

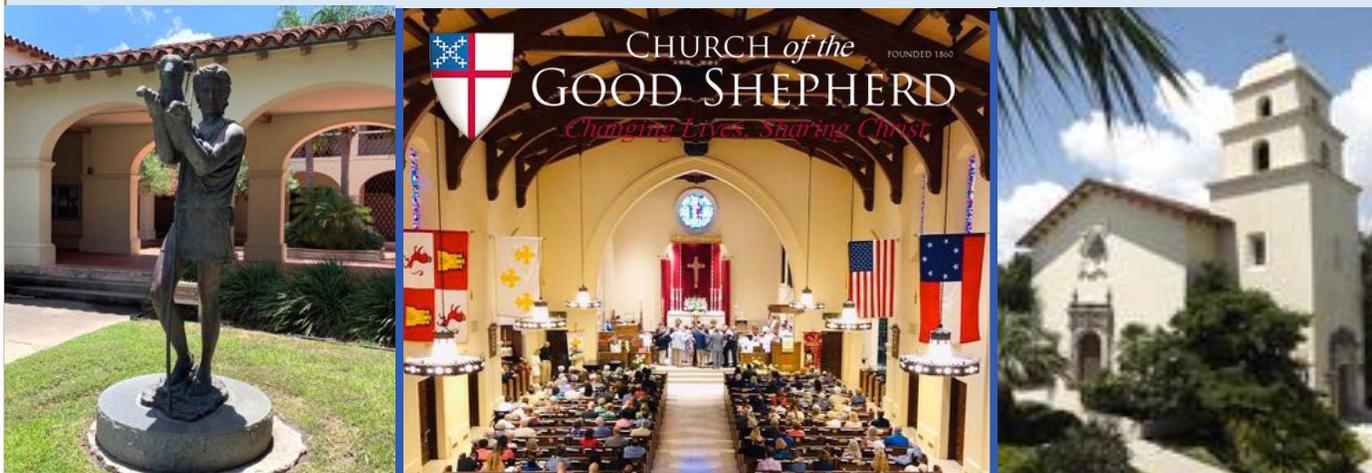
2021



THE GOOD SHEPHERD

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Volume 51, Issue 6



Updated Worship Guidelines



Dear Friends in Christ,

We have some important announcements to make regarding changes to our COVID-19 worship guidelines which have been in place, in one form or another, over these last fifteen months. These are big steps forward in our return to corporate worship as we have known and loved. Please take a moment to read these carefully.

On May 13th, the CDC updated their guidance for fully vaccinated individuals making the wearing of masks and physically distancing both indoors and outdoors optional, and the Diocese of West Texas has updated our COVID-19 Guidelines in accordance with these new CDC Guidelines.

To summarize these new diocesan changes:

- Fully vaccinated individuals are no longer required to wear a mask or physically distance indoors or outdoors on church property.
- Unvaccinated people are strongly encouraged to continue to wear a mask and physically distance.
- Clergy, Staff, and Lay Volunteers may not request or require proof of vaccination of any individual.
- Clergy and Lay Eucharistic Ministers are required to wear masks for the distribution of communion.
- Staff and Lay Leadership working with children under the age of 12 must continue to wear a mask and physically distance.
- Communion bread and wine may be served at the altar, with wine by intinction only, no sharing of the common cup.
- Fellowship gatherings may return indoors and include food and drinks.

(continued on page 2)

FROM THE RECTOR (continued)

With the support of our vestry and clergy, we are planning to move forward with these changes in our worship services over the next several weeks. See below the changes coming by date.

- **Sunday, May 30th**, fully vaccinated individuals are no longer required to wear a mask or physically distance indoors or outdoors on church property. Unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue to wear a mask and physically distance. Please respect the physical distancing of all people who choose to wear a mask.
- **Tuesday, June 1st**, Holy Eucharist resumes weekly in the Chapel at 12:15 p.m.
- **Sunday, June 6th**, we will open all seating in the sanctuary, resume passing the offertory plates, and return to Holy Communion administered at the altar, with wine by intinction cup only, no common cup.

These are important steps forward for us all. We have done a great job over these fifteen months to balance our ability to continue to worship with the need to keep people safe. We encourage everyone who is able, to be vaccinated. It is now time for individuals to take responsibility for their own unique circumstances. We will support everyone's right to continue to wear masks and physically distance, and ask for mutual respect and understanding by all, for all, as we take these next steps together.

Yours in Christ,

Sunday Worship Services

8:00 a.m. ✝ 10:30 a.m. ✝ 5:30 p.m.

The Church offers three Sunday worship services in-person. We are following our Updated Guidelines from the rector's message above.

Online Options on our Website: Live Stream and recorded video of our 10:30 a.m. service

Tuesday Noon Worship

12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist

We are excited to resume our Tuesday noon worship service beginning June 1st!

Wednesday Evening Worship

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Healing prayers are offered for your health, addiction, mental well-being, restoration, and peace.

We have a Church App!

Our church app is called MINISTRY ONE in the App store on your mobile device.

Once you download the app, church members can request to set up a personal profile. The directory will only be visible to members with these credentials. Members can also access their account. Contact the Church Office if you have any questions at 882-1735.



CHRISTIAN FORMATION

BRING A PRIEST TO WORK

From the Rev. Philip May

Work is such a big part of our lives. I love visiting parishioners in their workplaces to learn about what you do, the challenges you face, the satisfaction you find in your work. I'd love to visit *you*, and spend an hour or so learning about your working life. Give me a call at the church, and let's arrange a time. (And I promise to stay out of the way.)

SEEKING NEW USHERS!

Church hospitality begins with a visitor's first point of contact...the usher! Ushers serve our church in a very important way as they greet everyone on Sundays, answer questions, and serve in various ways during the service. It is not a difficult job, but a vital one. Men and women of any age are welcome! **Anyone who is interested should call the church office at 361-882-1735 or email Susan Linnane at susanlinnane@cotgs.org.**



9:30 a.m.

Lectionary Based Study
For Adults in the Parlor

All adults are invited to join us in the Parlor for a Sunday School study based on our Lectionary (scripture) Readings from our Sunday services.

Summer Church Office Hours:

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

MORNING PRAYER

Led by the Rev. Philip May
Monday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. on Zoom

Join Fr. Philip for *Morning Prayer by Zoom*, Mondays through Thursdays.

The Zoom link is on the Church web page, and on our Ministry One app.

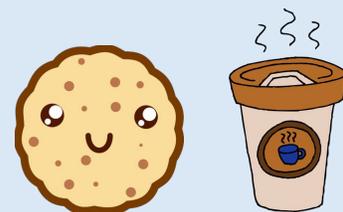
Zoom Link on our website at cotgs.org/worship/morning-prayer/

COFFEE & COOKIES IN THE COURTYARD

Sunday Mornings all Summer

This summer we are happy to announce that coffee fellowship is back in the Courtyard. We will have coffee and cookies each Sunday beginning at 8:45 a.m.

The coffee and cookies will be set up in the Courtyard following the 8:00 a.m. service and will remain their throughout the morning, including after the 10:30 a.m. service.



FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR

The Emerging Problem of Emergence Anxiety - from the Rev. William Campbell

Lately, it feels like we are on the cusp of reentering a more-or-less “normal” way of life. Pandemic-warranted mandates are being lifted (at last!), and those little things that so many of us took for granted before March of last year—opportunities for closeness to each other and to see smiles unhindered by masks—are starting to emerge like so many flowers after too long a winter.

For the most part, I find that I am letting my excitement outshine my very real anxieties. After all, I still have a toddler and an infant well-under the vaccination age at home to consider. And even though I’ve read dozens of articles about how children are rarely severely impacted by COVID-19, if I’m to be completely honest, then I have to admit that I am still almost as fearful of the prospect of locking down again as a family unit if someone gets sick as I am of the sickness itself (I say as I push away the temptation to enter the fear-center of my parent brain—all those hideous “what if-s”).

And those anxieties are joined by others. How do I keep up the healthy practices I developed to cope with and stay connected through the pandemic while I look forward to and begin to live again into my pre-pandemic workload and expectations?

On May 14, 2021, The Church Times (U.K.) reported on the dramatic increase of people seeking mental health referrals in the United Kingdom citing an increase in demand for people to deliver more than ever before: their traditional working roles being added to by new demands for online presence alongside often diminished financial and human resources. To sum it up, we had to pivot in our personal and working lives in big ways to deal with COVID, and now we must pivot again to emerge and return. I don’t know about you, but I am still exhausted from the first set of changes!

Studies such as I mentioned demand that we ask questions: How are you adapting to the ever-changing environment of “new normal”? and How are you coping with change (or are you coping at all)? Because merely acknowledging the fact that this change (even when it’s back to “normal”) is difficult is a huge step forward for our mental health. It is not enough to heal—we have work to do to be made whole again.

Too often, I think, in the Gospels we focus on the miraculous, especially in terms of Jesus’s healing ministry, without giving much thought to what those healings mean—long term—to the lives of those made well. Consider, for example, when Jesus cleanses a leper in chapter 8 of Matthew. In the first century, lepers were not only considered unclean (which had physical, spiritual, relational, and communal dimensions), but as living in a state of physical death. They were cast out from their families and communities and forced into stigmatized isolation—viewed and mourned as dead by their families, friends, and neighbors. Sound familiar? Can you imagine rejoining the society that had both left you for and considered you dead? But Jesus follows up this healing with these instructions: “...go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a proof to the people” (Matthew 8:4, RSV). The healing was just the first part—the personal and social restoration to wholeness for this individual is a separate matter. And to start that work, Jesus tells this restored person to go, worship, and give thanks as an initial aspect of reentering society and acknowledging a monumental change in life.

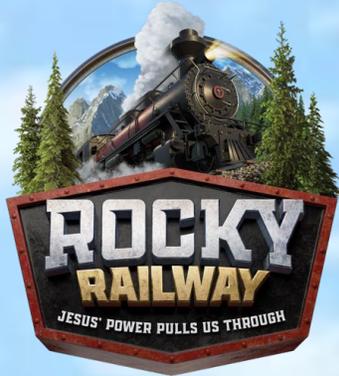
Moving on from COVID is more than being vaccinated and lifting the rules—we have work to do as individuals and as community to emerge. Like the leper, we all have things to celebrate, but also to grieve, move past, reconcile, and offer anew (and renewed!) as we seek a return to wholeness and “normalcy.” But this work is too important to leave unattended—undone, it can produce anxiety that interrupts healthy relationships with ourselves, each other, and God. This work takes time, and we are going to need to help each other through it. But I look forward to that work with you all in the coming months.

Matthew 8: 1 - 4

When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.” He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I do choose. Be made clean!” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. Then Jesus said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

Vacation Bible School

Snow Cones
&
A Mini Train!



Games
Movies
Crafts
Bible
Snacks
AND FUN!

June 14 - 18

9 am - 12 noon

3 Year Olds - 4th Grade

REGISTRATION IS NOW CLOSED

If your child is registered, please
come on the first day by 8:45 a.m.
to get your child signed in and
receive their group assignment.



VBS COUNSELORS NEEDED

Rising 5th-12th Grade

June 14 - 18

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Children will learn that
through life's ups and downs,
Jesus' power pulls us
through!

We need great counselors to
make VBS a success! This is
a great way to share the love
of Jesus while getting
service hours.

To Sign Up:

Go to cotgs.org

Click on Ministries
then Youth Ministries
Summer Programs

Adult VBS Volunteers Needed

We are thrilled to be able to offer a fun and meaningful VBS experience for your children this summer, however, we can't do it without your help.

Join us for a week of fun as we share the love of Jesus through games, crafts, movies, songs, Bible stories, snacks, and much more. We need help with these activities.

Contact Sandy McCampbell to let her know what activity you are interested in leading at sandymccampbell@aol.com or at 779-7742

Our VBS leaders for 2021 are Michelle Ezell and Sarah Jones.

Nursery is available for volunteers with children under the age of 3.

Good Shepherd Graduating Seniors

Raj Babbili
Mason Clower
Haley Cox
Christopher DeLeon
Eleanor Ehrman
Mason Fraiche
Kaden Liles
Olivia Liles
Wil Madry
Sarita Pettus
Lily Smith
Sophie Wigington



Acolyte Awards 2021

100 Services Served

Kaden Liles
Olivia Liles

75 Services Served

Mason Clower
Eleanor Ehrman
Ivy Landreth
Wil Madry

50 Services Served

Andrew Beauchamp
Victoria Dittman
Mason Fraiche



SUMMER

Nursery available on Sundays
from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

There will be no Sunday School,
Children's Chapel, or Celebration
Chapel over the summer. They
will resume in September.

NURSERY

Sundays from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Nursery will continue in the Summer

Until further notice, we will only
be able to accept children ages
1 - 2 in the nursery. They are also
always welcome in the sanctuary
during worship. There are
rocking chairs set up in the side
Narthex for anyone who would
like to use them during services.

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2021-2022

CALLING ALL 6TH GRADERS

We will begin a new year of
confirmation class for rising sixth
graders in September. John
Mason and John Perabo will
continue to be our wonderful
teachers.

If you would like your child to
participate in Confirmation next
school year, contact Sandy
McC Campbell at 361-779-7742 or
at sandymcccampbell@aol.com.

PHOTO GALLERY

Confirmation



Youth Sunday



WORSHIP SERVICES & HOURS

Sunday Schedule

8:00 a.m. Traditional Eucharist
10:30 a.m. Family Eucharist
5:30 p.m. "Come As You Are" Eucharist

Nursery For the Little Ones

1 - 2 Years in the Nursery 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Sunday School Classes

Sundays 9:30-10:15 a.m.

No children or youth Sunday School in the summer.

Adults:

Clergy-led class based on the Lectionary Readings for the day meets in the Parlor.

Regular Sunday School for all ages resumes in September.

Weekday Services

Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist
Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Healing Service with
Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Monthly Services

Resumes on August 1st

We offer a service of Holy Communion at the Trinity Towers retirement community at 3:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of every month.

St. James Chapel Services

Suspended for the summer months.
Resumes in August.

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-3521

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