



GOOD N'EWES

February

2012



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.

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Ministers
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Assistant Rector
Priest Associate
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Bellringers Director
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Elizabeth Jutras (Treasurer)
Judy Mulligan (Jr. Warden)
Chris Chadbourne (Clerk)
MaryLu Klum
Jim Monahan
Jane Wilkins
Nancy Madeira
Sue Corman
Monique Aubrey
Jenny Rowntree
Ann Spinney

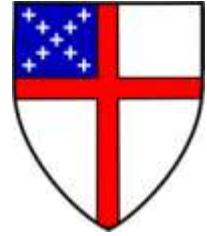
Welcome

COMMITTEE

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

Please welcome the new members of the Vestry: Jeff Fellows, John Lewis, Trudy Yelton, Tony Krutiak, Sandy Desharnais

Clergy Corner



Dear Friends in Christ,

In high school I had a t-shirt with the words “Reduce, reuse, recycle” circled around a picture of the earth. After wearing it the first time my brothers affectionately called me a ‘tree hugger.’ And now many years later with the “Green Movement” in full swing and their own children encouraging their environmental stewardship, I never hesitate to remind them of how forward thinking I was even from an early age!

Well, we’re beginning to hear these words a lot around CGS as we deepen our understanding of the stewardship of creation and evolve our commitment to environmental sustainability right here in our church home. With the season of Lent nearly upon us we will be discovering how these themes tie into our daily life, work and ministry for our Lenten Soup and Seminar Series beginning on Wednesday, February 29th. In addition to this formation offering we will have the opportunity to discover how the 3 R’s apply to our spiritual lives in our Lenten Sunday Forum Series about Prayer. Our Sunday Forums will discuss how we pray, how God might answer prayer and different types of prayer.

During the season of Lent we are called to restoration and renewal from the inside out. Lent is a time for taking an inventory of our relationships with God and each other. It is a time of reducing the clutter that stands between us and our relationship with God. It is a time to reuse that which draws us closer into authentic relationship and recycle those unhelpful habits into nutrients for the soil of our souls. As we embark on this path together let us keep Christ at the center of our hearts, knowing the power of recreation through the promise of his resurrection on Easter Day!

Faithfully,

Pastor Alanna †

Annual Meeting News



a) Thank you to all who were willing to be candidates for elected office. The following were elected.

Jr. Warden (2 year term) – Judy Mulligan

Clerk (2 year term) – Chris Chadbourne

Vestry (3 year term) – Jeff Fellows, John Lewis, Ann Spinney, and Trudy Yelton

Vestry (2 year term) – Tony Krutiak

Vestry (1 year term) – Sandy Desharnais

Diocesan Delegate (3 year term) – John Townsend

Diocesan Alternate Delegate (3 year term) - MaryLu Klum

Diocesan Alternate Delegate (2 year term) – Howard Titus

Interfaith Council (1 year term) – Jeff Cooley and Betty Klamka



Special thanks to Kris Bartol, Karen Favorite, Roger Gower and Betty Mayben for their time and great participation as they finish their term on the Vestry.

For a complete list of all your Vestry Representatives see the inside cover of the Newsletter.

The budget of \$564,657 proposed by the Vestry (sent to you in January) was confirmed by the Annual Meeting without any recommended changes.

b) Special thanks to all those who helped prepare the lunch for the Annual Meeting!

c) To read a written script of Pastor Odie's speech at the Annual Meeting go to the link on the CGS home page at www.cgsnashua.org.

d) **ADOPT A BILL PROGRAM:** From the original \$10,000 of "2011 Accounts Payable" there is currently just some \$6,100 of unpaid 2011 bills. The Vestry, in an effort to not impact the new 2012 budget, is asking those who are able and willing, to adopt all or a portion of any of the bills listed below. All of these reflect our commitment to outreach. Thank you to those who have helped already! Thanks for your help as we all work together to keep our finances working in a positive direction. Checks are to be made out to CGS with "2011 Bills" in the memo of the check. These donations are to be over and above your 2012 pledge contribution. While any amount will be accepted, donations in increments of \$50.00 are most helpful.

\$1,000 – Haiti earthquake relief, \$200 – Bridges Domestic Violence,

\$250 – St. Paul's, Mississippi

\$4,650 – Nashua Pastoral Care Center, now officially known as The Front Door Agency

Announcement



Annual Gourmet Festival and Auction

to benefit

The Front Door (Formerly the Nashua Pastoral Care Center)

Sunday March 18th

4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Held at the Nashua Country Club

Tickets are **\$85.00** per person and can be purchased through their office at 886-2866. Don't miss this annual spectacular event



Sunday Forum Seminar Schedule:

February & March



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!

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? Featuring Jeff Cooley, OT Professor at BC
MARCH	4	How should we pray and does God answer prayer. This begins a 4 week Lenten series on 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?

Reminder – Ash Wednesday

ASH WEDNESDAY is February 22nd. Watch your mail in the coming weeks for the Lenten Brochure detailing all services and programs during Lent.

Altar Guild Meeting

The winter meeting & brunch will be held Saturday, February 4, 9 a.m. in the Parish lounge. Snow date is February 11.

If you are interested in this aspect of worship ministry, you are welcome to attend. For more information contact the directresses: Betsy Lewis (672-7027) or Betty Gollihue (594-8626) or trainer: Mary Nash (883-8065). The Altar Guild is open to all parishioners - men and women. If you have ever wondered who sets up for Sunday Services, weddings, funerals and other services, come find out what we are all about.

WHO SAID IT ISN'T EASY TO RAISE MONEY FOR CGS!



It IS easy!! Note the following!!

In 2011 those who did their every day shopping and special gift shopping through the church's SCRIPS program raised over \$1,500 for CGS, without spending a single extra penny of their own money. Stay in the habit and/or get in the habit of shopping through CGS SCRIPS!! Contact the office for more info or see the SCRIP's table Sunday mornings!

TD Bank will be giving CGS a check for some \$4,000 this month – thanks to all those CGS people who have an account at TD Bank and simply went in and had the bank label their account as an Affinity Account for CGS! If you have an account as TD Bank and haven't done this yet – do so now!

Thank you for helping bring in extra money for our ministries!
Sometimes...IT IS EASY!

Shepherd's Legacy Society

People who have now included CGS in their will are

Gerry and Elaine Balcom

Charles and Pauline Lawrence

Joanne and David Emus

Lucille Mazur

Lyn Healy

Wendy MacGregor

Robin and Calann Hertel

The Rev. Dr. Odie and Heidi Odierna

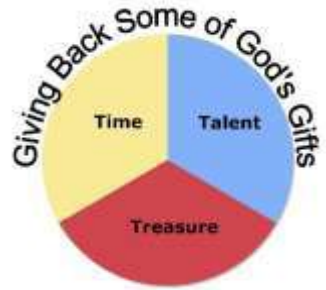
The Rev. Canon Charles LaFond

Alan and Jane Pardy

*If You Are Willing, Please Consider
Remembering Good Shepherd In Your Will*

Stewardship Corner

Greetings from the 2012 CGS Stewardship Team



Stewardship is more than simply contributing money to the Church via our annual pledge. Stewardship is our relationship with one another; it includes the organizations/groups within the CGS family that we support with our time and talents including food donations, set-up/clean-up activities for events, participating in meetings and projects; volunteering to be an acolyte, choir or altar guild member or usher; spring clean up of our CGS grounds, decking the hall and/or gingerbread house making are just a few favorite things you can participate in. Stewardship helps us link with one another and build relationships in new and profound ways while making ourselves, others and our Church stronger.

What are your favorite activities?? Never hesitate to join any group; you never know how enriching it will be for you **and** for others.

Sincerely,

Your Stewardship Committee

Sunday Memorials and Thanksgivings



If you wish to honor a family member or friend on a special Sunday, you could donate money for flowers (\$25), wine/wafers (\$20) or sanctuary candle (\$10). Please contact Carole at 603-465-7682 or by email csawdon@charter.net



CGS Daughters

CGS Daughter's Next meeting is Monday, March 12th at 6:30! All women invited!!

Green Team Corner:



In August of 2002, a group of the Anglican leaders came together to discuss, in part, the Stewardship of Creation. This meeting had many different outcomes, but one statement is noteworthy. A decade ago our leaders pointed out this principle:

“Our planetary crisis is environmental, but it is more than that. It is a crisis of the Spirit and the Body, which runs to the core of all that we hold sacred. It is characterized by deep poverty: impoverished people, an impoverished Earth. As people of faith, Christ draws us together to share responsibility for this crisis with all humanity.”

The Church of the Good Shepherd is stepping further into that responsibility, and will be establishing our own Environmental Committee called the “Green Team”.

The “Green Team” is composed of volunteers from the congregation, spanning from children to older adults, who are concerned about the environmental impact we are having and will strive to help reduce the ongoing damage. We will be meeting monthly to collaborate and find ways for the church to travel on this ecological journey together. It is an exciting time to be looking at how we can all be better stewards with that which God has entrusted us.

On February 5th we will be having another Sunday Forum time together that will focus on the greening of the Church of the Good Shepherd. Come join us for a delightful hot beverage and a discussion in the auditorium at 9 a.m. **Also the Wednesday Lenten Soup & Seminar series begins February 29th.** Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship, good eats, and more environmental stewardship engagement.

Over the next couple of months there will be many wonderful discussions and engagements.

Interested in what has happened or is going to happen? Join the team, attend the forums and other activities, email us questions, or find another way to get involved by contacting Pastor Alanna. Whatever you do to join in with the effort is welcome!

Sunday School

Kids Corner:

Children & Family Faith Formation



Godly Play: Building Relationships with God and Each Other

Our second semester in Sunday School is well underway with lots of exciting collaborations between the children's classrooms and complementary material to lessons provided by our stellar Volunteer Teachers. For Lent we'll be sending your child home with a Lenten at home help to enhance your journey of faith as a family for the season. In addition, this semester our "Green Team" youth members will collaborate with the Sunday School on various initiatives.

Our **Curriculum for the months of February and March** for 3 year olds through 4th Grade explore the parables told throughout Jesus' ministry as well as the Mystery of Easter and Faces of Easter during Lent. Then they will prepare for Lent beginning with their first story The Mystery of Easter. "The Riser's" group in 5th and 6th Grade has teamed up with children from younger grades teaching stories as well as creating collaborative projects. Please remember that Registration is available throughout the year for all children and families.

Sunday School Teacher's Meeting—February 12th and March 25th at 8 a.m.

Pastors Teach Sunday School:

Pastor Odie Teaches: 3 & 4 year olds Sunday, Feb 5th

K & 1st Grade Sunday, March 11th

Pastor Alanna Teaches: 2nd & 3rd Grade Sunday, March 25th

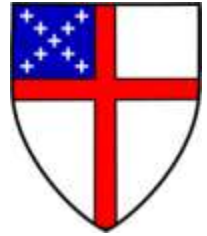
4th Grade Sunday, March 18th

Children's Eucharist—February 19th and March 18th 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.

From the Meadows: Going Green – Theology for Ecology, Part 1

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



CGS is going green! So wait, what does the green movement have to do with the church?

These days, everything. In fact, in 1998 the bishops of the Anglican Communion (the worldwide group of churches that have their origins in the Church of England) identified the environment as one of the most important moral and spiritual issues of our time. In the next two columns, I will elucidate some of the Christian theology for ecology.

Our call to green missions is grounded in four main Christian theological rivers: the role of Creation in our spirituality; the tradition of prophecy; our discipleship of Jesus; and our promises in the baptismal covenant. This column focuses on the first two rivers.

The Role of Creation

“The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it; the world and all that dwells therein.” (Psalm 24:1)

Our experience of God in this life is channeled through the natural world. Everyone has had experiences when a vision of God “breaks through” our everyday blind spots, and more often than not, these epiphanies happen in nature. Be it at the seashore, on a mountaintop, or in observation of wildlife, we know God because God manifests here. As a community, we need to remember the way the divine spirit is sacramentally present to us on earth, and treat our planet with reverence, as holy ground.

We also need to remember that we humans are called by God, in the Judeo-Christian tradition as told in Genesis, to be stewards of the earth because we are made both physically and spiritually. We can be living bridges between heaven and earth. But right now, it feels like our hinges are almost rusted through. We have fallen as a society and forgotten that creation is a gift that comes from God, not a property owned by us. We should be steered by our spirits, not our power, in tending the earth.

The Tradition of Prophecy

“What is asked of you but to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:1)

“In the twentieth century, the human impact on the earth increased enormously. In the last thirty years alone, human activity has destroyed many of the planet’s natural resources. Climate change, flooding, habitat destruction, desertification, pollution, urban expansion, and famine have all played their part. A third of all fish species and a quarter of all mammal species are in danger of extinction. One billion people now suffer from a shortage of fresh water. Environmental justice is directly linked to global poverty and economic justice.”

Environmental prospects appear bleak, but we should not be burying our heads in the sand. Our prophetic tradition calls us to see the injustice in our midst and to change, knowing that in God all things are possible. We Western Christians are now being called to see the injustice and environmental disaster that we have perpetrated and to widen our circles of justice to include all the earth. This is a moral and spiritual crisis, not merely a physical, social or fiscal one.

At Church of the Good Shepherd, we are taking our heads out of the sand and giving voice to the voiceless in our ecological ministry. Thus, being green prepares us for our work to love and serve the world.

Thanks be to God.

Church of the Good
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