through meeting people where they are through prayer and demonstrating the love of Christ.

I am actively involved in several ministry opportunities at Good Shepherd, including serving as both a Eucharistic Visitor and Minister, as well as a Reader. I also participate in our Cursillo groupings, both within the church and every other month or so. When my work schedule permits, I contribute to the Meals for Friends ministry. One event I look forward to each year is the golf fundraiser. Additionally, I am involved in the kitchen ministry, lending a hand wherever needed. This year, I'm especially looking forward to singing Christmas carols as part of our holiday celebrations.

**Outside Activities and Hobbies:**

I volunteer with the Red Cross as a Disaster Action Team supervisor and coordinator, providing assistance to families in six Far West counties who have experienced disasters in their home. I also support disaster operations through External Relations, working with the Emergency Operations Center to ensure clear communication and coordination.

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## The Shepherd's Voice

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Beyond my Red Cross work, I serve as a Guardian ad Litem, advocating on behalf of children in foster care.

My husband and I enjoy exploring North Carolina by taking scenic drives and camping trips. We also love visiting zoos, riding trains, and attending seasonal events with our daughter, son-in-law, and grandson who live in Cashiers

In addition, we travel to Florida whenever we can to spend time with our son, daughter, son-in-law, and our newest grandson.

### **Vision for Good Shepherd:**

The vision for Good Shepherd's future growth centers on deepening our spiritual development and expanding our impact within the community. This includes meeting the needs of marginalized children, such as those in foster care, reaching out to individuals in our community who may feel alone, and remaining attentive to the needs of our own church family.

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# The Shepherd's Voice

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## VESTRY NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY FORM

**Name:** Nora Broszeit

**Family:**

Husband- Richard

The wonderful people at Good Shepherd

**Occupation:**

Retired Accountant



**Church history (including ministry participation at Good Shepherd):**

I couldn't wait to join the Choir. I am on the waiting list to be Lay Reader. A participant of the Cancer Support Group, Grazers and the Cursillistas. Hoping to serve on the Vestry.

Although I am new to Good Shepherd, I come with years of experience serving as a Vestry member at my last four churches. We are all given gifts through the Holy Spirit and should use those gifts to serve God and the common good. Serving not only as Treasurer, but volunteering to do the physical work of keeping the church's books was my gift to the church. My other God-given talent is the gift of voice to praise God in song. I have also served on the Discernment Committee to find a new priest, an active member of ECW (also keeping their books), the Outreach Committee and Altar Guild.

**Outside activities and hobbies:**

I must confess that I am addicted to 3 different Candy Crush games and Words With Friends that I play everyday. I am a member of the CCDC.

**Vision for Good Shepherd (include comments on challenges and opportunities):**

Continuing the Outreach support and welcoming attitude of Good Shepherd and serving where needed.

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# The Shepherd's Voice

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## VESTRY NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY FORM

**Name:** David Cady



**Family:**

Wife: Janice

Daughter: Siobhan (deceased 1991 at age 5)

Son: James 38 years old, lives in Connecticut

Daughter: Brittany Cromwell, 36 years old, lives in Connecticut

Son-in-Law: Robert Cromwell, lives in Connecticut

Granddaughter: Kayla Cromwell, 12, lives in Connecticut

Grandson: Connor Cromwell, 11, lives in Connecticut

**Occupation:**

Retired x 2: (Naval Officer 22 yrs + High School Math & Science teacher 4 yrs + Civil Service for US Navy another 22 years)

**Church History,(including ministry participation at Good Shepherd):**

Nominal Presbyterian as a child. Agnostic for early adulthood.

Episcopalian since ~1982.

St. David's Episcopal Church, Gales Ferry, CT: 1982 – 2013 Choir, Eucharistic Minister, Vestry Shipboard Lay Minister 1988 – 1991

St James Episcopal Church, Keene, NH: 2014 – 2023 Choir, Eucharistic Minister, Diocesan delegate for Diocese of NH

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Hayesville, NC: Choir, Eucharistic Minister

**Outside Activities and Hobbies:**

Acting, directing, Backstage work, and tech stuff at the Peacock Performing Arts Center

Writing Music

Handyman around the house

**Vision for Good Shepherd (include comments on challenges and opportunities):**

I look for us to build on Good Shepherd's foundations of:

- Unconditional love for all God's children, both now and in the years to come. This includes caring for those in need and preserving our bounty for future generations. It includes love of, and cooperation with all people; even those on different faith paths, however radically those may differ from our traditions.

## The Shepherd's Voice

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- Dedicated service and outreach to others, acting as Christ's body to continue his work in the world. As Beverly says: "Our worship has ended, let our service begin."
- Ever deeper spiritual understanding of God's purpose for us.

I see a significant challenge in bringing younger generations into our parish. I think the probable influx of folks to work at the coming Amazon facility as an opportunity to draw some of those families into our worship community.

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# The Shepherd's Voice

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## VESTRY NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY FORM

**Name:** Helga Reaves

**Family:**

Daughter- Juliana Barker

Grands- Jackson Barker & Jordan Walt

Greats- Bryson, Madison

**Occupation:**

Retired teacher- all grades and special education

Retired dog breeder



**Church history (including ministry participation at Good Shepherd):**

Raised Catholic, then attended Unitarian and Methodist churches. Came to Good Shepherd with my dad and stayed. Active in Choir, Flower Guild & Memorial Flowers, started Medical Loan Closet. In charge of Sunday Coffee Hour/Lunch and the Kitchen. Worked on several Country Fairs.

**Outside activities and hobbies:**

Active in historical Hayesville- especially Trash to Treasure sale. Sing in Mountain Community Chorus and others under Cody Killian. Hobbies include knitting and Lagato Romagnolo dogs.

**Vision for Good Shepherd (include comments on challenges and opportunities):**

I love Good Shepherd! I have felt a part of this church since the second time my mom and I attended- Doug Stuart greeted us, by NAME! I am very involved in making the church a welcoming place. I work hard on the Coffee Hour/Lunch so everyone wants to stay- a chance to meet new people, greet friends, and get to know each other and God better!

# The Shepherd's Voice

## NO ROOM AT THE INN

Founded in 2022, the festival has become a Brevard Christmas tradition, welcoming several hundred visitors each year. St. Philip's opened its doors Dec. 4-6, for the annual "No Room at the Inn" exhibit, a display of more than 100 beloved crèches collected from around the world on loan from members and friends of the church. On Friday, December 5, The Arts and Spirituality Committee organized a trip to Brevard, NC to view St. Philip's Episcopal Church's famous annual crèche exhibit.





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## GSEC Library



In the basement of Good Shepherd Parish Hall is a hidden treasure. Some of our parishioners have found it and recognize its valuable gifts; some know there's something there, but have never explored its contents, while others have simply walked through it or sat in a meeting at its big table. This is The Good Shepherd library. As Kathy Wright, one of the two caretaker librarians, has said, "This room is full of imagination, history, opinions, places, a wonderful place to be. There's a whole world to discover here." And she knows, as does Mary Anne Koos, the other librarian in charge.

These two ladies have spent many hours here, organizing, reading, bringing in more treasures, and making sure this room is a place for quiet reflection, rest and comfort.

They have organized it like a book store with easy to find categories and genres, but unlike Books-A-Million, it is a lending library, open to anyone, and it won't cost you a cent. It is on the "honor system" as well. No checking in or out and no late fees.

Are you interested in the arts? There's a section for you. Theology? Please explore. The largest section is on Christianity, of course, but there are also categories on fiction, biography, music, poetry, etc. Some very rare and expensive books can be found here as well.

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For example, The Torah written in Hebrew from 5000 years ago translated into readable English. Another wonderful find is a place set aside for writers from our parish, past and present: Sandy Benson, Ellie Wilson, George Choice, Estelle Rice, Helen Naismith, Claudia Kennedy and others. Porter Taylor's wonderful writings are here, as are Michael Curry's. This section is important as an archive, to be kept as a record of this church. These works can be lent out, but the originals are kept here.

Libraries are such an important part of our lives; without the learning and enjoyment that can be found within them, the world would be a static, unenlightened and bleak place. Anyone interested in books ...or not... please come down and browse in ours. Many of these books were donated by Delmer, Father Bill, Beth Hitchcock and other good friends of the library. And while you're there, take a look at the DVD's and CDs which you might want to borrow- and be sure to see Jesus, homeless and poor, sleeping on a bench.

*Laurie Wright*



# Welcome *January* *One day at a time.*

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New Month.

New Year, New Chapter.

New Lessons, New Blessings.

New Beginning.

New Mindset.

New Focus.

New Intentions.

New Inspiration.

New Opportunities.

New Results.



*Baby*

inspire *Positive* IP  
soul sensations SS



**Parish Life and Church Community**

*Please, take note of our scheduled  
Office closures for January:  
01/19—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*





## Cancer Support Group



On Tuesday, **January 20<sup>th</sup>** 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](mailto:jose_m_arias@hotmail.com)



## Notes from our Financial Statements for November 2025

### Income Statement

Income received for November	\$42,216
Expenses for November	-\$28,652
<b>Net Income/(Loss) for November</b>	<b>\$13,564</b>

Total Income for the Year	\$382,835
Total Expenses for the Year	-\$392,321
<b>Net Income/(Loss) for the Year</b>	<b>-\$9,486</b>

### Account Balances 11/30/2025

#### Operating funds Accounts

UCBI Operating Account (Checking)	\$ 44,763
UCBI Petty Cash	\$ 1,162
Operating Funds Money Market (30)	\$126,103

#### Restricted/Designated funds Accounts

B&G Scholarship Money Market (60)	\$129,324
Camp Henry Tuition Assistance (62)	\$ 4,091
Capital Reserve Money Market (61)	\$ 42,285
Rector Sabbatical Money Market (54)	\$ 5,118
All other Restricted/Designated Accounts Obligations	\$ 19,249

#### Endowment Accounts

Mountain of Faith Endowment Fund	\$257,027
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## Celebrate Good Times!!!

### Birthdays in January

01/02 Hannah Jones  
01/05 Evie Cline  
01/07 Dorman McLamb  
01/08 Scott Farnsworth  
01/09 Beverly Braine  
01/09 David Cady  
01/09 Mike Campbell  
01/12 Cindy Nodine  
01/15 Michael Ryan  
01/16 Craig Underwood  
01/17 Wendy Walker  
01/21 Becky Van Gorder  
01/22 Lucy Oberle  
01/24 Elizabeth Rybicki  
01/25 Carolyn Cline-Griffiths  
01/25 The Rev. Bob Gibson  
01/29 Deborah Chilton  
01/29 Ed Reynolds



### Anniversaries in January

01/01 Tawanna & Ron Dutton  
01/12 Meliss & Jon Czarnecki

*life with you*  
JUST KEEPS GETTING  
BETTER & BETTER  
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



### Directory Updates:

Please note the following changes in your directory.



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

[gsepicsopal@brmcmc.net](mailto:gsepicsopal@brmcmc.net)

## Lectionary Readings for *January*

**January 4-  
Second Sunday of Christmas**

[Jeremiah 31:7-14](#)  
[Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a](#)  
[Matthew 2:13-15,19-23](#)  
or [Luke 2:41-52](#)  
or [Matthew 2:1-12](#)  
[Psalm 84 or 84:1-8](#)

**January 11-  
First Sunday after the  
Epiphany**

[Isaiah 42:1-9](#)  
[Acts 10:34-43](#)  
[Matthew 3:13-17](#)  
[Psalm 29](#)

**January 18-  
Second Sunday after the  
Epiphany**

[Isaiah 49:1-7](#)  
[1 Corinthians 1:1-9](#)  
[John 1:29-42](#)  
[Psalm 40:1-12](#)

**January 25-  
Third Sunday after the  
Epiphany**

[Isaiah 9:1-4](#)  
[1 Corinthians 1:10-18](#)  
[Matthew 4:12-23](#)  
[Psalm 27:1, 5-13](#)



**Good Shepherd Episcopal Church**

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