

## **GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRY**



### **MISSION:**

- **We are the outreach ministry for the Emmaus Ecumenical Catholic Community of Olympia.**
- **We are Christians called to witness God's mercy and justice revealed in Christ, the Good Shepherd.**
- **We commit ourselves to walk humbly with our sisters and brothers many of whom are homeless and live with various addictive and mental health behaviors, especially at the Nickerson Camp. (1406 Wheeler Ave off Eastside St. SE).**
- **We stand in solidarity with other religious traditions to foster an ecumenical spirit among all faith traditions.**
- **We participate in the Concerned Clergy of Olympia, a coalition of religious leaders collaborating on social and civic issues impacting the greater Olympia community.**

### **GOALS:**

- **Meet every Thursday at 4:00 pm at camp site to address concerns of residents.**
- **Listen to residents and support them with empathy and compassion.**
- **Facilitate discussions together with representatives of the Just Housing Authority.**
- **Teach, encourage, and support a model of self-governance.**
- **Assist in monitoring safety and public health issues.**
- **Meet with city officials to help mediate troubling issues.**

### **DONATIONS:**

**We are entering into the rainy season of the fall. When downsizing your home and cleaning out the garage, please remember our mission.**

- **Blankets, coats, hats, shoes and sox, backpacks, AA and AAA batteries, large garbage bags.**
- **Sleeping bags, tarps, flashlights, coolers, camping gear.**
- **Tools and garden equipment.**
- **To deliver supplies, call my cell phone number is (360) 789-5149.**

**NEWS:**

**There is significant progress during the past three years.**

- **Camp is on city owned property. The city provides water, a porta patty, garbage services**
- **Twenty-two residents live at the camp. They meet weekly to discuss, amend and implement self-governance policies. Volunteers have built prefabricated micro-houses. More are expected throughout the year.**
- **Residents can access health and social services when needed. They continue to refuse COVID vaccinations. Masks are required.**
- **Meals are provided by Catholic Community Services. Many take their meals at the Salvation Army community kitchen and visit the food bank.**
- **Many residences take advantage of showers at several public and private sites.**

**Thank you for your help.**

**With warm blessings of Peace and Goodness,**

**Father David Gerardot, OFR  
Chaplain  
ddgerardot@gmail.com**

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