

HILLTOP HIGHLIGHTS

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

*“THE SHINING LITTLE CHURCH
ON THE HILL”*



MAY / JUNE
2018

ADDRESS

PO Box 132
1634 Hilltown Pike
Hilltown, PA, 18927
Office: (215) 822-3930

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays and Wednesdays
9:00 am—Noon

Thursdays
By Appointment

RECTOR

The Rev. Catherine D. Kerr

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Bobbie Livesey

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:00 am
Holy Eucharist Rite II

MIDWEEK SERVICE

Wednesdays at 9:30 am
*Holy Eucharist &
Healing Prayer*



Dear friends,

In the shadows next to the main door of the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral in West Philadelph-

ia, there's a sculpture that touched my heart when I first saw it at Diocesan Convention last November, and I've continued to think about it ever since.

It's called *Hungry and Thirsty Jesus*, and it shows a life-size figure in bronze, seated on the ground, a beggar who has pulled a blanket around his shoulders and up over his head to stay warm, so his bearded face is barely visible. He has one hand extended as a plea to passers by, and that hand is the clue to his identity, for it bears a wound in the center of palm, the ugly mark of a nail.

The sculpture was installed last year, and it's the work of Timothy Schmalz, a sculptor who describes the art he creates as "visual prayers." This piece draws its inspiration from Matthew 25:35: "I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

As faithful Christians we know we're called in baptism to see the face of Christ in all those around us, from the rich and powerful to the

homeless beggar on the street. We accept this as an ideal, and yet we fail at it again and again. How many of us would recognize Schmalz's beggar as Jesus if he didn't have the mark of that nail in his hand?

But once you do see that this is Jesus himself, the plate and cup on the ground beside him make their own kind of sense. This is no ordinary beggar's plate, no ordinary cup. They're the paten and chalice that hold bread and wine when we meet Jesus in the Eucharist. And yet, placed on the ground before this begging Jesus on the street, they're empty—empty until some one of us reaches out to fill them.

The thing that moved me most about the sculpture when I saw it during Convention was the response of the people passing by on the sidewalk of 38th Street. Once they recognized the identity of this stranger, their expressions were both reverent and a little hesitant as they considered how to respond.

Quite a few people dropped coins into that empty plate, as if the figure in bronze could use them. Seeing Jesus in need made us all want to do something to help.



Hungry and Thirsty Jesus is a thought-provoking image, and the important question it raises is this: Where do we see Christ in need, the

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VESTRY MEMBERS

Peggy Lewis

Senior Warden & Outreach

Karen Bossert

Accounting Warden

Cindy Schwebel

Music & Vestry Clerk

Sara Campbell

Communications

BJ Girard

Member-at-Large

Barbara Gregory

Member-at-Large & Art Show

Dan Pillie

Adult Education

Kathy Strong

Children & Youth Education

Scott Strong

Property

WORSHIP

ALTAR GUILD

Wendy Gogol, Chair

MUSIC

Cindy Schwebel, Director

Vaughn Rennie, Organist

The Shepherd Singers

The Shepherd Ringers

COMMUNICATIONS

Rob Gogol

Website Manager

Sara Campbell

Newsletter Editor

HILLTOP HIGHLIGHTS is a bimonthly publication of Good Shepherd Church. **All submissions are due** to the Editor by the **15th of February, April, June, August, October and December**. All newsletter artwork and design are © **Shirley Springsteen**. Art is to be used **ONLY** with artist's permission.

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face of Christ shining through flesh-and-blood human beings, and how should we respond?

Over the past year at Good Shepherd we've focused our outreach program on working with partners who support real human beings in need in our area and across the world, from the Keystone Opportunity Center in Souderton to St. James School in the Allegheny West neighborhood of Philadelphia to Good Shepherd Academy in Cameroon. You can read about our newest outreach partner, the community of Bon Berger (French for *Good Shepherd*) in Haiti, in a separate article in this newsletter.

This year's New Testament reading for Good Shepherd Sunday (April 22), our patronal feast, included these words from 1 John:

"We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us-- and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." (1 John 3:16-18)

Words to live by, especially for us who are children of the Good Shepherd.

May we recognize the face of Jesus in everyone we meet, may we see him especially in those in need here in our own area and around the world, and may we always respond with love.

In faith,
Cathy+

FAITH ENRICHMENT SERIES IN MAY: ADVANCE CARE PLANNING

What healthcare would you want if you couldn't speak for yourself? What can you do to make it easier and less stressful for your family to make healthcare decisions on your behalf?

Our Faith Enrichment offering for Sunday, May 6, will be a thought-provoking conversation on how to protect your healthcare rights and make your wishes known to your medical professionals and loved ones. Betsy Payn, MSN, from the organization Looking Ahead, will help us to understand the vocabulary of Advance Care Planning, reflect on our values, ask questions and take the first steps toward completing an advance directive.

This one-hour presentation will be

followed by a "My Wishes Workshop" on Saturday, May 12, during which you will be guided through a conversation and the completion of an advance directive if you are ready. Your completed documents will then be witnessed and notarized so that they can be shared with your loved ones and healthcare professionals.

Even if you have an advance directive already, we encourage you to come so that it can be updated and relevant to your current wishes. Please join us to learn what you can do now to ensure your choices will be followed down the road when others may need to speak on your behalf.

GOOD SHEPHERD'S ANNUAL BOOK SALE

JUNE 2-3 AND JUNE 8-9



If you have peeked into the area at the rear of the Parish Hall, where the book sorting is happening, you know it is difficult to see as there are already so many filled chicken boxes. In fact, sorting books also occupies the Nursery for children's books and the Choir Room for classic/vintage books, a growing category.

In another week or so, sign-up sheets will go up, asking for your help on the days of the sale. Please consider volunteering to help on those days. Here are descriptions of the kinds of jobs we will need to do, and as always, thank you for your patience and help!

GREETERS: A Greeter is present at the entrance (s) to the church and welcomes people. They help direct customers to where different types of books are located and ensure anyone who needs ADA-access is accommodated. On the last day, we have a bag sale and will rely on the Greeters that day to make sure all customers receive a bag and know the rules of the day. This job requires friendly people and has low physical activity requirements.

CASHIERS: The cashiers are located in the kitchen area; their job is self-explanatory. We expect the first day to be very busy, and the other days and times to be less busy. This job requires excellent math skills, being able to total an order quickly, and has high physical requirements of lifting boxes of books and standing on your feet for long periods.

BOOK CARRIERS: The Book Carriers work in concert with the Cashiers to help people who are buying boxes of books carry the books to their cars. We have hand trucks to help, and we find some customers need help carrying only a box or two, and some customers need help with many boxes of books. This job has medium to high physical requirements of lifting boxes of books and carrying them down the steps to the parking lot.

PARKING LOT WATCHERS: This job is essential on the first morning of the Sale, and may not be needed on others days. The Parking Lot Watchers help direct traffic in our parking lot, ensuring customers do not block the driveway to the Rectory or park in locations that are off-limits, such as over a septic tank. This job requires no lifting, just some walking, though you can have a chair of your own outside!

FLOORWALKERS: Besides Greeters, Floorwalkers play the biggest role in representing our church to the public. Their jobs are two-fold; first, help direct people to the correct areas for the types of books they are looking for, and second, to help consolidate stock on the floor. They have the opportunity to have conversations with people about books, or any topics, and many people who come to the Sale are happy for the company. This job requires being on your feet, with breaks as you need them, and the ability to strike up conversation with total strangers.

Karen Bossert and Jim Koch

BAKE SALE

We will provide a "Homemade Goodies" Bake Sale during this year's Book Sale on Saturday, June 2nd and Sunday, June 3rd. A sign up sheet will be posted in the narthex during May, so we have some idea how many items we can expect. "Homemade" cookies, cupcakes, cakes, pies, jams, jellies, etc. are all welcomed. [Please no store-bought goodies.]

Please bring your items prior to the start of the Book Sale so we have time to display and price them. Thank you in advance for your help.

Bobbie Livesey, Bake Sale Coordinator

MESSAGE BOARD

✝️ **VESTRY** Wednesdays May 9th &
June 13th at 6:00 pm

SENIOR WARDEN'S REFLECTIONS

Mother Nature has certainly challenged our patience. We experienced four Nor'easters in two weeks, below average temperatures, and instead of April showers bringing May flowers, we had snow. I know all of us are looking forward to the months of May and June with longer and warmer days, spring flowers, and eventually the beginning of summer. We enjoy being outside closer to nature when mowing the lawn, planting our vegetable gardens, taking walks, swimming, and other summer sports. The end of the school year allows students to do these activities and parents to plan vacations. God has blessed us with the beauty of the planet earth.

In the month of May we are still in the season of Easter which lasts for fifty days and ends on the day of Pentecost (meaning 50). Pentecost or Whitsunday occurs on May 20th, a holy day that celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit. It is also considered to be the birthday of the Christian church. The day the Holy Spirit of God came upon the disciples and they became warriors of the faith. The day of realization that God has given us life and power to be different. After the passing of Pentecost the longest liturgical season begins, that of **"Ordinary Time" which continues until the first Sunday of Advent**. We are not commemorating major events in the life of Jesus but rather the things he said and did throughout his time on earth. Time filled with the ordinary love, hope, and fear common to daily life. The color is green symbolizing growth. It is a time to explore what it means to live daily in faith and to interact in the lives of everyone in big and small ways.

In May and June we honor our parents. Parenting does not come with a book of directions and I believe it is the most difficult job on earth. **Mother's Day** occurs on May 13th and **Father's Day** is on June 17th. The holiday honors parenthood, maternal and paternal bonding, and the influence of parents in society. Rev. Cathy also continues with her various faith enrichment programs. The biggest event is our number one fundraiser: the book sale (June 2nd-3rd and 8th-9th). Thank you to Karen

Bossert and Jim Koch for their hundreds of hours of work collecting and cataloging thousands of books.

Everyone has concerns with the evolving world **situation. I've mentioned the "Ordinary Time" in which God gave us the power to be different. It is OK to be different and lead the way and to interact with all people in big and small ways. So let's honor his request and do just that – the power to make a change is in everyone of us. Our future generations deserve that!**

Thank you to all our congregants and to my fellow Vestry members for your continued support and **love for Good Shepherd. Please remember: "The will of God will never take you where the grace of God will not protect you."**

Faithfully Yours,
Peggy

OUTREACH: HELPING HAITI

Thanks to Stephen Bowers we have entered into a partnership with the Episcopal church and school in Cotes de Fer, Haiti, named Bon Berger (translated it means Good Shepherd). The priest is Jean Fruitho Michaud.

Most people in the area live in small huts, and farm or fish for a living. This is a rural area in Haiti that was devastated by an earthquake in 2010 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Their lives were drastically impacted, and it has been difficult for them to return to a normal life.

Their needs are many so we have decided to start helping them by collecting packets of non-GMO vegetable seeds. We will continue to support them in other ways in the future.

Thank you for your support with this partnership!
Peggy Lewis

FOOD PANTRY

We delivered 103 pounds of food to the three food pantries in the our area during January and February. Thank you to all those who donated food and to those who delivered it! *Dan Pillie*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

So many good lessons planned. The Resurrection

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was the topic for April 8th. This included a craft with symbols of the resurrection.

We will be talking about Saint Mark, Saint John, Jesus' miracles, Jonah, and Mary, the mother of Jesus. Plans also include the Ascension, Pentecost, and the Trinity.

Our year will close on June 3rd.

Jane Ryan and Holly Homka

HOSPITALITY

Tea... Are you fond of tea? Well, we have all kinds of tea. Our tea box is filled with a variety of tea to sample and our cabinet is filled with much more. If you would like to sample some of these in the comfort of your home, please help yourself to a few bags. Because the boxes are opened we cannot give them to the food cupboards.

Thank you to those who have hosted coffee hour. And thank you to Bette McCandless and Dolores Henry who help with clean-up. *Jane Ryan*

CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS

MAY

05/02 Betsy Uhl
05/15 Marianne Brown
05/21 John Strong
05/21 Fritz Blum
05/23 Fay Wozniak

JUNE

06/02 Gerry Livesey
06/12 Betty Clipp
06/13 Jim Koch
06/16 Grace Barker
06/17 Scott Strong
06/19 Cathy Kerr
06/20 Rich Hinkle
06/20 Chris Kerr
06/26 Mike Ryan
06/29 Christopher Brown



ANNIVERSARIES

05/04 Chris and Jeanne (Scanlon) Brickajlik

05/31 Kevin and Marianne Brown

06/12 Bruce and Kathleen Binder

06/21 Mike and Jane Ryan

PHOTO ALBUM



PHOTO ALBUM



Photos: Kathy Goff and Cathy Kerr

May 2018

Good Shepherd Church

Contact: 215-822-3930

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office Hours 9am—Noon	2 Office Hours 9am—Noon <i>9:10am Church open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer	3 Office Hours <i>By Appointment</i> 7:00 pm AI Anon	4 Church Office Closed	5
6 Sixth Sunday of Easter <i>Rogation Sunday</i> 9:15 am Shepherd Singers 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II 11:00 am Faith Enrichment Series: <i>Betsy Payn, Advance Care Planning</i>	7 Church Office Closed	8 Office Hours 9am—Noon	9 Office Hours 9am—Noon <i>9:10am Church open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer 11 am Pine Run Service 6 pm Vestry	10 Office Hours <i>By Appointment</i> 7:00 pm AI Anon	11 Church Office Closed	12 10:00 am <i>My Wishes Advance Care Planning Workshop</i>
13 Seventh Sunday of Easter <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:15 am Shepherd Singers 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II	14 Church Office Closed	15 Office Hours 9am—Noon	16 Office Hours 9am—Noon <i>9:10am Church open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer	17 Office Hours <i>By Appointment</i> 7:00 pm AI Anon	18 Church Office Closed	19 8:30 am Work Day <i>(outside)</i>
20 Day of Pentecost 9:15 am Shepherd Singers 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II	21 Church Office Closed	22 Office Hours 9am—Noon	23 Office Hours 9am—Noon <i>9:10am Church open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer	24 Office Hours <i>By Appointment</i> 7:00 pm AI Anon	25 Church Office Closed	26
27 First Sunday after Pentecost <i>Trinity Sunday</i> 9:15 am Shepherd Singers 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II	28 <i>Memorial Day</i> Church Office Closed	29 Office Hours 9am—Noon	30 Office Hours 9am—Noon <i>9:10am Church open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer	31 Church Office Closed 7:00 pm AI Anon		

June 2018

Good Shepherd Church

Contact: 215-822-3930

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Church Office Closed	2 8am—3pm <i>Annual Book Sale</i>
3 Second Sunday after Pentecost 9:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II Noon—3pm <i>Annual Book Sale</i>	4 Church Office Closed	5 Office Hours 9am—Noon	6 Office Hours 9am—Noon 9:10am Church <i>open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer	7 Office Hours <i>By Appointment</i> 7:00 pm Al Anon	8 Church Office Closed 3pm—7pm <i>Annual Book Sale</i>	9 8am—3pm <i>Annual Book Sale</i>
10 Third Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II 11:15 am <i>Parish Picnic</i>	11 Church Office Closed	12 Office Hours 9am—Noon	13 Office Hours 9am—Noon 9:10am Church <i>open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer 11 am Pine Run Service 6 pm Vestry	14 Office Hours <i>By Appointment</i> 7:00 pm Al Anon	15 Church Office Closed <i>Newsletter Submissions Deadline</i>	16
17 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Father's Day 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II	18 Church Office Closed	19 Office Hours 9am—Noon	20 Office Hours 9am—Noon 9:10am Church <i>open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer	21 Office Hours <i>By Appointment</i> 7:00 pm Al Anon	22 Church Office Closed	23
24 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am Holy Eucharist II Faith Enrichment Series: <i>Virtual Mission Trip to Cameroon</i>	25 Church Office Closed	26 Office Hours 9am—Noon	27 Office Hours 9am—Noon 9:10am Church <i>open for silent prayer</i> 9:30am Holy Eucharist & healing prayer	28 Office Hours <i>By Appointment</i> 7:00 pm Al Anon	29 Church Office Closed	30