



GOOD N'EWWE'S

January

2012

*On this day angels sing;
With their song earth shall ring,
Praising Christ, heaven's King,
Born on earth to save us;
Peace and love he gave us.*

Ideo Gloria in Excelsis Deo!



Church of the Good Shepherd



The Church of the Good Shepherd

www.cgsnashua.org

603-882-5352



The *GOOD NEWS* is a publication of The Church of the Good Shepherd (Episcopal). For information about this newsletter or any of the events listed herein, please contact the church office during our office hours (**M 9:00 - 2:00, T 11:00 - 4:00, W 9:00 - 4:00, Th 12:00 - 4:00, F 9:00-1:00**), or email **John Lewis** (John.Lewis@buildings.schneider-electric.com), or visit our website www.cgsnashua.org.

Staff Members

Head of the Church
Ministers
Rector
Assistant Rector
Priest Associate
Organist and Choirmaster
Bellringers Director
Communications
Parish Administrator
Youth Ministry
Verger

Jesus Christ
All Baptized Persons
The Rev. Dr. Robert W. Odierna
The Rev. Alanna M. Van Antwerpen
The Rev. Canon Charles LaFond
Patrick Hagan
Chaim Burstein
Andria Sousa
Laurie Ascani
Marcie Byrd
John Townsend

VESTRY LEADERSHIP

Brian Taylor (Sr. Warden)
Judy Mulligan (Jr. Warden)
Chris Chadbourne (Clerk)
Elizabeth Jutras (Treasurer)
MaryLu Klum
Kris Bartol
Jim Monahan
Karen Favorite
Roger Gower
Jane Wilkins
Betty Mayben
Nancy Madeira
Sue Corman
Ann Spinney
Monique Aubrey
Jenny Rowntree

COMMITTEE

Executive Committee, Nominating Committee
Executive Committee, Harless Scholarship
Executive Committee, Lay Visitors
Executive Committee, Finance Committee
Finance Committee
Youth Committee
Christian Education
Fellowship Committee
Fundraising Committee
Personnel Committee
Stewardship Committee
Christian Ed.
Fellowship
Communications / Web Site & Diocese
NPCC and Community Action
Youth

Clergy Corner

You are cordially invited to join us as we celebrate

25 Years of Service to the Greater Nashua Community

January 20, 2012 – 6:30 - 10 pm
Crowne Plaza, Nashua, NH

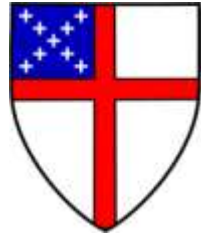
Buffet Dinner – Program - Entertainment

Our “New Name” will be unveiled –

End the evening with comedy from
Brad Mastrangelo and Mitch Stinson
Laugh Riot Productions



Clergy Corner, Cont.



Dear friends in Christ,

Shortly after I became Rector back in 1986, CGS decided to separately incorporate its outreach ministry (known then as “Community Concerns”). Under my direction as President of the new Board of Directors, and under the direction of Carl Swenson as Executive Director, in January of 1987 the Nashua Pastoral Care Center was founded. While separately incorporating this work to support the needy in the community, CGS was clear that in terms of its mission, the Care Center was the “Outreach Arm” of CGS. Its first year budget was \$50,000 for one staff member (Carl) and one program (Emergency Assistance).

CGS can be proud that now, 25 years later, The Care Center is now one of the premier non-profit organizations in the city, helping some 5,000 people per year with its Transitional Housing Program, Prevention and Intervention of Homelessness Programs, Crisis Advocacy and Resource Education Programs, Financial Literacy Program and Adopt-A-Family Christmas program through the Telegraph Santa Fund. It is still the outreach arm of our parish. It owns 4 Transitional Housing Buildings, has a budget of 1 million dollars and an endowment fund of \$400,000. (Please see our website for complete history of CGS and NPCC.)

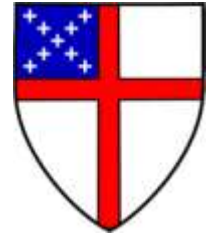
Above is a special invitation to the 25th Anniversary Celebration, and below is a response form that you can copy, print or cut out and mail in. I hope as many of you as possible will join me for this wonderful event. CGS will be receiving special recognition at this event for our role, not only in founding the Care Center, but in our ongoing support with financial assistance and with some 200 volunteers per year helping out in its programs and fund raisers.

Well done CGS! But as we enter into the next 25 years with this agency as the “Outreach Arm” of our parish – let us endeavor to recommit this parish and ourselves to the support of those needing help and desiring to work toward self-sufficiency.

Faithfully,

Pastor Odie †

Clergy Corner, Cont.



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of Guests _____ Total Payment \$ _____ (\$40 Per Person)

Payment Method Visa Master Card Discover

Account number _____

Exp _____ 3 Digit Security Code _____

Signature _____

Check (please make checks payable to NPCC)

I am unable to attend, but would like to make a donation of _____

Annual Meeting

SUNDAY JANUARY 22, 2012 AT 12:15 PM

AGENDA



- 1) Free Lunch will be served at 12:15. Meeting starts at 12:30
- 2) Election of various parish officers
 - Sr. Warden (Two yrs – elect 1)
Judy Mulligan
 - Clerk (Two Years – elect 1)
Chris Chadbourne
 - Vestry (Three Years – elect 4)
Greg Derderian, Jeff Fellows, John Lewis, Ann Spinney
 - Vestry (Two Years – elect 1)
TBA
 - Vestry (One Year – elect 1)
TBA
 - Interfaith Council (One Year – elect 2)
Ann Spinney, Karen Favorite, Ray Villeneuve
- Diocesan Delegates (Three Years – elect 1 delegate and 2 alternates)
Howard Titus
- 3) Presentation of 2011 budget performance
- 4) Presentation and vote of 2012 budget*
- 5) Report Capital Fund Drive Campaign and Projects
- 6) Senior Wardens Report
- 7) Rector's Report

* Please note that you can find the Budget info by going to the special link under Parish News for “Newsletter Budget Info” on our parish website

www.cgsnashua.org

Sunday Forum Seminar Schedule: January – June 2012

Please note that there are a few different Book Discussion Forums. These have become very popular as a way to discuss our faith. Buy the book and regardless of how much you've read join the discussion – it will even enlighten your reading if you read the book after the discussion!

JANUARY	8	Meet the Candidates for Vestry
	15	Learning about Casey Family Services
	22	Going Green at CGS
	29	Magical Musical Tour – music at CGS.
FEBRUARY	5	Chloe Meadows Topic TBD
	12	Estate Planning – Knowing your options
	19	CGS Magical History Series – featuring one of our senior members.
	26	What's new in the Old Testament?
MARCH	4	How should we pray?? How does God answer prayer?
	11	How should we pray?? Could Ignatian Examen, Anglican Rosary and Lectio Divina help?
	18	How should we pray?? Could Centering Prayer help?
	25	How should we pray?? Could Meditative Prayer help?
APRIL	1	Bishop Robinson Q & A
	8	Easter - No Sunday Forum
	15	What's new in the Old Testament?
	22	Introducing the final candidates for the Bishop of NH Election
	29	CGS Magical History Tour featuring one of our senior members
MAY	6	Going green at CGS
	13	Welcoming and Introducing Newcomers of CGS
	20	Special presentation by our youth – always compelling!
	27	Memorial Weekend – no Sunday Forum
JUNE	3	Shelley Kesselman Topic TBD

Capital Fund Drive News

CFD Financial Update

For those who have not finished paying off your CFD pledge, you have until June 1st, as we still need to finish funding the final two projects on the \$1.1 million list with those anticipated funds: Youth Mission Trip Endowment (\$10,000) and The Child Care Center playground (\$25,000).



Thank you to all whose generous efforts have "contributed" to the great success of this campaign.

Thank you Thank You Thank you

- ✘ A big thank you to all of the guilds, choirs, musicians, individuals, families, youth and staff for making our Advent and Christmas activities and celebrations fun, beautiful and meaningful! Special thanks for the efforts of Marci Byrd and all those youth and adults who adjusted their schedules to get the greens a day early and make the wreaths early!



- ✘ The Care Center's Adopt-A-Family Christmas program provided Christmas to over 500 needy families, including over 1,100 children. CGS parishioners provided presents for almost 100 of those children. Great job and thank you!
- ✘ Pastor Odie, and Pastor Alanna extend their heartfelt thanks to the many people who sent cards, notes and gifts! Your thoughtfulness, prayers and continued support are most appreciated!

Kids Corner:

Children & Family Faith Formation



Sunday School

Godly Play: Building Relationships with God and Each Other

A huge thanks to all of our Sunday School teachers, substitute teachers, parents and children for making the fall semester such a success! The 5th & 6th Grader “Riser’s Group” had a energizing semester creating their own lesson plans with their teachers. And 4th Graders especially enjoyed the new lessons in Godly Play including the Books for the Bible as well as the Mystery of Christmas. While our three year olds through first graders focused on engaging new activities to complement their lesson plans.

The semester culminated with the creative children’s sermon Advent Wreath activity created by Mary O’Reilly for all of our students on “Deck the Halls Sunday” December 18th. We continue to accept registration for new students with needing more teachers so if you are interested in volunteering to assist contact Pastor Alanna or Jill Rosier.

Our second semester line up for Sunday School includes incorporating new, innovative material into the curriculum, inviting the children to sing during worship as well as more ‘at home helps’ for children and families during Lent which begins with Ash Wednesday on February 22nd . This semester Pastor Odie and Pastor Alanna will make classroom visits to greet our children and will also be scheduled to spend some more time with the older children during their Sunday morning lesson.

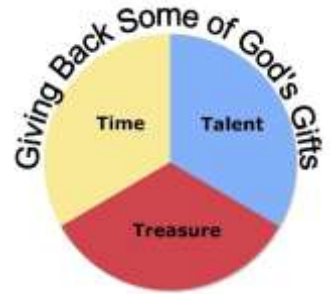
Children’s Eucharist—January 15th at 9:45 a.m.

If your child is interested in being a reader, gift bearer or usher for worship, please contact Pastor Alanna or Jill Rosier.

Sunday School Teacher’s Meeting – February 12th we will hold our third Sunday School Teacher’s meeting to check in with each other about news and activities for the second semester.

Stewardship Corner

Greetings from the 2012 CGS Stewardship Team



You thought you had heard the last from us for the next ten months, didn't you?

It is true that Pledge Drive 2011 has been declared "Mission Accomplished." Thanks to you, the mission was by all counts a great success. We came together in community to consider our priorities as parish and as individuals and families within the parish, had fun, and learned some important things in the process. Our pledges compare favorably with last year, and we thank you for your generosity! Your gifts allow Church of the Good Shepherd to continue its ministry to its members and to the greater Nashua community and beyond.

Stewardship, however, is much more than the annual pledge drive, and it encompasses far more than parish life. It is one of the central dimensions of our life as people of God because it encompasses the whole of life. It goes beyond what we give to what we do with what we keep.

That's why we were delighted to see your contributions to the list of "Our Favorite Things." Although many of them pertained specifically to parish life, many more did not. This underscores the idea of stewardship as a way of life – as faithful response to all that God has given us.

So in the months to come, let's continue to reflect on our favorite things, and how we can be better stewards of them, and remain mindful of them as the blessings they are. In the words of the classic hymn:

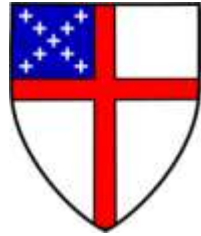
All good gifts around us are sent from hean'v above
So thank the Lord, so thank the Lord for all his love!

Shelley Brown Kesselman

*This is the first in a series of articles from the CGS Stewardship Committee.
We welcome your responses and suggestions.*

From the Meadows: Darkness, Breath, Air, Light

A new column from our “aspirant” (aspiring priest) Chloe Meadows



Sometimes I step outside at night, perhaps to take out the garbage or to plug in the holiday lights on the porch which we leave up through the season of Epiphany, and find it lovely.

It may be cold this time of year, but the darkness and stillness of the night, make me aware of my breath and the air going into my lungs. Our air, a strange mixture of gases the universe provides that keeps us alive, is the very breath of God, but that is something we Christians forget too easily. I take air for granted most of the time; don't you?

The only time I don't take air for granted is when I am exercising. My 2 favorite forms of exercise are swimming and dancing. Both make me get out of my head and into the tips of my fingers and toes and feel the joy of being alive, being embodied. The joy of Being incarnate.

Throughout time and geography, various forms of exercise have been considered ways of praying. There is walking prayer, yoga, pilgrimages - which are really quite strenuous hikes made for a spiritual purpose, the dance of whirling dervishes and tribal societies, just to name a few. Exercise reunites our mind and body, and when we are feeling one within ourselves, we can then reunite our selves with the world and with God. The most exhilarating aspect of prayer is that when I am finished I actually believe I am a beloved child of God. It is not just lip service to a warm and fuzzy theology. I can feel it in my bones and it propels me forward.

Being outside in January at night also reminds me of Light. Light is another thing we comfortable modern Americans take for granted in our cozy couches surrounded by lamps, light fixtures, and lit screens. With the flick of a switch we have light, any time of day or night. So the sense of encroaching darkness during the day, of seeming interminable darkness in the dead of winter, and the thankfulness for the lights that shine in those times - stars, moon, fire - is almost lost upon us.

We may be inventive, but we are still human. Fears and secrets find us in our own dark times, the dark night of the soul as St. John of the Cross famously put it. So we do know the sweet relief of seeing clearly, being seen, and being known, that God's Light brings in the darkness.

For the gospel of the season is that God's Light and Breath are ever there, for us to draw on, to know and be known.

Take a step outside into the darkness. You'll find it lovely. And you won't be alone.

Church of the Good
Shepherd
214 Main Street, PO Box 412
Nashua, NH 03061

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Reminder:

Annual Meeting

Sunday January 22, 2012

12:15 pm



Please Visit our new look
Online at www.cgsnashua.org

