



# First Fruits...Bring Your Best to God

— A message from the Annual Giving Committee

As we kick off our Annual Giving Campaign on January 22, 2012, we ask you to ponder the first stanza of Hymn #705.

*As those of old their first fruits brought  
of vineyard, flock, and field  
to God, the giver of all good,  
the source of bounteous yield,  
so we today our first fruits bring,  
the wealth of this good land:  
of farm and market, shop and home,  
of mind, and heart, and hand.*

As the verse indicates, we are called to bring our “first fruits” or our BEST to God, *not* the leftovers!

### Invitation

EVERY PARISHIONER is invited to come to a small group dinner meeting to participate in our exciting program *First Fruits...Bring Your Best to God*. There will be at least nine opportunities for you to participate. Here is your invitation:

### WHAT:

Annual Giving Program,  
*First Fruits...Bring Your Best to God*  
Twelve people per group

### WHEN:

Tuesday or Thursday evenings...  
Jan. 24, 26, 31  
Feb. 2, 7, 9, 14, 16  
6:00 PM at Pastor Becky & Gus’ then  
7:00 PM in the Patio Room  
Every evening meeting will begin with fellowship at Pastor Becky & Gus’ home, 617 Edgewater Dr. We will move to the

Patio Room afterward for the dinner and program.

Wednesday lunch and program  
Feb. 15, following the  
10:00 AM service (Lunch Bunch)  
**This gathering will NOT be limited to twelve people!**

The program on Wednesday, Feb. 15th, will be for the Lunch Bunch and they will meet in Kirk Hall as usual. Afterward, those who are interested will be welcomed to Pastor Becky & Gus’ home for a brief visit.

There is no charge to come! If you need transportation, please call Judy Warner [727 462-2525 home or 727 560-7581 cell].

### Gratitude Sunday

The Annual Giving Campaign will culminate on Gratitude Sunday, Feb. 19th. Our Estimate of Giving cards, indicating what we hope to contribute over the next 12 months, will be blessed on that day.

The Church of the Good Shepherd and its ministries will continue to be blessed by each and every one of us as we bring our best to God.

God’s every blessing be upon you!  
From the Good Shepherd Annual Giving Committee...

Gene Belote     Lela Highsmith  
Betty Fraley     Nancy Redd  
Becky Robbins-Penniman, Rector  
Judy Warner, Chair



**Bring your Best to God**

### Sign up

We ask that all parishioners make every effort to attend one of the gatherings. Please pick one of the dates and sign up in the breezeway or in Kirk Hall before or after the services beginning Jan. 8th. It will be fun, exciting, and educational.

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## Outreach

### Episcopal Relief and Development NetsForLife THANK YOU!

One year ago our Diocese asked this Parish to get behind the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund **NetsForLife** program. We hoped to fund the purchase of 88 nets over the course of a year. Your support was overwhelmingly given. You backed every event we brought to you... Shrimp Night. Hope Chests. Baseball Nite. Brotherhood Celtic Breakfast. You brought your money, your time, and your friends.



The year has ended; the final tally is in. We raised \$9,600. **We bought 800 malarial nets!** Maureen Belote, Diocese ERD representative, and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts. God is good. So are you.

Gus Robbins-Penniman  
Parish Episcopal Relief and Development Representative

#### Pack-A-Sack 4 Kids

Each week during the school year we deliver ten bags of nutritious small snacks to Dunedin Elementary School. The cost is around \$45 each week. We welcome any help: monetary donations,

contributing food from our list, or helping assemble the sacks each Wednesday. If you are interested please contact any of the following: Deborah Bouvier (727) 938-5059; Carol Cretella (727) 736-1102, or Betty Fraley (727) 474-2885.

#### Bagzilla

Our monthly support of Religious Community Services — Food Bank

• **Sunday, January 15**, return your filled grocery bag to be blessed before delivery to the RCS Food Bank.

Together we can make a difference to the hungry in our community.



**Following our Good Shepherd  
in Delightful Dunedin for 125 years!  
Join the Party...**

**Saturday • January 21**

Dinner and Decades Party at Bon Appetit Restaurant in  
Dunedin from 6:00 – 10:00 PM

Tickets are \$50 per person • Reservations required



**Your  
Attention  
Please**

When reviewing your year-end financial statement, please note... Beginning in 2011 our Annual Giving calendar year [March– Feb.] does not coincide with the calendar year [Jan.– Dec.]. Two months remain in the 2011 annual giving cycle.

**Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace  
University...**

**Wednesdays • Jan. 11 – April 4 • 6:30–8:30 PM**

in the Parish Hall of

**St. John's Episcopal Church**

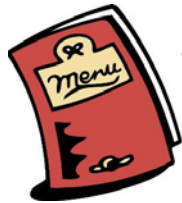
1676 S. Belcher Road • Clearwater, FL

Please contact St. John's Episcopal Church by phone: (727) 531-6020 or e-mail: [churchoffice@stjohnsclearwater.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsclearwater.org)

## Spirit Café

### — A Smorgasbord of Worship on Saturday Evenings

We had a great time experimenting with alternative worship in Spirit Café last winter. We've created a new menu for this winter, with a variety of services to pique your interest and engage your spirit. Some will be more traditional, some will be more experiential, and all of them will be different from Sunday. We hope EVERYONE will attend AT LEAST one of them.



Every Saturday  
Jan. 7 – Apr. 7

#### The Menu

Spirit Café will meet every Saturday at 5:00 p.m. from January 7 through April 7

- **1st Saturdays: Wonder, Love & Praise:** Prayer and praise music and worship
- **2nd Saturdays: Celtic Celebration:** the ancient traditions of the Anglican churches in Scotland and New Zealand.
- **3rd Saturdays: Icons, Candles & Chant:** A contemplative, prayer-soaked service
- **4th Saturdays: Soul Work:** Worship while engaging our spiritual journeys
- **5th Saturdays: Drumming up Hope:** Worship within a lively Drum Circle.

## Are You Interested in Serving on the Vestry?

### — Respond by January 22, 2012

Along with the clergy, the Vestry has the privilege and responsibility of leading the congregation in worship, fellowship, service and, of course, temporal matters. As the Church of the Good Shepherd re-imagines ways of bringing the hope and truth of our ancient faith to bear on the realities of life in the 21st century, the dedication and excitement needed to serve effectively on the Vestry is obvious.

#### Requirements

The basic requirements are: you must be a member of the church; at least 18 years old; a giver of record; and a proven leader of a ministry. You must also be willing to commit to faithfully attend each monthly Vestry meeting; the Vestry retreats; important diocesan programs intended for Vestry members; and be active in attending and supporting parish functions. If you qualify, and are willing to commit to the above, please get a questionnaire from the office, fill it in and return it to the office no later than January 22, 2012.

### Would you like to become a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd?

Please contact the office

- 727-733-4125
- [goodnews@churchgoodshepherd.org](mailto:goodnews@churchgoodshepherd.org)

*We look forward to hearing from you!*



#### Questionnaire

To ensure the members of the congregation have what they need to make an informed decision, there will be no nominations from the floor at the annual meeting. Only candidates who complete the questionnaire will appear on the ballot; their responses will be compiled and shared with everyone. Voting will take place at the annual meeting on February 5, 2012.

### Budget Information Sessions

The Rector and Treasurer will be available to answer any questions you have about the Vestry's 2012 budget...

- **Sunday, Jan. 29 at 11:30 AM** in the Patio Room
- **Wednesday, Feb. 1 at 5:30 PM** in the Patio Room

*The budget will be available after the Vestry meeting on January 25, 2012*



A sign-up sheet for **nametags** is located in the back of the church. Please print clearly!

## Just a Reminder...

— A message from Endowment Board chair, Shirl Ahrens

Follow-up of any kind requires taking action. That is sometimes difficult because we tend to procrastinate and tell ourselves we will do it tomorrow... especially when it deals with end-of-life planning!

As Pastor Becky has said, "If you die without planning your memorial service, do you know what will happen? Usually your family doesn't have the first clue what to choose for readings, music, or type of service. So what you get is what the priest likes... it may not be at all what

you would have preferred."

**We** can make the choices... **we** can take the time necessary to consider what is meaningful to us and what we want in our own memorial service...and **we** need to do it now!

If you attended Pastor Becky's "End of Life Celebration" seminar in October 2011 you received the necessary forms to complete. If you do not have the forms and you need assistance with this planning process, you may obtain the *Guide to Planning a Memorial Service* and the

accompanying form from Jan Cote in the church office. Please document your wishes on the form and return it to the church office where it will be kept in the confidential binder. Remember...do it now!



*This message is brought to you from the Board of Trustees of the Endowment Fund.*

## Don't Forget...

### Altar Flowers

On any given Sunday, flowers will be ordered for the chancel only if there are sponsors for **both vases** for that week. If you would like to sponsor and pay for our two vases, the cost is \$50 per week. A sign-up sheet for 2012 is on a clipboard in the back of the church.

### Web Photo Album

If you have pictures in JPG format of church events, please e-mail them to [gene@churchgoodshepherd.org](mailto:gene@churchgoodshepherd.org) so Gene Metzger can place them on the web site.

### Church Sign

Thousands of people see our sign on Edgewater Drive every day. The Communications Committee is looking for a Witty Word Wizard to take on the weekly challenge of advertising events and entertaining passers-by with snappy copy. It's easy, and fun, and you'll get to work with the delightful church staff. Call Jan in the Church Office [733-4125] if you're interested.

### Music Basics

Would you like to freshen up your music knowledge and learn the basics of music notation? **Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.** we meet in the choir room for a music refresher course. Bob Shone will take you through the basics of counting and notation along with how to relate this material to singing and playing hand bells. Show up any Thursday at 11:30 in the choir room for Basic Music Notation.

### Choir

Rehearsals have begin for our Adult Choir. Please join us in the rehearsal room Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. Contact our organist, Bob Shone, for more information.



### Amazon

If you access your Amazon account for an order from the Church Web site main page [www.churchgoodshepherd.org](http://www.churchgoodshepherd.org) by clicking on the Amazon link, the Parish will receive a commission on your purchases at no charge to you. You still use your own account for the orders.

### Room Requests

To reserve a room at Good Shepherd, contact the church office [733-4125 or [goodnews@churchgoodshepherd.org](mailto:goodnews@churchgoodshepherd.org).]

We need the following information: name of group, contact person (phone, e-mail), meeting day, start and stop time, and what room you would like to use. Any special set-up instructions should be given to our Sexton, Garry Lumm, cell phone: 415-0737. Rooms are limited, make requests early!

**If you are interested in serving on the Endowment Board, please talk to Pastor Becky (733-4125) or Shirl Ahrens (462-2525).**

# Activities and Meetings in December

— A calendar of scheduled meetings at Good Shepherd

## Special Events

- Jan. 2: **Office closed New Year's Day**
- Jan. 5: **Missio: Engage Team**  
6:30 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Jan. 11: **Homeowners Meeting**  
5:00 p.m. in Kirk Hall
- Jan. 15: **Bagzilla Returns**
- Jan. 16: **Office closed MLK, Jr. Day**
- Jan. 22: **Newsletter Deadline**
- Jan. 24, 26, 31: **First Fruits Dinners**  
6:00 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Jan. 26: **Endowment Board Meeting**  
2:00 p.m. in the Patio Room

## Monthly

- Jan. 1: **Daughters of the King**  
11:30 a.m. in the Patio Room
- Jan. 4: **Mease Manor Service**  
3:00 p.m. at Mease Manor
- Jan. 4 & 25: **Vestry Meeting**  
6:00 p.m. in the Patio Room

- Jan. 8: **Brotherhood of Good Shepherd**  
11:15 a.m. in Classroom 1
- Jan. 8: **Christian Formation**  
11:15 a.m. in the Patio Room
- Jan. 9: **Episcopal Church Women**  
4:00 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Jan. 10: **Building & Grounds**  
5:00 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Jan. 11: **Lunch Bunch**  
11:30 a.m. in Kirk Hall
- Jan. 15: **Brotherhood Breakfast**  
9:00 a.m. in Kirk Hall
- Jan. 15: **Storytellers**  
2:00 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Jan. 17: **Finance Committee**  
1:30 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Jan. 17: **Worship Committee**  
6:00 p.m. in the Choir Room
- Jan. 19: **Membership Committee**  
5:30 p.m. in Patio Room
- Jan. 26: **OSL Healing Ministry**  
6:00 p.m. in Kirk Hall

## Weekly

- Sunday: **Worship and Communion**  
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.  
**Bible Journey with Pastor Roen**  
9:00 a.m. in the Patio Room  
**125th Anniversary Planning**  
11:30 a.m. in the Patio Room  
**Missio Engage Team**  
5:00 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Monday: **Tighten n' Tone**  
11:00 a.m. in the Patio Room
- Tuesday: **Yoga Class** 10:00 a.m.  
**Rotary Luncheon Meeting**  
**Music Lessons** 3:30–6:30 p.m.  
**Education for Ministry**  
6:30 p.m. at St. John in Clwr.  
**AA Meetings** 8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday: **Communion Service**  
10:00 a.m. in the church
- Thursday: **Staff Meeting** 10:00 a.m.  
**Yoga Class** 10:00 a.m. Classrm. 3  
**Music Basics** 11:30 a.m. Choir rm.  
**Choir Rehearsal** 7:00 p.m.
- Friday: **Al Anon Group**  
9:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Patio Room  
**Yoga Class** 10:00 a.m. Classrm. 3  
**HOW Group** 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday: **Spirit Cafe** 5:00 p.m.  
**AA Meeting**  
8:30 p.m. in Kirk Hall

# Celebrations in January

## Birthdays

- Jan. 4 ..... R. Scott Hood
- Jan. 11 ..... Indra Eldridge
- Jan. 18 ..... Barbara Lawton  
Petros Koutsopanagos  
Miguel Solari  
Tony Conte
- Jan. 19 ..... John Connell
- Jan. 22 ..... Tom Dixon
- Jan. 24 ..... Gene Belote

- Jan. 30 ..... Linda Williams
- Jan. 31 ..... Janet Ozbun

## Anniversaries

- Jan. 6 ..... Deborah and Carey Hill
- Jan.. 23 ..... Matt and Jennifer Sullivan
- Jan. 24 ..... Daniel and Lisa Little

Missed you? Please call Jan at 733-4125 as soon as possible. We would like to get your name on the bulletin listings.



The deadline for the

# February

issue of our newsletter is

**Sun. • Jan. 22 • midnight**

**The Annual  
Parish Meeting  
will be held on  
Sunday, Feb. 5**



Committee reports or other information to be included in the Annual Report should be turned in to the office by  
**January 8, 2012.**

## The Church of the Good Shepherd • Dunedin, Florida

**Our Vision:** The Church of the Good Shepherd is called by God to seek out, bring home, nurture and feed the people of God in the name of His Son, Jesus Christ.

**Our Mission:** We respond to this call by: **valuing** the expression of God through all peoples – **sharing** the Word of God through the celebration of the Episcopal Liturgy – **inviting** full participation into the life of our congregation – **responding** to the needs of our parish and the greater community.

### STAFF

Becky Robbins-Penniman ..... Rector  
Robert Shone ..... Organist/Choir Director  
Jan Cote ..... Administrative Assistant  
Garry Lumm ..... Sexton  
Sue Boone ..... Bookkeeper  
Judy Warner ..... Treasurer  
Gene Metzger ..... Web site Manager

### ENDOWMENT BOARD TRUSTEES

*Class of 2012* ..... Shirl Ahrens, President  
*Class of 2013* ..... Phyllis Sipos, Treasurer  
*Class of 2012* ..... Joe Nixon, Secretary  
*Class of 2014* ..... Scott Hood, Vice President

### VESTRY

Senior Warden ..... Tom Dixon  
Junior Warden ..... Betty Fraley  
Worship ..... Jane Morris  
Outreach/Evangelism ..... Betty Fraley  
Administration ..... Richard Gehring  
Membership/Incorporation ..... Andrea Zahn  
Building & Grounds ..... Dan Smith  
Christian Formation ..... Jane Morris  
Finance/Stewardship ..... Lela Highsmith  
Finance/Stewardship ..... Judy Warner  
Communications ..... Andrea Zahn  
Hospitality/Special Events ..... Brian Sharpe  
Clerk of the Vestry ..... Jan Cote

*Class of 2012:* Betty Fraley, Lela Highsmith, Tom Dixon  
*Class of 2013:* Brian Sharpe, Dan Smith, Judy Warner  
*Class of 2014:* Jane Morris, Andrea Zahn,  
Richard Gehring

Thank you for your submissions to the monthly newsletter. We reserve the right to edit articles submitted for content and length.

www.churchofthegoodshepherd.org

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