



September 2011

Gas Station or Fire Station?

— **Note:** This is a portion of the sermon I gave Sunday, August 28th. I wanted our whole Good Shepherd community to have the opportunity to consider my message, rather than only the ones who happened to be present that day.

As of this coming Thursday, I will have been here for a whole year. It's been a wonderful adventure coming to know and love this corner of God's Kingdom here in Dunedin, and Gus and I truly love it here

Over the last year, I've been listening to your stories and your dreams to discern who we are, where we have been, where we are now, where we are going, and how we're going to get there. As we start our second year, I believe we're at a crossroads. We get to make some decisions about what happens next, and what we decide will have permanent implications. To focus our thinking, I have a question for this congregation. What do we want for our future – honestly?

Is it first and foremost to be an internally-focused church, serving the needs of the people who choose to come here?

OR

Is it first and foremost to be and externally-focused church serving the needs of the community around us?

To put it another way,
Do we want to be a gas station?

OR

Do we want to be a fire station?

Gas Stations

A gas station is a place we go to, but only when **we** think we need to, to get **only** what **we** want. The basic focus is self-oriented: if I go here, what's in it for me? We certainly do not expect the cashier to ask us to do anything but pay for what we got. In fact, if you are like me, you prefer not to talk to anyone at all. Let me pump my gas, pay for it outside, and leave. And if that gas station doesn't give me what I expect, well, there are plenty of others, now, aren't there?

A church can be seen as a sort of spiritual gas station. It's a place we go to, but **only** when **we** think we need to and to get only what we want. We make our contribution and off we go. We don't expect anyone to ask anything more from us. And, if we don't like what we got at that church, well, there are plenty of others, now, aren't there?

Fire Stations

Contrast that with a fire station – a **volunteer** fire station. In a volunteer fire department, a bunch of people get together for a common purpose. The basic question is other-oriented: as we do this, how well will we serve the community? Everyone promises to support the effort. Some do it with their money; others take the time and effort to learn

how to fight fires and do first aid. When a call for help comes, they leave the station, using the equipment purchased with the money given. When they're done, they come back, clean up their stuff, talk over what they did right, what they could do better next time, and maybe have a bite to eat with each other. Then they go home... and listen for the next call for help.

If only one person volunteers to staff the fire station, the area will get whatever one person can do, which is not much. To be effective, a number of people have to be involved. What if 5% help out? What if 20% offer protection? If 80% get involved...? Well, which staffing would you want in your community?

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Gas Station or Fire Station?

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And a church can be like a fire station, too. We come for a common purpose: to worship God and follow Jesus. Some of us support this with our money, others become equipped to do certain things. Then we look at the community around us to see where God's grace is needed, and respond by going out the way Jesus went out. Paul talked about what Christian "firefighters" do: we go out to bless and rejoice and associate with the lowly; we go out to be noble and peaceable, to feed the hungry and thirsty – even if they are our enemies; we go out to overcome evil with good. Then we come back, clean up our equipment, talk over what we did well, and what we could do better, and maybe have a bite to eat with each other.

If only one person volunteers to do this, the community will get whatever one person can do, which is not much. To be effective, a number of people have to be involved. What if 5% help out? What if 20% offer grace? If 80% get involved? Well, which staffing would you want in your community?

Obviously, churches don't save lives by putting out fires, but we do save lives by living the gospel. And, ironically enough – the life we save is our own. When we put our own wants and desires last, when we put our mind on divine things and take up our cross and following Jesus, **we are finding, for ourselves, the only life worth living.**

We Pick up Our Cross to Find a Life Worth Living

That last point is key: in living this way, this Jesus way, this cross way, we find that we come near to the kingdom, the glory of God, **before** we taste death. Following Jesus with our cross doesn't mean bearing a horrible heavy burden. Jesus didn't come into the world to lay heavy burdens on us – that's what the chief priests and scribes and Pharisees did to folks. No, Jesus came to bring us close to the Kingdom, to see God at work in the world, right here and right now. His life and death were a sacrifice for God's sake – a sacrifice so focused and committed that it led him to the cross his enemies nailed him to.

But as I've said before, "sacrifice" doesn't mean "suffer;" "sacrifice" literally, from the Latin, means "to make holy." And what is holiness? It's justice, it's shalom, it's wholeness, health, healing, it's the way God intended things to be from the beginning without human sin messing it up. To obey Jesus' command to be a disciple is to be a living sacrifice – an active holiness maker **now**, *before* you taste death. Who is qualified for the work of making holiness? The short answer is: anyone who is willing to do the work. Take Moses, for example. We're used to thinking of him as being a supersaint, but he didn't have a very promising start. He was a murderer. He

was a foreigner. He was a shepherd. And yet, God chose an alien farmworker with a rap sheet to make a sacrifice – to make the world holier – by leading people out from oppression. If God can use Moses, believe me, God can use each one of us, regardless of age, gender, skill, or background.

As we enter my second year at Good Shepherd, tell me: what do you want me to help you become? a spiritual gas station, focused on our needs and wants? or a spiritual fire station, focused on the community? If we want to be a spiritual gas station, that'll be pretty easy for me. Frankly, we won't have to do much different than what we do now – we might even be able to do less. But I can tell you what will happen: within ten years, our doors will close for good.

BUT, if we want to be a spiritual fire station, to serve the community, I believe we have a wonderful future, because really, you can't have too many fire stations – not volunteer ones, anyway. Truthfully, that will take more work from me **AND** from you, and I'm going to spend a good deal of time on that with you this fall. But, again, this work, this cross, is not supposed to be a horrible burden, but a way to give glory to God and have our lives matter. It all gets back to each of us finding out what we're good at, what we love, what makes our heart sing, and then doing it for God's sake. Because when you do it for God's sake instead of **just** your own, you make a sacrifice, you make the world holier, and that's just what Jesus expects from his disciples.

No, Jesus doesn't ask much from us – only that we lose our life for his sake. But, as others have pointed out, if you make the sacrifice and follow him, the pay is terrible, but the retirement benefits are out of this world!

Looking for a Sign from God? This is IT!

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 if you're interested.

The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew

— Good Shepherd Chapter news

The men of the Brotherhood invite all men to join with us in helping Good Shepherd grow. Our main agenda is to use fellowship, outreach and evangelism to attract new parishioners to Christ Jesus, through the work He has called us to do.

We have chosen to feed the flock with a breakfast every third Sunday and collect a small sum for our outreach work.

- In June we gave \$250 dollars to the Dominican Development Group to sponsor missionaries in helping the Episcopal Church grow in the Dominican Republic.
- We also donated \$250 to Episcopal Relief and Development for relief in areas of the US that have suffered from tornados and flooding.
- We were proud to use the breakfast collection May 16th to contribute \$265 to the Mission Trip for the Good Shepherd Team going to the Dominican Republic.
- Last year, we contributed \$200 to the general fund to help with expenses.

The Brotherhood has some ideas on going out in the community in participation in events held in Dunedin. We hope by doing so, to advertise our parish and make our work known throughout the community. We might even make some money while doing so. However, to do so, we need more people, men and women to be a part of this outreach and evangelism. If you are interested in being a part of this work, please contact Gene Belote, Gus Robbins-Penniman, Don Chandler, or Brian Sharpe and let us know.

In Dunedin for 125 Years

— Join the Party!

Mark your calendars now for these celebrations...

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| October 2 | Spaghetti Dinner at 3:00 PM
Outdoor Blessing of the Animals Service |
| November 5 | Pass out water bottles on Pinellas Trail |
| November 20 | Celtic Festival Service at 10:00 AM
Community Breakfast
Celtic Storytelling at 2:00 PM |
| November 24 | Thanksgiving Dinner following the
10:00 AM Worship Service |
| December 3 | Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show |
| December 10 | Christmas Parade |
| December 11 | Bishop's visit and reception |
| December 18 | Community Breakfast with St. Nick |
| December 21 | Drum Circle at 5:30 PM |
| December 28 | 125th Anniversary Service at 10:00 AM
with luncheon to follow |
| January 21 | Dinner and Decades Party at Bon Appetit |
- The 125th Anniversary planning committee has been hard at work the past several weeks. We have other events that are still being planned. If you would like to help with an event or have any ideas for other events, please contact Cheryl Sharpe at 727-458-7291 or E-mail clsharp1959@tampabay.rr.com. Come join us at our meetings following the 10:00 AM Sunday Service in the Patio Room.



Service of Remembrance, Peace and Hope

In addition to special attention to the anniversary of 9/11 as part the Sunday morning liturgies, the Church of the Good Shepherd is gathering with other area congregations for joint worship in the evening. Pastor Becky and other members of Good Shepherd will participate in leading the service.

5:00 PM, Sunday, Sept. 11

The Church of the Ascension • 401 Orange Ave., Clearwater, FL

Outreach Opportunities

Pack-A-Sack 4 Kids

Each week during the school year we deliver ten bags of nutritious small snacks to Dunedin Elementary School. They are given to children on Friday that are at risk of having nothing to eat on the week-end.



Each sack contains a combination of 6–10 items such as cereal, fruit rollups, chicken vienna sausages, peanut butter, crackers, apple sauce, fruit or pudding cups, granola bars, raisins, cookies, and milk. The cost is around \$45 each week. We welcome any help you would like to give: 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) 736-2979; Carol Cretella (727) 736-1102, or Betty Fraley (727) 474-2885.

Community Event Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to man the toll booths at the entry to Honeymoon Island State Park for the **14th Annual**

Halloween in the Park event. Volunteers will be collecting the entry fee on Friday, Oct. 28, and Saturday, Oct. 29, for a two-hour shift beginning at either 5:30 or 7:30 p.m. No prior experience is required and costumes are encouraged. If you are interested, please contact Joe Nixon at (917) 304-8459.

Bagzilla

Our monthly support of Religious Community Services — Food Bank

- On Sunday, September 11, everyone will receive a grocery bag with a list attached of the items Religious Community Services Food Bank needs the most.
- The following **Sunday, September 18**, return your filled bag to be blessed before delivery to the RCS Food Bank.

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

Pillowcase Dresses

Make a Pillowcase Dress... **Saturday, Sept. 10**, 1:00–4:00 p.m. at Good Sa-

maritan Episcopal Church, 2165 NE Coachman Rd., Clearwater. They are making Pillowcase dresses to be sent to little girls in Haiti. 36 dresses have already been sent to the Barahona mission in the Dominican Republic. Supplies needed: slightly used or new pillowcases, any length, solid color or pattern or cotton material, bias tape—extra wide, double fold, ribbon, elastic, any type of trim [ruffle, lace, buttons], scissors, and pins. And, sewing machines!

For information and photos, visit www.dressagirlaroundtheworld.com. RSVP by calling 727-644-7424 or e-mail sharpcdc@hotmail.com



**Community
Missions**

Pinellas Home Energy Symposium

On Sept. 24, 2011, the Pinellas Energy Efficiency Project of Pinellas County Extension will hold the first annual Pinellas Home Energy Symposium. This three-hour educational symposium will focus on:

- The unique challenges faced by Pinellas homeowners seeking to achieve lower power bills
- The current situation of energy production and supply in central Florida
- The best retrofit and upgrades for Pinellas homes to achieve energy efficiency

A keynote address by Dr. Jennifer Languell, award-winning green building engineer with 15 years experience developing sustainable building techniques in Florida will start the symposium.

Experts will be on hand to address:

- Retrofits and improvements for energy efficiency
- Solar options for Pinellas County residents
- The most cost-effective investments for energy efficiency
- Financing energy retrofits
- Incentives for improvements

Registration

Registration is required; each of the registered participants will receive an LED light that can replace a 60W incandescent bulb, saving 80% of the energy that would be wasted by the incandescent. A \$50 value!

Don't delay. Class size is limited to the first 150 registrants. Register online at: www.pinellascountyextension.org

Save the Date

Sept. 24, 2011 • 9:00 a.m. until noon.
Pinellas County Extension
12520 Ulmerton Rd., Largo, FL 33774

A Bag and a Buck For the Troops

— A Christian Formation project from Jane Morris

Donations and supplies for our Troops are EXTREMELY low, so we are doing a “**Ziploc Bag and a Buck**” drive for our Troops. Please fill a gallon size Ziploc bag with items for The Troops and drop a buck inside for postage. Please help us spread the word to anyone who would like to fill one (or more) with goodies: your neighbors, relatives, colleagues, social club, church, school, girls scouts/boys scouts troops, etc.

Treats For Troops ships about 6 TONS of care packages every week to the very remote war zones where our loved ones, defending our freedoms (sometimes with their own lives) don't have access

to a PX or Commissary (store on base). That means that these soldiers don't even have access to toothpaste and feminine hygiene products. It costs us \$1 a pound, so our postage bill every month is \$60,000.

Just two rules:

- do NOT mix food with soap items.
- NO CHOCOLATE at this time of year.

Suggested Items for the Bags

Non-Food Items

Feminine Hygiene Products, Shampoo, Body Wash, Body Lotion, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Floss, Mouthwash, **Large** Baby Wipes, Soap,

Disposable Cameras, Batteries (AA and C), Visine or other Eye Drops, Envelopes, Stationery, Pens, Hand Sanitizer, Travel Games, Playing Cards, Lip Balm, Sun Screen, Q-Tips, Shaving Cream, Razors, Small Hotel Soaps & Shampoos are very popular.

Food Items

Instant Soups, Instant Beverages (drink mixes), Ice Teas, Lemonade, Kool-Aid (with sugar already mixed), Coffee, Tea, Cookies, Crackers (plain & cheese) especially lunch box packs w/ individual servings, Cereal Bars, Granola Bars, Microwave Popcorn, Power Bars, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, Foil Bag Tuna or Tuna Snack “Kits”

A Traveler's Guide to the New Testament

— Christian Formation opportunities at Good Shepherd

Living the New Life

On September 11, during the Sunday School, hour **Pastor Bill Roen** will begin a course intended for those who are interested in reading through the New Testament in a disciplined and intentional way. The class will be structured as a spiritual journey, and will offer a schedule of daily readings with the opportunity to ask the deep questions and meditate upon the answers along the way.

Sunday sessions will place the New Testament writers in their historical context and suggest the ways they are in harmony and in tension with one another. Classes will deal seriously with the Bible as the active Word of God which challenges us to live “The New Life” modeled on the life of Christ. Again and again, in the light of the Gospel witnesses, we will be asking the essential question of Christian discipleship—What does the Lord want me to do with the rest of my life?

Come and join in the journey starting September 11. Pastor Roen's blog on the Old Testament books of Genesis through Malachi is available online at <http://PastorBillRoen.blogspot.com>.

Youth Sunday School

Youth Christian Formation— Sunday School registration— September 11 at 9:45 AM, downstairs in the Christian Formation Room. We're looking forward to another spirit filled year with our New curriculum— *Living the Good News*, a Lectionary based program. There is also a preschool program available that we will use for our drop in preschoolers.

We are always looking for Teachers if you are interested please email the Church office. For more information contact Jane Morris at 784-4669.

Education for Ministry

The application deadline for this Fall's seminar is quickly approaching and

space is limited. Both Good Shepherd and St. John's are blessed with several E/M graduates and a few current students in various years. Ask them about their E/M experience and what it was like for them.

For more information about attending or just ask questions, contact the church office at St. John's at 727-581-6020 or Bonnie Rosendale, mentor, at 727-466-8389, or by email:

bjrosendale@earthlink.net, but hurry – the summer season is flying by!

Trunk or Treat

It is that time again... October 28th at 6:00 PM! Time to start planning your Halloween Trunk or Treat costume. This is how it works, children come to the Good Shepherd parking lot where we all have our trunks (and ourselves) decorated and we pass out treats. There will be a bounce house, spooky storytelling and hotdogs!!! Please email Jane Morris— Rustydogg1300@aol to reserve a parking spot.

A Missionary Adventure in Haiti— Is It For You?

— An invitation from Pastor Bill Roen

The International Village of Hope is seeking intrepid missionaries who are willing to spend a week this coming February teaching and working in Haiti. Haiti is the poorest country in both the northern and western hemisphere, and a trip there under any circumstances is a challenge. But for those who are willing to open themselves to it, Haiti is a fascinating land of great beauty and mystery, as well as terrible poverty and crying need.

The place where we will be staying while we are there—Christianville Mission in rural Gressier—is safe and within walking distance of one of the schools where we will be working. The food is wholesome and familiar, and the

water is excellent for drinking and bathing. There is a clinic at the mission staffed with American doctors.

We are planning a full week of enrichment activities with the elementary children at the two schools that the International Village of Hope supports there—English language exercises, music, games, craft activities, and simple science experiments. Translators will be provided. Obviously, we are encouraging retired teachers to bring their skills, but anyone who has good health and a flexible disposition is welcome. (Talk with your physician before you make a decision to go. Some shots are necessary and others are highly recommended.)

There may also be an opportunity to stay with a remarkable missionary named Sue Witt, who directs a small orphanage in Port-au-Prince. At the moment she has fifteen children in the home awaiting adoption, and she always needs help and company—she is alone there apart from the Haitian women who help her. (There is almost always a baby that needs rocking.)



“a full week of enrichment activities with elementary children”

The trip is scheduled—tentatively—for February 11–18, 2011. The airfare from Tampa will be around \$500, and there is a very moderate cost for staying at the Christianville guesthouse. (Go on line to Christianville Mission to see it.) Those who go on this mission trip are challenged to raise the funds necessary by enlisting sponsors rather than using their own funds. If you need help with that, or have any questions about the trip please feel free to call Pastor Bill Roen at 912-220-0841 or email him at billroen@yahoo.com.

Last Things First

– Joe Nixon introduces a seminar series coming this Fall

As we begin our celebratory 125th year here at the Church of the Good Shepherd, have you ever wondered how we managed to come this far? This fall you will hear from Pastor Becky and your elected Endowment Board Trustees of how deliberate planning by those who came before us resulted in legacies that support us today.

Tentative dates and topics include:

- Planned Giving and EOL Celebration— Pastor Becky (Oct. 23 and Oct. 27)
- History and Purpose of Endowment Fund— Trustees (Oct. 30 and Nov. 3)
- Endowment Fund Investments— representative from ProVise Financial (Nov. 6 and Nov. 10)
- Advanced Care Directives— Dr. Cynthia Paganini (Nov. 13 and Nov. 17)

In order that all may attend this educational series, the one-hour presentations will be delivered on Sundays at 11:30 AM and repeated on Thursdays at 6 PM each week for four consecutive weeks, beginning Sunday, October 23, 2011. Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us for this enlightening series, where we will explore more Church of the Good Shepherd history and the legacies left in our care.

Keep an eye out for additional details, such as weekly topics, in future newsletters.

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



Shirl Ahrens • Scott Hood • Joe Nixon • Phyllis Sipos

Activities and Meetings in September

— A calendar of scheduled meetings at Good Shepherd

Special Events

- Sept. 11: **Adult Forum begins!**
9:00 a.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 11: **Joint Service of Remembrance**
5:00 p.m. Church of the Ascension
- Sept. 18: **Spirit Cafe returns!**
5:30 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 18: **Bagzilla Returns**
- Sept. 25: **Newsletter Deadline**

Monthly

- Sept. 4: **Daughters of the King**
11:30 a.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 7: **Mease Manor Service**
3:00 p.m. at Mease Manor
- Sept. 10: **Taizé Service** • 5:00 p.m.
- Sept. 11: **Christian Formation**
11:15 a.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 11: **Brotherhood of Good Shepherd**
11:15 a.m. in Classroom 1

- Sept. 12: **Episcopal Church Women**
4:00 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 13: **Building & Grounds**
5:00 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 15: **Membership Committee**
5:30 p.m. in Patio Room
- Sept. 15: **Communications Team**
6:30 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 18: **Brotherhood Breakfast**
9:00 a.m. in Kirk Hall
- Sept. 20: **Worship Committee**
7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room
- Sept. 20: **Finance/Endowment Workshop**
1:30 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 22: **OSL Healing Ministry**
6:00 p.m. in the Patio Room
- Sept. 28: **Vestry**
6:00 p.m. in the Patio Room



Weekly

- Sunday: **Worship and Communion**
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.
125th Anniversary Planning
11:30 a.m. in Kirk Hall
- Monday: **Chair Yoga**
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. in the Patio Room
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.
- Friday: **AI 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: **AA Meeting**
8:30 p.m. in Kirk Hall

125th Anniversary Celebration

— Dinner/Decades Party announcement from Miriam Nixon

On Saturday, January 21, 2012, from 6:00 through 10:00 PM, we will be celebrating our 125th Anniversary with a dinner/decades party at Bon Appetit Restaurant, located at 150 Marina Plaza, in downtown Dunedin. Tickets will be \$50/pp or \$450/table of 10, which will include dinner (with a choice of beef, chicken or fish), soda, dessert and coffee. A cash bar will be available for those wishing to purchase alcoholic beverages.

Invitations will be mailed out at the end of September to all parishioners of record. Enclosed with the invitations will be a reply card indicating preference of meal. Reply cards are due by

November 21, 2011 – your cooperation with this deadline will be appreciated. You may either mail the cards or place them in the collection basket on any Sunday or Wednesday.

If you would like to have invitations mailed to friends or someone who has history with Good Shepherd, please contact Miriam Benitez-Nixon either via email:

(miriambenitez2003@yahoo.com) or write a note to her with their name and address, and drop it in the collection basket any Sunday or Wednesday before November 21, 2011.

A DJ will lead the party with music from the forties through the present. In order that your favorite songs are

played that evening, contact Carol Cretella either via email: (cretella_carol@yahoo.com) or write a note to her with the names of the songs/artists, and drop it in the collection basket on any Sunday or Wednesday before December 31, 2011. Carol will be coordinating with the DJ to select the music to be played throughout the evening.

We are looking forward to celebrating our 125th year in Dunedin with old and new friends at this beautiful venue. Please join the party. . .

Communications Committee Survey

As mentioned last month, based on 85 completed surveys (63 online & 22 hardcopy), here are the details of the parish news survey:

1. Tell us how you currently receive your church news?
 - 55% Sunday or Wednesday announcements
 - 54% Parish Website
 - 46% Printed Weekly / Monthly Newsletters
 - 41% when prompted by email
 - 33% Word of Mouth
2. How do you currently prefer to receive your church news?
 - 55% Website
 - 29% Hardcopy at church
 - 12% Hardcopy via mail
3. How often do you need to hear church news?
 - 83% Weekly
 - 15% Monthly
4. Which new articles are of most interest to you?
 - 100% Events
 - 77% Calendar
 - 70% Outreach programs and results of each program
 - 68% Prayer List
 - 61% Community News
 - 57% Staff/Church/Leadership Information
5. What else would you like to see in our newsletters?

Responses fell into three categories...

People: Attendance figures, accomplishments, who's who, articles written by parishioners, who's in the hospital

Events: volunteer opportunities, what's going on at other churches, are there any large religious events in the area

Finances: how are we doing, parish financial reports
6. Would you like to receive your church news via email?
 - 70% Yes
 - 17% No
 - 12% Maybe
7. If you have an email address, how often do you read your messages?
 - 67% Daily
 - 26% Few times a week
 - 6% Sporadically
 - 1% Weekly

8. Have you ever visited the parish website?
 - 79% Yes
 - 21% No

If yes, how often?

 - 16% Weekly
 - 11% Several times a week
 - 11% Every two weeks
 - 9% Monthly
 - 9% Every couple of months
 - 9% Sporadically
 - 6% As needed
 - 2% Daily
9. If you visit the website, please tell us why?
 - 66% Monthly Calendar
 - 66% Weekly Newsletter
 - 66% Special Events information
 - 61% Photo Gallery
 - 47% Sunday Bulletin
 - 44% Link to Pastor's sermon
 - 37% Staff/Church/Leadership information
 - 31% Outreach Programs
 - 29% Server/Usher/Lector Schedule
 - 23% Devotional Materials
 - 21% Vestry Minutes
 - 16% Parish Financial Reports
 - 15% Links to other sites
 - 6% Room Availability

10. What else would you like to see on the parish website?
 - Information on bible studies, who's who in the parish, Capital/Building plans

As you can tell by the responses, many of us are becoming more comfortable using the website and adapting to electronic means of communications— but there are still some of us that prefer to receive our news face-to-face or via hardcopy. Whichever your preference, be assured that Pastor Becky, the Vestry and our committee leaders are all in agreement that they will continue to provide your church news in multiple fashions. In addition, if you have an email address, you are now receiving a wonderful weekly newsletter delivered to your inbox with all the latest and greatest from Church of the Good Shepherd.

Thank you again for participating in the survey and we look forward to sharing the news.



The deadline for the **October**
issue of *The Shepherd*
Sun. • Sept. 25 • midnight

Reminders, etc.

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 is on a clipboard in the back of the church.

Tee Shirts



Tee shirts with our church logo and the 125th anniversary celebration are now available. Buy yours in Kirk Hall after each service.

Bag 'N Buck for the Troops

Beginning on September 11th a donation table will be available every Sunday in September. See page 5 for details on what to put in your ziplock bag. The "buck" in each bag will help pay the postage. Also, include a card or letter. They do wonders for the morale of our Troops.

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.

Amazon

If you access your Amazon account for an order from the Church Web site main page 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.

Bereavement Support Program

Walking the Mourner's Path... an eight-week Christ centered bereavement support program for those who have experienced the death of a love one begins September 21st. Location: Church of the Ascension in Clearwater. For information or to sign-up, please call 727-447-3469. *Number of participants is limited.*

Help with Reception

There will be a reception following a **Story Tellers presentation** on Sunday, November 20th. We are looking for people to make finger desserts and to help out with set up, serving and clean up. Please contact:

- Joanne Forsythe 727-787-1869 or joannef@onepost.net
- Lela Highsmith 727-725-1026.

Thank you!!

Chair Yoga

A Chair Yoga class is now being offered every Monday at 11:00 a.m. in the Patio Room.

Seated chair yoga is perfect for those

with balance issues or who can't get on the floor. Wear something comfortable. Shoes are optional. Class donation is \$5.

Room Requests

If your group or committee would like to reserve a room at Good Shepherd, please remember to contact the church office at

- 733-4125 or
- goodnews@churchgoodshepherd.org.

You may either complete a 2011 Room Request Form or give the office the following information: name of group, contact person (phone, e-mail), meeting day, start time, stop time, and what room you would like to use. Any special set-up instructions should be given to our Sexton, Garry Lumm, by calling his cell phone: 415-0737. Rooms are limited, so we ask that you make requests early!

Celebrations in September

Birthdays


- Sept. 4 Victoria Redd
- Sept. 5 Gladys Dutton
- Sept. 20 Sara Connell
- Sept. 21 Ruth Bishop
- Sept. 26 Janet Hurlless
- Sept. 30 Charles Cassino

Anniversaries

- Sept. 12 Dick and Betty Fraley

Have we missed anyone? Please call Jan at 733-4125 as soon as possible. We would like to get your name on the weekly news listings.

Taizé Service



Saturday Sept. 10 5:00 PM

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

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

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

September 2011

www.churchofgoodshepherd.org

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