

2023



THE GOOD SHEPHERD

AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Volume 53, Issue 8

A Message from the Rector

Dear Good Shepherd Family,

First, I want you to know how much I miss you and look forward to being with you soon. My time away was planned long before my diagnosis of Multiple Myeloma in January. I am certain that God knew I would need the time to focus on this new surprise. My sabbatical was always about renewing my spiritual, mental, and physical health, and that it has been. However, our big focus has been on weekly treatments, doctor visits, managing medications, insurance, and just trying to stay on top of it all. It's been busy, different, and a true blessing.

I am so grateful to each of you for your love and prayers and those of so many near and far. I have felt them and know with certainty that your prayers are the reason why I have responded so well to my treatments. In May the doctors were so impressed with my progress that they began making plans for my eventual stem cell transplant, the procedure with the best chance of putting this cancer into remission.

I have been in touch with Gregg Robertson, our Sr. Warden, and our outstanding staff over these months about my progress and the plan to move forward. I will return to the office as scheduled on July 31st and will be in the pulpit August 6th. As much as I would like to hug each of you, unfortunately I am going to have to maintain some social distancing. My immune system is suppressed from the treatments, and I can't afford to catch anything before the transplant.

On Sunday, August 6th we will celebrate and give thanks for a very successful "Sing to the Lord" campaign supporting our wonderful new Schoenstein pipe organ to be installed next year. We are so grateful to all of you who have stepped out in faith to help make this addition a reality.

On August 7th I will be at MD Anderson in Houston to begin the long process of receiving a stem cell transplant. It will keep me out of the office through September. The 1st week requires testing, the 2nd the collection of my stem cells, the 3rd a heavy dose of chemo wiping out my immune system, and the re-introduction of my stem cells to regrow new and hopefully cancer free bone marrow. Then, the focus will be my recovery and isolating until my immune system is restored. The plan is to work remotely in September and return to the office in October.

I can't wait to see you on August 6th. Please keep the prayers coming; they have made all the difference. Pray particularly for a successful stem cell transplant with no setbacks or infections, and ultimately a full remission. Thank you for your amazing love and prayer support.

I am Yours in Christ,



Let's Celebrate
Sing to the Lord

Thank You!

Sunday, August 6 - The Rev. Milton Black will Return!

Sunday, August 6th we will celebrate and give thanks for a very successful "Sing to the Lord" campaign supporting our wonderful new Schoenstein pipe organ to be installed next year. We are so grateful to all of you who have stepped out in faith to help make this addition a reality. Fr. Milton will be in the pulpit on this day! We are excited to welcome him back after his sabbatical. He will have to maintain some social distancing on that day so that he can stay healthy for his upcoming treatments.

August and September Schedule of Events

August 2 - **Youth Capture the Flag** @ 6:30 p.m.

August 16 - **St. James Back to School**

August 20 - **Beach Eucharist & Shrimp Boil** @ 5:30 p.m.

August 20 - **Back to School Blessing** @ 10:30 a.m. service

August 27 - **Acolyte Training** @ 9:30 a.m.

September 4 - **Labor Day - Church Office Closed**

September 10 - **Rally Day** - Sunday School & Children's Chapel Resumes

September 13 - **Wednesday Evening Classes Begin** @ 6:30 p.m.

September 17 - **Breakfast Fellowship Resumes** @ 8:45 a.m.

CHURCH COMMUNITY



 CHURCH of the GOOD SHEPHERD

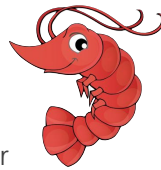
Beach Eucharist & Shrimp Boil

Sunday, August 20

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

For Young Families

Mustang Island Conference Center
6981 State Highway 361



Park at the Mustang Island Conference Center
and follow the boardwalk to the beach.

We will begin with a Beach Eucharist
and the Shrimp Boil will follow.

RSVP to the Church Office at 361-882-1735 or cotgs@cotgs.org

Call for Adult Volunteers in the Music Ministry

Do you have a song in your heart? Or have you always wanted to sing your heart out? Come, make a joyful noise with the adult choir on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and lead in worship on Sundays. We practice regularly but we understand life happens.

If you want to make a joyful noise but singing is not your thing, come, join the handbell choir on Mondays from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Listening and making music is great for brain, so come make a joyful noise with us! No experience necessary.

If interested, please reach out to Mi Ou at mioulee@cotgs.org

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

Sunday, August 20

10:30 a.m. Service

For all Students and Teachers to
bless the new school year!

We will have a special blessing
for everyone attending all
schools!

ACOLYTE TRAINING

Sunday, August 27

9:30 a.m.

Meet in the Sanctuary

Let's start the fall semester on the
right foot! We need everyone to
participate so that everyone feels
comfortable with all Acolyte
positions.



RALLY DAY!



RALLY DAY

**SAVE THE DATE!
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

**KICK OFF NEW CLASSES FOR THE FALL
WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY!**

**CHURCH SERVICES
8:00 & 10:30 A.M.
5:30 P.M.**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 A.M.**

**LUNCH & FUN
11:45 A.M.
IN MUNDS HALL**

NEW FALL CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

Adult Sunday School this Fall

(Begins Sunday, September 10)

LIVING WORD - Going Deeper into Sunday Scripture Readings

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

The Rev. Milton Black and the Rev. Philip May lead a discussion-based class utilizing the scripture readings from each Sunday's services. The day's scriptures will guide us as we learn from one another and better understand God's Word.

ARE MY KIDS ON TRACK?

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

In Rev. Campbell's new Sunday school class, we will define emotional, social, and spiritual milestones for our children, break them down for understanding, discuss stumbling and building blocks associated with each, and ask questions to identify practical ways to help equip our kids as they learn, practice, and progress in them. He will utilize the book, *Are My Kids on Track: The 12 Emotional, Social, and Spiritual Milestones Your Child Needs to Reach*.

THE PSALMS: God's Songs and Ours

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

The Psalms are ancient lyrics that touch our hearts to this day. Whoever uses them finds them able to express our hopes and laments in the best and worst of times. The class will embrace and search through the Psalms to explore God's word for all our moments, from joy to despair and back.

Wednesday Evening Classes this Fall

(Begin Wednesday, September 13)

RELIGION & SCIENCE: Conversations Seeking Paths to Truth

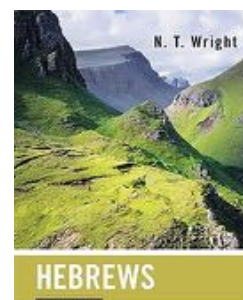
6:30 p.m. in Dobbins Hall Adult Classroom - Led by Rev. Frank Fuller

The search to better understand the world through scientific inquiry has seemed for some to deny any search to know God. Are faith and reason friends, enemies, colleagues, or frenemies? The class will examine the historic conversation between science and Christian spirituality to seek a more mature faith and a deeper appreciation of what modern science can achieve and what it cannot.

EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

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

The Rev. Philip May will lead a class on the Epistles of the Hebrews using Bishop N.T. Wright's book *Hebrews for Everyone* available on Amazon. (For a clickable link visit the Home Page of our website and look under "The Latest" for Wednesday Classes.) This class will be offered both in person and online through Zoom.



THE BEATITUDES

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Beatitudes Developing Spiritual Character

TUESDAYS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 12
10:00 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor

The beatitudes reveal to us qualities that bring God's blessing. Jesus highlighted these to offer both encouragement and instruction to his followers in a world with values much different than God's. Using John Stott's book, *The Beatitudes: Developing Spiritual Character*, we will study these qualities and integrate them into our lives so we can receive the blessing Jesus promised to his followers then and now.

Our Women's Bible Study will be led by a team of women including Sam Gates, Janie Bruun, Lula Martin, Betty Fuller, June Leibfarth, Claire Campbell, Natalie Werkhoven, and Marcia Mell. If you have questions, contact Betty Fuller at seedlings@aol.com.

Bring your Bible and the study book. The book can be purchased on Amazon. Search for The Beatitudes by John Stott. (The cost is \$11.19.)



CHURCH COMMUNITY

Mission Trip to South Dakota

On June 9th Bishop Jonathan Folts visited Church of the Good Shepherd to tell folks from the Diocese of West Texas about his ministry in South Dakota, especially among the people of the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota Nations. To follow up on that presentation, a small group of Good Shepherd folks have been invited to join a mission trip arranged by our friends at Christ Church San Antonio, and the Diocese of West Texas.

Kimberly and Kent Tompkins, and the Rev. Philip May will be in Cheyenne River South Dakota, from September 6-13, to learn, to make friends, to help with projects at various Episcopal churches, and to open a pathway for more visits from Good Shepherd to South Dakota in the future.

This is a challenging ministry, as much about building friendship and trust as any particular building project. Our life experiences are very different from those of the people who will be hosting us. But we are one under Christ, and with His help we can hope for a future of reconciliation and friendship. Please keep this reconnaissance team in your prayers, and consider joining a future trip to South Dakota.

Confirmation 2023-2024

ATTENTION 6TH GRADERS: We will begin a new year of confirmation class for rising sixth graders in September.

Confirmation for our young church members occurs in the 6th grade. We believe that our young people are on a journey, and that at this age they are in a position to accept for themselves what was accepted for them at Baptism. The confirmation class is designed to provide spiritual direction and teach the traditions of the Church.

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

Important Meeting for Parents and Confirmands:
9:30 a.m. Sunday, September 10th in Munds Hall Auditorium

SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, August 2

Capture the Flag
6th - 12th Grade
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Meet at TAMUCC

HAPPENING #154

August 4 - 6

In Boerne at St. Helena's

For all 10th - 12th Graders

Happening #154 will take place at St. Helena's Episcopal Church in Boerne, August 4 - 6. Happenings are peer led spiritual renewal weekends for high school students in 10th - 12th grade. Happening begins on Friday at 7:00 p.m. sharp and wraps up around 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Registration for Happening and HIS Love is available at dwtx.org.

NURSERY

Ages 6 months - 2 years

Sundays from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

We offer nursery in Dobbins Hall during Sunday School hour and the 10:30 a.m. service.

KID'S ZONE

Ages 3 years - Kinder

Sundays from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Kid's Zone is available next door to the Nursery for children age 3 - Kindergarten. Children's Chapel will resume on Rally Day, September 10.

WORSHIP SERVICES & HOURS

Sunday Schedule

| | |
|------------|----------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m. | Traditional Eucharist |
| 8:45 a.m. | No Breakfast in the Summer |
| 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

6 months - 2 Years in the Nursery 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Kid's Zone is available in the summer for 3 year-olds thru Kinder.
Both of these are located in Dobbins Hall (next to Munds Hall).

Sunday School Classes

Sundays 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the Summer
Living Word w/Rev. Black & Rev. May in the Parlor for Adults

Good Shepherd Summer Office Hours

Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (May 30 - July 31)

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/Brookdale 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.

**St. James is currently on Summer Break and
will resume in August.**

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

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