

The Cross & Staff - March/ April 2011

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

101 North Walnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 + Phone: (269) 673-2254



Lenten Season Notes

The Lenten season of contemplation includes some special services and events to help us prepare for Easter. Here are some key dates:

March 9 – Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m.

March 16 – Wednesday night soup supper and study at 6 p.m.

March 23 – Wednesday night soup supper and study at 6 p.m.

March 30 – Wednesday night soup supper and study at 6 p.m.

April 6 – Wednesday night soup supper and study at 6 p.m.

April 13 – Wednesday night soup supper and study at 6 p.m.

April 17 – Palm Sunday celebrations

April 20 – Wednesday night soup supper and study at 6 p.m.

April 22 – Good Friday services at noon and 6 p.m.

April 24 – Easter celebrations

Each Wednesday program will start with Eucharist. Eucharist also will be celebrated each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Anyone planning to sponsor Easter flowers should submit orders to the office by Friday, April 8, so the bulletins can be prepared.

Please see page 3 for details about the soup supper and a Lenten meditation booklet.



April candlelight tour of historic churches to include our parish

Scores of visitors are expected to tour Good Shepherd during the first candlelight tour of historic churches being organized by the Heritage Home Network Group, a non-profit group that wants to raise awareness of the rich architectural heritage and history tucked in downtown Allegan.

The event is slated from 7 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, April 16 to coincide with a Civil War history event in the area and a garden sale at the Griswold Auditorium.

Candlelight tour participants will purchase an informational pamphlet at the Griswold Auditorium for \$10 and then use the booklet to take a self-guided tour of six churches. Other participating churches include the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, the First Congregational Church, the United Methodist Church and the First Presbyterian Church.

Event proceeds will be split between the Heritage Home Network Group and the participating churches.

Preparations for our participation are being overseen by Korree Johnson, Lynne Winters and Nick Wenban. Volunteers will be needed to prepare the church for the tour and greet visitors. The committee is still discussing whether to provide refreshments during the event. If so, more volunteers will be needed.

Vestry retains Father Tom for Lent

The Vestry has retained Father Thomas Toeller-Novak to serve our parish during the Lenten Season.

An ordained Episcopal priest since 1984, Father Tom and his wife, Deirdre, live in Holland. He also has worked as a meat cutter, social worker and probation services director. His interests include golf, tennis, racquetball, music, bicycling, travel, bridge, Italian and other languages and birding.

Please take a moment to introduce yourself to him.



Happy Anniversary to . . .

March 26 – **Todd and Debbi Holubar**; April 1 – **Don and Trish Morris**;
April 15 – **Jim and Judy Wendt**; April 30 – **Betty and Gladwin Miner**

Happy Birthday to

March 4 —	Ryan Krickow	April 1 —	Kyle Simmons
	Parker Stout	April 7 —	Margot Rolfe
March 7 —	Jim Pyle	April 9 —	Judy Wendt
	Robert Cornell	April 10 —	Devyn Morris
March 11 —	Nathan Tibbitts	April 18 —	Kevin Schipper
March 14 —	Judy Buchanan	April 19 —	Delora Andrus
	Pam Sinden	April 21 —	Pam Iehl
March 17 —	Sarah Meyers	April 24 —	Lynsey Ferris
March 18 —	Evie Keck		
March 21 —	John Iehl		
March 28 —	Ray Lewis		

Help keep this list current by letting Sharon know about any special days marked by your family. If someone from each family takes a moment via phone, e-mail or written note to share birthdays and anniversaries, our parish can help mark these important events.

Sponsorships: Celebrate life and help raise funds

Mark special days and celebrate life within the Good Shepherd parish by sponsoring fresh flowers on the altar, oil for the sanctuary lamp or bells ringing during Prayers for Peace. Provide a small donation to help offset church operation costs . . . and honor special people in a way that requires little effort.

To sponsor altar flowers or the sanctuary lamp: Sign up on the schedule posted on the parish bulletin board. Mark your name and the memorial or celebration reason. Then, tuck a \$10 donation for flowers or a \$5 donation for the lamp into Norm's box.

To sponsor an honorific bell ringing: Contact Sharon with details about when you want the bells rung and tuck a \$5 donation into Norm's box. Sharon will let the volunteers know to ring the bells on a given Monday, Tuesday or Friday, and then send a special note to the honored individual.

Quarterly devotionals available at the church

Copies of the Forward "Day by Day" devotionals are available in the main entry and on the table by the parish bulletin board. Please offer a donation to help defray the publication costs. We now pay \$1 for each small copy and \$1.50 for each large print.

Quick notes . . .

Photograph exhibit
"Flowers of the Holy Land" opens at the Parish Church of Christ the King in Kalamazoo with a **reception from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 13**. The show features Purdue University professor Mary Pilat. The show is open from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Sundays and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays through April 13.

Indoor labyrinth walk
A free **indoor labyrinth walk** is slated from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, **March 23**, in the **Parish Church of Christ the King** at Texas Drive and Eighth Street in Kalamazoo. An orientation is offered to people who have never used the circular path for prayer and meditation. Call **(269) 388-2988** for more information.

Lectio Divina program
Discover what it means to become a **community of the Word** during a **March 26 program** by Bible study expert Stephen Binz about Lectio Divina. The event is sponsored by **St. Andrews Episcopal Church** in Grand Rapids and Brazos Press. Lunch will be provided. See Sharon for help with electronic registration. Cost of \$10 is due at the door.

ECW Diocesan Meeting
The **annual ECW Diocesan Meeting** will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, **March 26** at the new Church of the Mediator in Harbert.



Please join us
in celebrating
the 50th wedding
anniversary of
Jim and Judy Wendt

50th ANNIVERSARY Sunday, April 17, 2011,
2 to 5 in the afternoon
at the **Lynx Golf Clubhouse**
900 Lincoln Road, Otsego, MI 49078.

Hosted by their children and grandchildren.

*No gifts please –
the honor of your presence is our only request.*

New parish directory published

An updated parish directory with a celebrations list and a “go to” list was published in late February. Pick your copy up in Winchester Hall. Or send an e-mail to goodshepherd@allegan.net and Sharon will send you an electronic copy. **Don't forget to let the office know if there are mistakes to correct or new information to include in future editions.**



Continued requests face growing Baby Closet

Donations to the parish Baby Closet continue helping infants get a good start in the world.

In February, closet coordinator Bobbie Wenzel got three separate requests from mothers expecting twins. There already were requests from 15 other mothers seeking help before their infants arrive by late March.

The mothers are so very appreciative of the items given in the layette sets designed to help innocent unborn infants have some basic supplies waiting when they arrive in this world.

Please let Bobbie know if you have any donations or know any expecting moms who could use our help.

Some pieces for Lenten meditation

Looking for something on which to meditate during the Lenten season?

Consider getting a copy of the 2011 Lenten Meditations published by the Episcopal Relief & Development. The group notes the purple-covered booklet is intended to help guide you through this season of contemplation.

Copies of the guide are available in our church, and provide a great reminder to pray that the Episcopal Relief & Development will continue serving as the hands and feet of Christ in reaching out to a hurting world.



Time to
Spring Ahead

on March 13

Join a Lenten soup supper study

Take time to pause each Wednesday evening during Lent this year to enjoy a simple soup supper with other parishioners and a study of God's word.

The program starts **Wednesday, March 16**, and continues each week through **April 20**. Eucharist will be celebrated at 6 p.m. followed by dinner. Then, Father Thomas Toeller-Novak will lead discussions about “Reflecting on who we are – Lent 2011.”

If you are interested in providing soup, bread or other items for the supper, please let the office know.

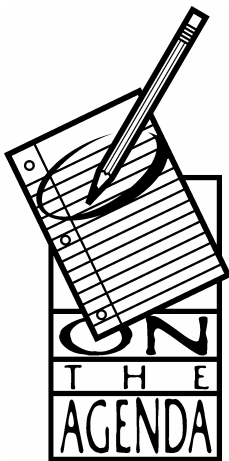


Notes from the Senior Warden . . .

I'm not sure what I was thinking when I accepted the Senior Warden position. This continues to be one of the biggest challenges Good Shepherd has had to face in a long time. We continue to move forward with a strong vestry and help from supply clergy. We also move forward continuing with our many building projects. With your support, we continue doing community outreach such as Community Closet, Food Pantry and Baby Closet.

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that we have contracted with Father Thomas Toeller-Novak for the Lenten Season. Father Tom will start with us on Ash Wednesday with a service at 7 p.m., and will be here for regular Sunday services. He has agreed to provide a Lenten program every Wednesday evening. Father Tom also will be available for two services on Good Friday.

Faithfully,
Ray Lewis



ECW to meet, plan events

A meeting of the Episcopal Church Women is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 11 in Winchester Hall.

The group will discuss what projects should be tackled during 2011. All input is welcome! ☺

Call Ann Stough at (269) 673-6502 or the church office at (269) 673-2254 with questions.

Delegates headed to annual convention

Two delegates are preparing to represent the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd at the 137th annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Michigan.

Norm Richards and Kandi Gibson will attend the proceedings April 8-9 in Traverse City.

If you have questions about the issues that will be discussed during the convention or input to share, please let them know.

Diocesan plans three mission trips in 2011

Parish members are invited to join the Diocese as it takes three different mission trips this year.

Teams are slated to head to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota during July, near the Daniel Boone National Forest in Appalachia during October and New Orleans later this year.

The Diocese will pay for fuel directly to and from the mission sites and also provides financial help for each individual mission.

More information is posted on the Diocesan bulletin at church or at edwm.org. You can also contact Terry Dorcy, mission coordinator, at tjdorcy@aol.com or (269) 349-3625

Diocese details confirmation, reception plans

Plans are being made by the Diocese to confirm, receive and reaffirm members. **Anyone interested in these activities must attend a retreat from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 2** at Camp Newaygo. See Sharon or Ray for help with registration. Candidates and their mentors will then **celebrate the decisions during a 10 a.m. service Saturday, June 11**, at the Grace Church in Grand Rapids.

Jottings from the Junior Warden . . .

Good Shepherd is entering a new year facing a number of challenges.

Reflecting on those challenges leads to thinking of the many strengths our parish has been given and the ways we offer those to the community. We have members involved with educating our youth and leading by example to become good citizens, or with older youth helping them become critical thinkers. We have a member key to the community's excellent library, making certain that ideas in books are available for all. We have members involved in offering services those who are physically and/ or mentally challenged, helping them to lead lives as independently as possible. These are only a few of the ways we involved ourselves in Allegan, for every member of our parish offers something to this community.

Our church outreach through our programs of providing clothing those who are in need, providing food for those who would be hungry, providing tutoring for those incarcerated, and providing a place for those who need to meet collectively to support one another is all done because the need is there. And the list continues.

We are a small group of people doing so much. Just think, by bringing back previous members and extending a hand to new members, how much more we can make our presence felt. Each effort, no matter how small it may seem, is important and may compound in ways that we may never be aware.

Faithfully –
Linda Kauppi

Tidbits from the treasurer . . .

Dear fellow Parishioners:

The snow is melting and we are looking forward to spring. The Farmer's Almanac was right. The last half of winter is worse than the first half. Soon, the heating bills will let up and warmer weather will be here.

Our apportionment asking for this year is \$7,262.90 and we have pledged to pay from our operating budget \$3,600. That is a 50 percent increase from last year. Individuals contributed \$3,380 toward our apportionment for a total payment of \$5,780. We hope individuals will continue to contribute toward the apportionment this year. By the end of 2012, we must be paying our full apportionment as required by Diocesan canons. We will continue to use the loose plate offering the last Sunday of each month to pay toward our apportionment. Should you like to have these contributions appear on your giving statements make a check out to Good Shepherd and note in the memo area that it is for apportionment.

Norm

Vestry members elected in January

The annual meeting in January left some new faces in new positions.

- Ray Lewis was elected to serve a one-year term on the Vestry and serve as senior warden.
- Linda Kauppi was elected to serve a three-year term on the Vestry and serve as junior warden.
- Nick Wenban was elected to a three-year Vestry term.
- Jan Meyers was named to serve as clerk to the Vestry.

Also serving on the Vestry is Korree Johnson, Wendy Simmons, Judy Wendt and Lynne Winters.

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Minister assignments

March 2011

Week of March 6

Sunday Eucharist:

Chalice Bearer: Ray Lewis

Crucifer: Peter Corrigan

Torch Bearers: TBA

Lectors: 1. Linda Kauppi 2. Ed Spicer
3. Norm Richards

Altar Guild: Dede Lewis (Sunday)

Ushers: Jim and Judy Wendt

Nursery: TBA

Coffee Hour: Dede Lewis (recycle)

Prayers for Peace:

Monday: Betty Miner

Tuesday: Mary Ann Ferris

Friday: Lu Holland

Week of March 13

Eucharist: 1st Sunday of Lent

Chalice Bearer: Peter Corrigan

Crucifer: Ray Lewis

Torch Bearers: TBA

Lectors: 1. Norm Richards 2. Linda Kauppi
3. Peter Corrigan

Altar Guild: Mary Ann Ferris

Ushers: Betty Miner

Nursery: TBA

Coffee Hour: Wendy Simmons

Prayers for Peace:

Monday: Lynne Winters

Tuesday: Kay Zimmerman

Friday: Marv Voss

Week of March 20

Eucharist:

Chalice Bearer: Marv Voss

Crucifer: Norm Richards

Torch Bearers: TBA

Lectors: 1. Peter Corrigan 2. Ann Perrigo
3. Linda Kauppi

Altar Guild: Dede Lewis

Ushers: Ray Lewis

Nursery: TBA

Coffee Hour: Ed Spicer and Ann Perrigo
(recycle)

Prayers for Peace:

Monday: Linda Kauppi

Tuesday: Mary Ann Ferris

Friday: Linda Pullen

Week of March 27

Eucharist:

Chalice Bearer: Kate Nameche

Crucifer: Marv Voss

Torch Bearers: TBA

Lectors: 1. Ed Spicer 2. Wendy Simmons
3. Ann Perrigo

Altar Guild: Kay Zimmerman

Ushers: Peter Corrigan

Nursery: TBA

Coffee Hour: Betty Miner

Prayers for Peace:

Monday: Betty Miner

Tuesday:

Friday: Marv Voss

Schedule Notes for March

- Wednesday, **March 9** – Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. **Ministers are still needed.** If interested, please contact the office.
- Friday, **March 11** – ECW meets at 12:30 p.m. to discuss plans for 2011. All welcome to provide input.
- Sunday, **March 13** – Vestry meets at 11:30 a.m. (Remember to check the clock since daylight savings time started last night.)
- Wednesday, **March 16** – Lenten suppers and study begins at 6 p.m. Continues each Wednesday **through April 20.**

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Week of April 3

Eucharist:

Chalice Bearer: Norm Richards

Crucifer: Peter Corrigan

Torch Bearers: TBA

Lectors: 1. Jan Meyers 2. Peter Corrigan

3. Wendy Simmons

Altar Guild: Lynne Winters

Ushers: Ray Lewis

Nursery: TBA

Coffee Hour: Peter Corrigan and Jun Juan Lai (recycle)

Prayers for Peace:

Monday: Lynne Winters

Tuesday: Mary Ann Ferris

Friday: Lu Holland

Week of April 10

Eucharist:

Chalice Bearer: Marv Voss

Crucifer: Ray Lewis

Torch Bearers: TBA

Lectors: 1. Wendy Simmons 2. Jan Meyers

3. Ed Spicer

Altar Guild: Mary Ann Ferris

Ushers: Peter Corrigan

Nursery: TBA

Coffee Hour: Lynne Winters

Prayers for Peace:

Monday: Linda Kauppi

Tuesday: Betty Miner

Friday: Lynne Winters

Schedule Notes for April

- Wednesday, **April 6** – Lenten soup supper and studies continues at 6 p.m. today and **April 20**.
- Friday, **April 8** – Easter flower orders due to church office for inclusion in bulletin.
- Sunday, **April 10** – Vestry meets at 11:30 a.m.
- Saturday, **April 16** – Candlelight tour of historic churches in Allegan from 7 to 9 p.m. (See page 1 for details.)



Minister assignments

April 2011

Week of April 17

Eucharist: Palm Sunday

Chalice Bearer: Peter Corrigan

Crucifer: Norm Richards

Torch Bearers: TBA

Lectors: 1. Ann Perrigo 2. Ed Spicer

3. Norm Richards

Altar Guild: Dede Lewis and Lynne Winters

Ushers: Betty Miner

Nursery: TBA

Coffee Hour: Kandi Gibson and Lu Holland (recycle)

Prayers for Peace:

Monday: Betty Miner

Tuesday: Jim and Sandy Wheat

Friday: Linda Pullen

Week of April 24

Eucharist: Easter

Chalice Bearer: Kate Nameche

Crucifer: Marv Voss

Torch Bearers: TBA

Lectors: 1. Linda Kauppi 2. Ann Perrigo

3. Peter Corrigan

Altar Guild: ALL members meet Saturday

Ushers: Norm Richards

Nursery: TBA

Coffee Hour:

Prayers for Peace:

Monday: Lynne Winters

Tuesday: Mary Ann Ferris

Friday: Lu Holland

Unable to serve when scheduled?

Please let the church office know as soon as possible with a phone message or e-mail. If possible, please secure your own replacement.

Lenten season begins

The forty days of Lent provide a time to slow down, reflect on our Christian faith and prepare ourselves for the celebration and season of Easter. Lent traditionally is a time of prayer, reflection and fasting. It gives us an opportunity to consider our relationships with our neighbors and the world, and find the resolve to make them whole.

To encourage this reflection, our parish plans some special programs and services this Lent under the guidance of the Rev. Thomas Toeller-Novak.

There is a special meditations booklet available at the church.

There will be soup suppers and study sessions at 6 p.m. each Wednesday starting March 16.

There will be special worship services held to mark Ash Wednesday on March 9, Palm Sunday on April 17, Good Friday on April 22 and Easter on April 24.

More details are tucked inside this newsletter.

Will you use these simple activities to help you slow down this Lenten season and reconnect with your fellow parishioners as you seek God?



The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

101 North Walnut Street
Allegan, MI 49010

Get involved

Volunteers needed
during the April 16
"Candlelight Tour"
of historic
churches in
downtown Allegan.
See inside
for details.

**Whoever you are, whatever you are,
as you are . . . we welcome you!**