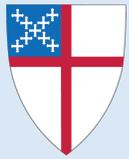


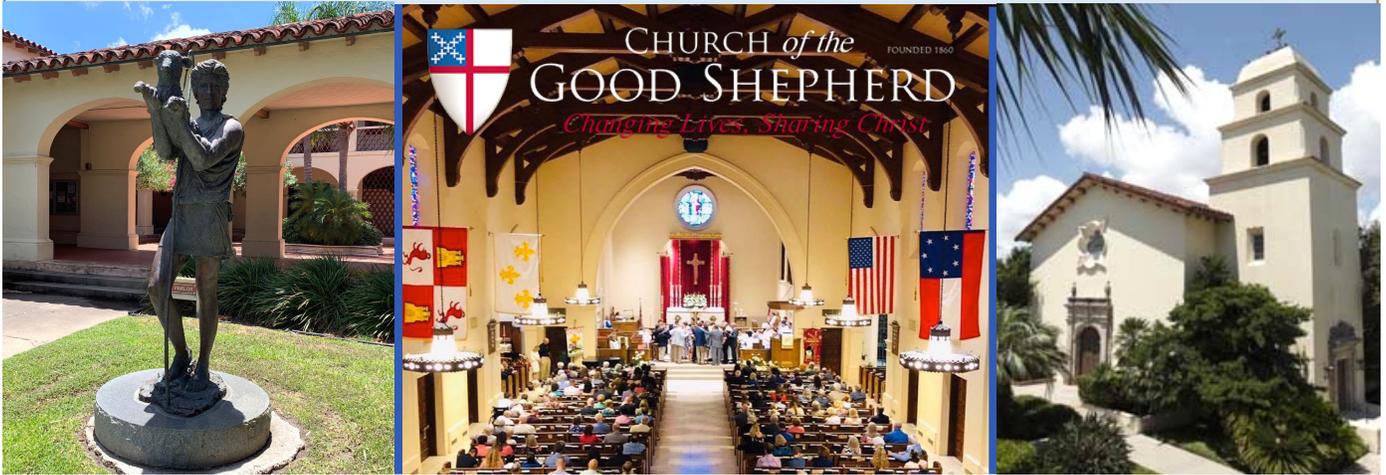
2022



THE GOOD SHEPHERD

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Volume 52, Issue 1



A Message from the Rector for 2022

“The Word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.” (Rom. 10:8)



Dear Friends in Christ,

I hope you all have had a very joy-filled Christmas and are looking forward to a wonderful New Year. Although we continue to deal with the vestiges of the pandemic, we are more resolved than ever to resume living our lives in the light of Christ. In many ways we have been in the trenches of a spiritual battle striking at the very core of our lives. We were put on our heels in 2020, gained much strength and resolve in 2021, and this year we declare victory.

Our theme for the coming year, “The Word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (Romans 10:8), is a hope-filled reminder given first by Moses to the Israelites before crossing into the Promised Land, and then written by Paul in his letter to the church in Rome. We are reminded that the Living Word is very near us, on our lips and in our hearts. No matter our circumstance God is with us to deliver us as we believe in our hearts and profess with our lips that Jesus is Lord. He speaks His Word of life to us. He is the One who sees us through the challenging times. It is the encouraging message of salvation which we proclaim. This year we will be guided by this promise that God’s Word is very near to us.

I am pleased to announce as of January 10th Bishop Reed is moving our Diocesan Protocols into Phase 3: A Return to Local Control. We will continue to monitor our local health conditions as we seek to return to community life in the fullest possible way. On January 10th we plan to offer the common communion cup, along with the intinction cups, at all of services. We have had a long tradition of having both options available and are ready to return to making both available for

(continued on page 2)

FROM THE RECTOR (continued)

whichever you choose. We are confident that the combination of Port wine (20% alcohol) in a silver chalice has proven to be safe and sanitary for many generations.

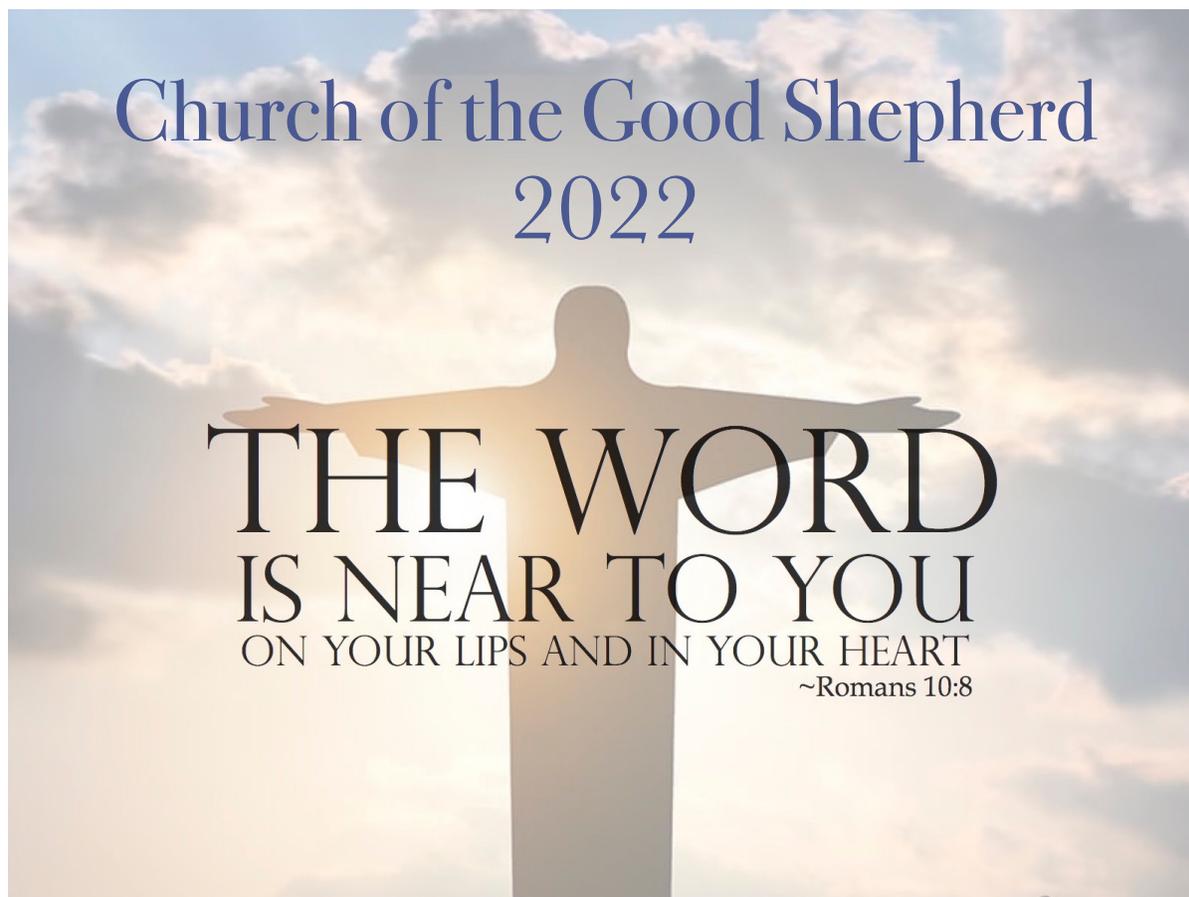
On January 30th, our Annual Parish Meeting will return to Munds Hall from 9:00-10:00 a.m. We will have breakfast, vestry elections, and reports from the Wardens and Treasurer. Please try to be present at this important parish meeting. If you are unable to be there, be sure you come by the church office to vote absentee for vestry beginning January 10, 2022. Please join me in thanking all of those who were willing to stand for election to the vestry this year and keep them in your prayers. We will elect six people to serve a three-year term.

We continue to give God our thanks and praise for the health and vitality of this amazing community of faith. The Word, Christ Himself, is very near to us, and He is calling us to profess with our lips what He has placed in our hearts so that others may hear it and come to His saving grace. Looking forward to a great year!

Yours in Christ,



P.S. Thank you so much for your generous Christmas Love offering to me and the other clergy. We are so very grateful.



Ecumenical Prayer Service

“Week of Prayer for Christian Unity”

Sunday, January 23, 2022

4:00 p.m.

Corpus Christi Cathedral

All are welcome!

Church of the Good Shepherd will participate in the upcoming Ecumenical Prayer Service hosted by the Catholic Church. Bishop Michael Mulvey will gather with ministers from neighboring churches of various Christian traditions for a prayer service in the cathedral in observance of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

EPIPHANY SUNDAY BLESSING

Sunday, January 9

8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate the visit of the wise men on the Feast of the Epiphany. As part of our celebration, we invite you to pray God's blessing over your home and loved ones for the coming year. The blessing will be printed and available for you to take with you at these services.

VESTRY ANNOUNCEMENT

Vestry member, Amy Liles has recently moved to Houston and will be unable to complete her three-year term on the Vestry. The Vestry nominating committee recommended Carrie Gilley to fill her position for the two years remaining in Amy's term. At their December meeting, the Vestry unanimously approved the recommendation. Thank you Carrie for agreeing to serve the church on the Vestry.

THANK YOU FROM THE CLERGY

We want to thank each and every one of you who so generously contributed to a Christmas offering for all of us. Your generous offering blessed us, not only by the amount, but by the spirit in which it was given. We would also like to thank those of you who brought Christmas sweets and goodies for the office staff to share. What a treat! Thank you for all of the Christmas blessings!

Gratefully and humbly yours,
Milton, Philip, William, and Frank

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY MARCH & SERVICE

Monday, January 17

Martin Luther King Day will be held Monday, January 17th. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority will sponsor their annual parade and service. We look forward to hosting the service at Good Shepherd.

The parade begins at the County Courthouse at noon and processes to the Church of the Good Shepherd for a celebratory service.

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.”

- Martin Luther King

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Sunday School - Begins January 9th

LIVING WORD - Going Deeper into Sunday Scripture Readings

9:30 a.m. in the Parlor - Led by the Rev. Milton Black and the Rev. Philip May

The Rev. Milton Black and the Rev. Philip May will lead a discussion-based class utilizing the scripture readings from each Sunday's services. This is very similar to what we have offered this summer in the Parlor, which has been very popular! The day's scriptures will guide us as we learn from one another and better understand God's Word.

THE HOLY FAMILY - Sundays in January

9:30 a.m. in Dobbins Hall Adult Classroom - Led by Rev. William Campbell

On Christmas Day, we celebrate that God became a human being—that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth" (to quote John 1:14). Sure, the divine Word revealed Himself to us, we beheld him, and we know quite a bit about his ministry and death, but the Gospels make almost no mention of Jesus's childhood—almost. A precious few verses in Matthew and Luke speaks to us about Jesus's family and to how Jesus was raised. Join Father William during the Sunday School hour in DHAC as he points out elements of The Holy Family that are important for us to recognize as we seek holiness within our families today. Coffee provided.

FROM DABBLING TO DIVING WITH GOD: Going Deeper in the Life of Prayer

9:30 a.m. in Munds Hall Library - Led by Rev. Frank Fuller

Many of us are confused or even anxious about what prayer means in our relation with God. This class will seek to expand and heighten our experience with God in prayer by scripture study and practice together. Exploring the analogy of moving into deeper waters, as Jesus' disciples did, we will try to challenge our preconceptions and open our hearts and minds to his Holy Spirit in deeper ways.

Wednesday Evening Classes - Begin January 12th

CONTEMPLATIVE VISION

6:30 p.m. in the Parlor - Led by the Rev. Philip May

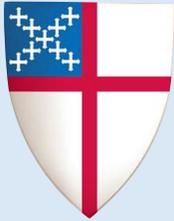
Rev. Philip May's Wednesday night bible study and potluck will begin January 12th. This class will be following a wonderful book called *Contemplative Vision* by Juliet Benner. This book is a guide to praying using Christian art. We will explore paintings from different eras of our Christian heritage, and learn how they can draw us into a deeper relationship with God, an understanding of His love for us in Christ, and an appreciation of the support we find in Christian community. A new way of praying for many of us, but a very powerful one! Come and join us!

CENTURIES OF SAINTS

6:30 p.m. in Dobbins Hall Adult Classroom - Led by Rev. Frank Fuller

We continue to look at the Church's saints, century by century from the middle ages to the modern world. We explore how the movement of the Church through time shows how the Church has changed and how different ages have produced different models of what a holy life means. The people we see as saints tells as much about us as about them, and who we think God is, and who he

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING



Sunday, January 30
9:00 a.m.

in Munds Hall Auditorium



Come hear about the impact of the Church in 2021
and the direction we are headed for 2022

Breakfast will be served at 8:45 a.m.

The Vestry is a lay led board of 18 members who are elected by the congregation and serve a 3-year term. It makes the governing decisions for the business and ministry of the church. The following members of Good Shepherd have been nominated to serve on the Vestry. We will elect 6 new members at our Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 30th. (Absentee voting can be done in person in the Church Office from January 10th - 28th.) Thank you to each of these members for faithfully agreeing to be nominated.



Karen Bonner

I grew up in First United Methodist Church and was very active there and joined St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church with my husband, Richard Bonner, in 1970, where our three children, Beth Bonner Harris, Carlye Bonner Carlock and Rick Bonner were baptized and confirmed and where I served on the Vestry. Richard and I transferred to Church of the Good Shepherd, Richard's home church, in February, 2005. I retired in December 2020 after almost 15 years as VP of Philanthropy for CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Development Foundation. Previously I had my own company, Karen Bonner Funding Resources, with several clients including Harvey Weil Sportsman Conservationist Award Trust, KEDT, King Ranch, Inc. for the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management at Texas A&M Kingsville, and The Wildlife Society, a national conservation group. Currently I serve as a volunteer at the Good Shepherd's Corner resale shop, am a Board member for the Corner, and a member of the Jeannette Hammer Guild. I am very grateful for Good Shepherd Church and Elizabeth Black's Bible Studies and would be honored to serve on the Vestry if elected.



Lauren Brekken

While I haven't lived in Corpus my entire life, this city has always held a special place in my heart. From age 2 to 6, I was lucky enough to live in Corpus and attend St. James and Church of the Good Shepherd. After many years away, my husband Jonathan was transferred to Corpus and we came running with our two daughters, Eloise and Avery, 3 and 2 at the time. We immediately jumped right in to Good Shepherd and St. James and haven't looked back. This community has welcomed us with open arms and we couldn't love it more. Almost 6 years later our girls are thriving at St. James in 4th and 2nd grades. Since moving here, we have joined Good Shepherd, Jon and I both were confirmed, and the girls went through their first communion. I have served on the Women of the Church board, Co-chaired and volunteered with VBS, sponsored confirmands, worked at The Corner, and taught children's Sunday school. I am a current member of Charity League and Friends of St. James. This community has given us so much and I would be honored to have the opportunity to give back if elected to serve on Vestry.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & VESTRY BIOS



Faye Bruun

I am a cradle Episcopalian and was both baptized and married at Grace Episcopal Church in Monroe, Louisiana. Lance and I moved to Corpus Christi in 1978 and joined Good Shepherd. My three sons are all graduates of St. James School where I was President of the Friends, the parent organization. I taught Sunday School for many years and was a Confirmation Sponsor. I made my Cursillo in 2003 and since then have served on five teams. After teaching for 10 years at St. James and earning my doctorate degree, I am now a Professor at Texas A&M Corpus Christi in the College of Education and Human Development. I am a graduate of Education for Ministry (EfM), a four year study program sponsored by Sewanee School of Divinity. As a mother of three boys, I have been blessed with seven grandchildren, two of which attend St. James. I love the Church of the Good Shepherd and would be honored to serve on the vestry if elected!



Emily Buescher

Emily Seale Buescher was born in San Antonio and raised in the Baptist church. Emily was introduced to the Episcopal liturgy as a first-grader at Saint Mary's Hall. Enchanted by the timeless beauty of the Anglican tradition, she chose to attend R.E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church in Lexington, Virginia during her college years at Washington and Lee University. Emily married Gordon Buescher in 2009, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in San Antonio. They were confirmed as Episcopalians in 2011, at St. Stephen's in Fort Stockton. Their two children were baptized at St. Mark's, and are now happy scholars at St. James Episcopal School. Emily enjoys attending the Ladies' Bible Study at Good Shepherd, and is a new Trustee of the Art Museum of South Texas. The Bueschers moved to Corpus Christi from Midland in January 2020. They are delighted to have found a welcoming, nurturing church home at Good Shepherd, not to mention a fabulous school in St. James!



Joe Holt

It has been about 50 years since Shirley, our 3 children and I became members of the Church of the Good Shepherd. Our children were attending St. James School and asked if we might go to church where so many of their friends attended. As they say, "the rest is history." The children were confirmed, the girls were married, and David served as an acolyte and played Joseph in the Christmas pageant. We are a part of the Good Shepherd family and the Good Shepherd is part of our family. I taught Confirmation class for several years, served 2 terms on the Endowment Committee, was the parish Treasurer for 3 years, have been a lay reader for many years and have been active in the Men's Tuesday Fellowship from its inception and at present I am one of our Good Shepherd men helping adults learn to read, write, and speak English through the Literacy Council. I am honored to be asked to stand for the vestry this year. If elected I will do my best to make decisions that will be pleasing in God's sight. Thank you for your consideration.



June Leibfarth

I descended from generations of pioneer Texas Methodists. After moving to Corpus Christi in 1976, I joined FUMC and became active in Sunday School, VBS, committees and Bible Studies. I drifted away from attendance after our children were grown, but I was reclaimed by the unique mission activities of Fr Bruce Wilson and his congregation at Reconciliation which is right across the street from my house. When that church closed I looked for another Episcopal church to attend. Good Shepherd was a natural choice since I'd spent 15 years volunteering at St. James while the children (Jay, Kris, and Linda) attended school there. I love Good Shepherd! I love the liturgy, the clergy, the congregation, the Eucharist every Sunday, and more. I love attending the services and when I can't be there personally, I always watch on line. I participate in Sunday School, Morning Prayer by Zoom, and Bible Studies. I am an active member of Daughters of the King. I'm honored to be considered for the Vestry and would serve faithfully if elected.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & VESTRY BIOS



Barry McBurnett

My relationship with The Church of the Good Shepherd began in 1946 when I was christened here. I have served on the vestry as Junior and Senior Warden. Other church service includes: serving on the search committee that called Milton Black; served as delegated to Diocesan Councils; along with fellow musicians I played at the 5:30 service at it inception. I have served with the cursillo community on several teams, and I am an EFM graduate. Retired from the practice of dentistry for 7 years now, I have found many community activities with which to be involved, such as Rotary Club, Salvation Army, Foster Angels of South Texas, and Corpus Christi Mustangs. My hobbies include painting and guitar. My wife Sandra and I have two daughters, a son-in-law, and two granddaughters. The Good Shepherd community has helped me find a closer walk with God. I would be honored to serve this Church and its communicants as a vestry member.



Keri Orrell

I grew up in Corpus Christi and I was baptized and confirmed at All Saints Episcopal Church. After college I moved back to Corpus and became a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd in 1998. My two children, Kate and Scott, were baptized, confirmed, and participated/participates in the youth program at Good Shepherd. Both of my children attended St. James and I have had the opportunity to serve on the St. James board of trustees from 2014-2018. I am grateful for Good Shepherd and would be honored to serve on the vestry if elected.



Lindsey Pietsch

I was born and raised in Corpus Christi and attended First Baptist Church right down the road growing up. In 2014, along with my oldest daughter Shaw, I was joyfully baptized into the Episcopal Church at The Church of the Good Shepherd. Since 2008 I've worn many hats helping my husband Todd run our businesses that are based in South Texas, but in recent years my focus has shifted to raising my young daughters, Shaw (7) and Elin (5). I also love giving back to our community and have chaired Driscoll Children's Hospital's Fiesta de Los Niños and AMST's ArtBall. I am currently an active member of Charity League and serve on the Board of Directors for Foster Angels. This church has become one of the most grounding and rewarding parts of my family's life and if elected I look forward to serving the church and its members. It is important to me to show my daughters how to live my faith by giving back to my church community.



Lauren Warren

I am a Corpus Christi native and grew up going to St. Bartholomew's where I was baptized and confirmed. In high school I was an active member in Young Life. When my husband Clay and I started dating in 2011, we began attending Good Shepherd on a regular basis. He grew up going to Good Shepherd and was always actively involved. By the time we were planning our wedding we knew that Good Shepherd was our church home and there was no other place we would want to get married. Clay and I were led to attend a Cursillo where my faith only grew stronger. I became a part of the Cursillo Secretariat for the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas and served on a team at a Camp Capers Cursillo. I have been on the Evangelism Committee at Good Shepherd, attended Women's Retreats at the Conference Center and I am currently on the Nominating Committee for the Diocese. We have been blessed with three amazing children, Owen, Noah and Grace, and all three were baptized at Good Shepherd. The values and faith that Good Shepherd is helping us instill in our children is priceless. God blessed me with Clay, my kids, and my church family and I am thankful for each of them every day. If elected, serving on the vestry is one more way to show my love to the Lord and the church I call home.



Susanne Wood

My husband John is a fourth generation Texan who easily convinced me leave Alberta, Canada in 2015 to begin a new life in Corpus Christi. I was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran church but found peace and purpose at a small Anglican church where I learned to not be afraid and trust God's plan for my life. My husband and I began attending the Church of the Good Shepherd soon after we arrived and were confirmed in 2018. I have enjoyed attending worship services and Sunday school, and serving as a lay reader and more recently as an usher. Outside of the Good Shepherd, I am a manager at the Driscoll Health Plan which is a Medicaid plan for children, adolescents and mothers with babies. My work requires listening, learning to compromise, making hard decisions and remaining focused on the 'higher purpose'. I am honored to be considered for vestry and if elected, will serve to the best of my ability.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



JANUARY YOUTH GROUP

Sundays for All Youth 6th - 12th Grade!

January 9 - Bowlero

- Middle School 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- High School 7:30 - 9:00

January 16 - No Youth Group

January 23 - Regular Youth Group

- Middle School at Youth House from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Middle & High School dinner at 7:30 p.m.
- High School at Youth House from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

January 30 - Regular Youth Group

- Middle School at Youth House from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Middle & High School dinner at 7:30 p.m.
- High School at Youth House from 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.

KINGDOM KIDS

Wednesday, January 5
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Kingdom Kids is an evening of fun, food, and fellowship for children from St. James and Good Shepherd. There are games and free-play in the gym, as well as dinner and a bible story.

The cost is a \$5 donation paid at the door.

You must RSVP online through our website or click on this QR code.



SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Resumes January 9
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School is offered for all ages. Each week we offer a bible story with fun activities.

3 Year Olds - 5th Grade: Room 107

6th Grade Confirmation: Room 105

CELEBRATION & CHILDREN'S CHAPELS

Resumes January 9
10:30 a.m.

Children's Chapel

for children ages 3 - Kinder
in the Children's Chapel

Celebration Chapel

for children in 1st - 6th grade
(Led by Youth 7th - 12th grade)
in Munds Hall Auditorium

Each Chapel is a special service created especially for children. Children will join their parents in church for communion

NURSERY

Ages 1 - 2

Sundays from 9:30 a.m. - 12 noon

We offer nursery for children ages 1 - 2 in Dobbins Hall during Sunday School hour and the 10:30 a.m. service.

PHOTO GALLERY

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTIES





Thank You for your Commitment!

Thank you to everyone who has made your pledge for 2022! We appreciate your commitment to the mission and ministries of Good Shepherd. This season that we are living through has reminded us of just how essential the Church is in our lives, as

Ways to Pledge

- **Pledge Card** - mail to the Church Office or bring to church
- **Pledge Online** - <https://cotgs.org/giving/make-a-pledge/>
- **Pledge on our App** - Ministry One

THANK YOU ANGELS

Thank you to everyone who brought gifts for children attending Kostoryz Elementary whose names were on the Angel Tree! You are making a difference in a child's life. The gift you have given is beyond just the items in your package...you shared the love of Christ. We were able to help **72 children** who would have gone without gifts for Christmas right here in our own community!



GIVE ONLINE

Giving Online is simple!

3 Easy Steps:

1. Go to cotgs.org
2. Click the GIVING tab
3. PAY ONLINE & SUBMIT

The drop-down menu gives options to pay on your pledge as well as the ability to make other contributions.

If you have a **QR code reader** on your mobile device, scan over the image below and it will take you directly to our Online PAYMENT page!

QR CODE

to PLEDGE ONLINE



You can scan the image below and it will take you to our "Make a Pledge" page on our website.

QR CODE to PLEDGE ONLINE



GOOD SHEPHERD'S **Corner** RESALE SHOP

Season's Greetings!



It is with a joyful heart that I write to you, wishing you a blessed Christmas holiday and with thanksgiving for Julie, our store Manager and those customers, consignors, volunteers and board members, who have made our progress possible!

This year we are thankful for the Coastal Bend Community Foundation's grant funding we received this past summer which will help with the maintenance and upkeep of our store. Also, a special *thank you* to KLUX 89.5 and KFTX 97.5 radio stations for running Public Service Announcements for the Good Shepherd's Corner!

We are thankful for the continued development of our Acacia Program in which we provide paid job training for case managed women to acquire the necessary computer and business skills to move *up and out* of their sheltered environment. This year we attended a special event for Hope House and paid tribute to one of our Acacia graduates who has triumphed over her various obstacles and create a loving home for her boys!

Wishing y'all a joyful, merry Christmas, good health and a prosperous new year! God Bless!

GOOD SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Susan T Swain

President, Board of Directors

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

WORSHIP SERVICES & HOURS

Sunday Schedule

8:00 a.m.	Traditional Eucharist
8:45 a.m.	Breakfast Fellowship
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Family Eucharist
5:30 p.m.	Come As You Are Service

Nursery For the Little Ones

1 - 2 Years in the Nursery 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Sunday School Classes

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

Children Meet in the Water Street Classrooms

Youth Meet in the Water Street Classrooms

Adults:

Large Group w/Rev. Black & Rev. May in the Parlor

Young Families w/ Rev. Campbell in Dobbins Hall Classroom

Small Group w/Rev. Fuller in Munds Hall Library

Weekday Services

Tuesdays at 12:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service

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

Monthly Services

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

Tuesdays at 8:05 a.m. Middle School Chapel

Tuesdays at 8:45 a.m. K- 4th Grade Chapel

Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. Preschool Chapels (4 services)

Thursdays at 8:05 a.m. All School Chapel

Parents are welcome at All School Chapel on Thursdays.

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

700 S. Upper Broadway

Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-3521

(361)882-1735 cotgs@cotgs.org