

2024

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Volume 54, Issue 8

A Message from the Rev. William Campbell

I remember Augusts from my youth as a hurry to savor all that I could of summer before school started back. I also remember it as a time of profound renewal: new shoes and haircut, new school-supplies, and a new school year promising so many new beginnings...so much "new" set against a backdrop of Texas heat where even Earth itself seems to beg for renewal. In that way, August has always meant more to me than other signposts of change in the year like New Year's Day.

And while the wonderment of the summer season wanes some in adulthood, I pray that each of you have found time for reflection, rest, and readying in your own life. Because rest, or Sabbath as it's called in Scripture, is holy. There is a basic human need for a different quality of time from our normal busyness to recognize and live out the fullness of our humanity. Sabbath can refer to the traditional day of rest with the Lord, modeled by God in creation (in Genesis 1), the commemoration of liberation, modeled by the fourth commandment given in Exodus (chapter 20, vv. 8-10), the sign of God's covenant and blessing (Exodus 31:13, 17), and as a sign of hope—that we will find release, rest, and restoration from the trials we face in life.

Because things do heat up here in August, and I'm not just talking about the weather. By now, your church staff has had time to reflect, rest, and ready for what's next—to ask valuable questions about, well how we go about our everyday, what's working and what's not, and where we think God is leading us. The reprieve of summer has given us needed time to center our questions in prayer, time to move forward renewed, and August 1 marks the end of the slower pace as we finalize preparations for what we call "the program year," which begins September 8 on Rally Day.

You can get a preview of some of what we're excited to offer this coming Fall in this Newsletter: beautiful worship, soon-to-be enhanced by a new, world-class organ; life-changing educational opportunities to better your understandings of God and self through Jesus; formational activities seeking to deepen discipleship through service in Christ's name; and opportunities to gather as a community to mark and celebrate the progress we make each and every day in our mission to change lives by sharing Christ. We have offerings for all ages and stages of life, and we invite you to participate. And good participation begins with good preparation.

If you haven't found time for rest and renewal in your own life, then I encourage you to find rest in these remaining, dog days of summer (when it's too hot to go outside). You don't have to go out of town to do it—all you need is a quiet place to think and 10 or 15 minutes to dedicate to reflection and prayer. Ask what's working, what's not, and what needs to change in your life, be honest with yourself, and think about how to commit to your renewal with the promises of Jesus Christ through his body the Church. What at church have you always wanted to do but never made time? What ministry are you called to anew this year? What class beckons you to know Him in a new way?

As summer fades into fall, don't let the season pass you by: rest, prepare, and renew in Christ Jesus. And don't forget to rally with us—your Church Family—on Rally Day next month.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

JOIN THE MUSIC MINISTRY!

🎵 Have a song in your heart? Join our Music Ministry and share your talent in worship!
No music reading skills required – just a passion for music and the desire to lead in worship. Making music is great for your mind, body, and soul!

We are currently seeking volunteers for the following music groups:

- **Adult Choir** 🎵 – Starting August 22nd
Share your love of singing and join our Adult Choir! Rehearsals are held on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 PM, and we sing special music 2-4 times a month during services from September through July. Make new friends while making a joyful noise unto the Lord and enjoy a delightful potluck dinner with us once a month!
- **Handbell Choir** 🔔 – Starting August 26th
If singing isn't your strong suit but you have a passion for making beautiful music, our Handbell Choir might be perfect for you! Led by Joyce Wilcox, the Handbell Choir leads worship on the second Sunday of each month from September through May. Rehearsals are held on Mondays from 6-7pm.
- **Children's Choir** 🎵 – Starting September 9th
Calling all young music enthusiasts in Grades 2-8! Our Children's Choir offers a fun and engaging environment for kids to learn and grow musically. Rehearsals are held on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 PM during the school year. Registration will open mid-August. They will share their gifts with the church by leading in worship on Oct. 27, Nov. 17, Dec. 8, Feb. 23, Mar. 23, Apr. 13, and May 18.

To sign up or learn more about the Music Ministry at Church of the Good Shepherd, please contact Mi Ou Lee at mioulee@cotgs.org. We look forward to making beautiful music together, praising our Lord in song.



Blessing of the Organ

Save the Date

Friday, September 27

7:00 p.m.

Come join us as we bless the
Tennison Temple Keeler Organ

CHURCH COMMUNITY



CALENDAR OF EVENTS AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

AUGUST 11

Back-to-School Blessing

10:30 a.m. service

AUGUST 14

St. James First Day of School

AUGUST 18

Beach Eucharist for Young Families

4:30 - 7:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 4

Labor Day - Church Office Closed

SEPTEMBER 8

Rally Day

Sunday School
& Children's Chapel Resumes

SEPTEMBER 10

Women's Bible Study Begins

10:00 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 11

Wednesday Evening Classes Begin

6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 11

Kingdom Kids

6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 15

Breakfast Fellowship Resumes

8:45 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 15

Youth Group Kick-Off

6:30 p.m.

RALLY DAY!



The poster features a red and white checkered background. At the top is a red shield-shaped sign with a white border. Inside the shield, the text "CHURCH OF THE" is at the top, "RALLY DAY" is in the center in large white letters, and "GOOD SHEPHERD" is at the bottom. Below the shield is a small red banner with a white silhouette of a shepherd with a staff and sheep. The main text is on a dark blue rectangular background. It reads "SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8" in white, "COME FOR CHURCH, SUNDAY SCHOOL, AND THEN A" in white, and "Texas Style BBQ!" in red. Below this, it lists the schedule: "Church at 8:00 am, 10:30 am, & 5:30 pm", "Sunday School at 9:30 am", and "BBQ Lunch in Munds Hall at 11:45 am". At the bottom left, there are two red banners: one saying "New Classes!" and another saying "Children's Activities!". At the bottom right, it says "* WEAR COMFORTABLE CLOTHING".

CHURCH OF THE
RALLY DAY
GOOD SHEPHERD

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
COME FOR CHURCH, SUNDAY SCHOOL, AND THEN A
Texas Style BBQ!

Church at 8:00 am, 10:30 am, & 5:30 pm
Sunday School at 9:30 am
BBQ Lunch in Munds Hall at 11:45 am

New Classes!

Children's Activities!

*** WEAR COMFORTABLE CLOTHING**

NEW FALL CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

Adult Sunday School this Fall

(Begins Sunday, September 8)

LIVING WORD - Going Deeper into Sunday Scripture Readings

9:30 a.m. in the Parlor - Led by Rev. Milton Black & Rev. Philip May

The Rev. Milton Black and the Rev. Philip May lead a discussion-based class utilizing the scripture readings from each Sunday's services. The day's scriptures will guide us as we learn from one another and better understand God's Word.

PARENTING WITH VINTAGE VALUES AND GODLY TRUTHS

9:30 a.m. in Dobbins Hall Adult Classroom - Led by Rev. William Campbell

Parenting in an ever-changing world of technology and social media is beset on all sides with differing opinions about what is right. Discernment of where to stand on any issue, when to take a stand, and for how long can be dizzying. Values and Godly Truths are the steadfast horizon we need for times like these. Join Fr. William and other Good Shepherd parents on Sundays this Fall in a discussion of the common issues parents face in this era of anxiety and how respond to them faithfully.

NATIONS RISE & FALL - GOD ABIDES

9:30 a.m. in Munds Hall Library - Led by Rev. Frank Fuller

All human times have known crisis and suffering. This class continues to explore the Old Testament from the end of exile in Babylon to the times of Jesus. God's word to his chosen people during judgment and redemption set the stage for the coming of Christ and opening the Church for all peoples. What can their words say to us in our times?

Wednesday Evening Classes this Fall

(Begin Wednesday, September 11)

DIFFERENT WITNESSES: The World Religions

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in Dobbins Hall Adult Classroom - Led by Rev. Frank Fuller

How are Christians to understand the teachings and practices of the religions that guide the lives of so many other human beings? What can we learn, and what must we teach in this multicultural world? This class will survey the major world faiths utilizing Stephen Prothero's book **God is Not One** and other resources.

ACTS FOR EVERYONE

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in the Parlor - Led by Rev. Philip May

The Rev. Philip May will lead a class on Acts. This class will utilize the book, **Acts for Everyone** by N.T. Wright. It can be found on Amazon. (It is Part 1, the 20th Anniversary Edition.) Acts is a dynamic narrative of journeys, trials, and triumphs, inspiring us in our own spiritual journeys. It also lays bare the challenges churches face, demonstrating that 'normal church life' has never been plain sailing. Come for class and the usual potluck dinner to be shared by all.



Tuesdays beginning September 10
10:00 a.m. in the Parlor

Jesus promised us abundant life in the Spirit. What does that look like, exactly? Paul tells us in Galatians 5:22-23. It is a fruitful life, filled with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and even, self-control. What a beautiful way to live! In fact, this is the way Jesus lived – filled with the Spirit of God. And we are to be like him!

In his study, *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit*, Dr. Christopher J.H. Wright invites us on a 10-week journey to live a life in step with the Spirit, offering us the “heart and soul of Christian living”. Come join us as we explore the nine fruits of the Spirit that can transform our lives and our relationships, making us more like Jesus.

You can purchase the book on Amazon or at your favorite book retailer. It is called *Cultivating the Fruit of the Spirit* by Dr. Christopher J. H. Wright. Bring your bible, too.

We are excited for you to be a part of our group study this Fall!
No registration is required... just come!

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Confirmation 2024-2025

ATTENTION 6TH GRADERS: We will begin a new year of confirmation class for rising sixth graders in September.

Confirmation for our young church members occurs in the 6th grade. We believe that our young people are on a journey, and that at this age they are in a position to accept for themselves what was accepted for them at Baptism. The confirmation class is designed to provide spiritual direction and teach the traditions of the Church.

If you would like your child to participate in Confirmation next school year, contact Sandy McCampbell at 361-779-7742 or at sandymccampbell@aol.com.

Important Meeting for Parents and Confirmands:

9:30 a.m. Sunday, September 8th in Munds Hall Auditorium



HAPPENING #157

August 2 - 4

at St. John's in McAllen

For all 10th - 12th Grader

Happenings are peer led spiritual renewal weekends for high school students in 10th - 12th grade. Happening begins on Friday at 7:00 p.m. sharp and wraps up around 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Registration for Happening and HIS Love is available at dwtx.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Resume September 8th

Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. in Water Street classroom 107.

Children's Chapel resumes at 10:30 a.m.

NURSERY

Ages 6 months - 2 years

Sundays from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

We offer nursery in Dobbins Hall during Sunday School hour and the 10:30 a.m. service.

KID'S ZONE

Ages 3 years - Kinder

Sundays from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Kid's Zone is available next door to the Nursery for children age 3 - Kindergarten. Children's Chapel will resume on Rally Day, September 8.

WORSHIP SERVICES & HOURS

Sunday Schedule

8:00 a.m.	Traditional Eucharist
8:45 a.m.	Breakfast Fellowship (<i>Resumes in the Fall</i>)
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Family Eucharist
5:30 p.m.	Come As You Are Service

Nursery For the Little Ones

6 months - 2 Years in the Nursery 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Sunday School Classes

Sundays 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Children Meet in the Water Street Classrooms - *Resumes in Fall*

Youth Meet in Munds Hall Auditorium - *Resumes in Fall*

Adults:

Living Word w/Rev. Black & Rev. May in the Parlor

All other adult classes resume in the Fall.

Weekday Services

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Healing Service with
Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Monthly Services

We offer a service of Holy Communion at the Trinity
Towers/Brookdale retirement community at 3:30 p.m. on
the first Sunday of every month.

St. James Chapel Services

(Resume in August)

Tuesdays at 8:05 a.m. Middle School Chapel

Tuesdays at 8:45 a.m. K- 4th Grade Chapel

Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. Preschool Chapels (4 services)

Thursdays at 8:05 a.m. All School Chapel

Parents are welcome at All School Chapel on Thursdays.