



THE GOOD SHEPHERD

APRIL NEWSLETTER

2026

Volume 56, Issue 4

An Easter Message from the Rector



O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquility the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from "the One who is, and was, and is to come; the Almighty." As we live into the fullness of Easter, I am reminded of the power and beauty of the collect printed above. If you want to know what God is up to, take a few minutes to reflect upon this ancient prayer which captures the essence of Easter.

We are Easter people! We don't just go to Church, we are the Church; the resurrected Body of Christ, that wonderful and sacred mystery by which God is carrying out His plan of salvation. By our daily life and witness we proclaim that even in the midst of death God is bringing forth new life. As the Church is the living Body of Christ, we proclaim that Christ is alive and well, and that death has no claim upon us.

It is by our faith and witness to Christ, that the world may see, and know, that all things are being brought to their perfection through Him who died for us and rose again. As Easter people, we proclaim life in the midst of death, now and forever! This is the Kingdom of God that Christ has ushered into the world.

I encourage you to "Seek first the Kingdom of God" and the great mystery of Easter in your lives and in your relationships, and everything else will be made new. God is alive in you! Let the whole world see in you the Easter hope, that the things that were cast down are being raised up, and the things that had grown old are being made new, and that God is making all things new through Christ alive in you.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

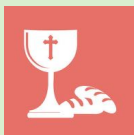
HOLY WEEK

Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, April 1

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

6:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross



Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 2

5:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy



Good Friday

Friday, April 3

7:00 a.m. Communion from the Reserved Sacrament

12:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy



Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 5

8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist w/Choir & Brass

Flowering of the Cross

*Bring Fresh-Cut Flowers to Adorn
the Cross Between Services*

10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist w/Choir & Brass

Alleluia Egg Hunt

Following the 10:30 a.m. Service

*No 5:30 p.m. Service



Treat-Filled Eggs Needed

We need volunteers to bring treat filled Easter eggs to the Church Office **by Friday, April 3rd** by noon. (Please do not fill eggs with chocolate; it melts.) Thank you!



Flowering of the Cross Easter Sunday, April 5 Between Services in Courtyard

The Cross will be located in the courtyard to be adorned with flowers between our Easter services. Everyone is invited to bring fresh flowers to adorn the cross.



Alleluia Egg Hunt Easter Sunday, April 5 Following the 10:30 a.m. Service

The annual Alleluia Egg Hunt will follow the 10:30 a.m. service on the church lawn. (No need to bring your own basket; We will provide Easter bags for collecting eggs.)

CHURCH COMMUNITY



Women of the Word Committee

Thank you to our Women of the Word committee for all of the time you have put into starting something new!

Committee:
Audrey Sartoris
Nia Bradford
Allison Cruger
Lindsey Swann
Kate McCampbell
Liz McCampbell
Suzi Warzecha
Candy Trask
Elizabeth Vanexan
Carolyn Motes
Elizabeth Stewart

Committee Advisors: Nancy Beauchamp and Kimberly Tompkins

Easter Schedule Changes

Good Friday, April 3:

Church Office closes at noon

Easter Sunday, April 5:

No Breakfast Fellowship

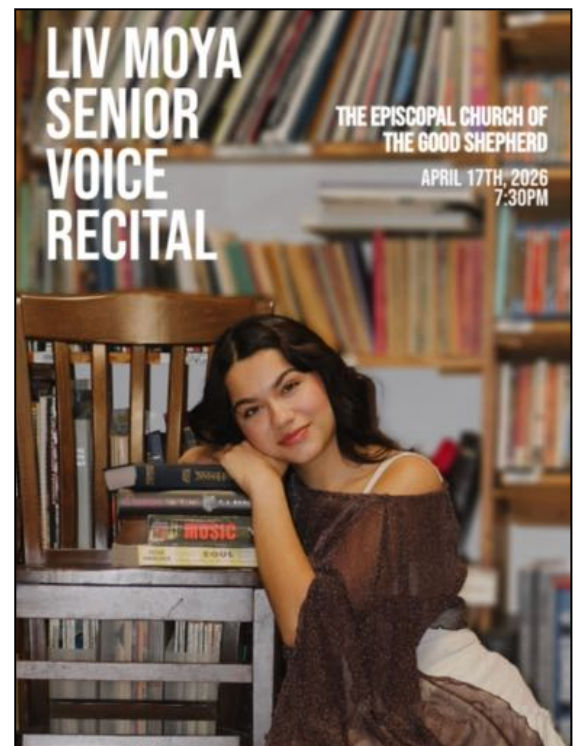
No Sunday School

No Youth Group

No 5:30 p.m. Service

Monday, April 6:

Church Office Closed



Liv Moya Senior Voice Recital

Liv Moya sings in the Church of the Good Shepherd choir. She is having her Senior Voice recital at Good Shepherd on Friday, April 17th at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come hear her beautiful voice!



Spiritual Retreat in Recovery #125

May 1-3, 2026

Bringing the 11th Step to Life



Spiritual Retreats in Recovery provide a safe place to deepen one's spiritual journey – open to all in recovery from alcoholism or other abuses, as well as to families and friends affected by the disease of addiction. Members of various twelve-step programs (AA, Al-anon, NA, CA, ACA, etc.) share their experience, strength, and hope with each other in a community of love and

support, exploring *what it was like, what happened, and what we are like now*.

Retreat Leader will be Father Bill W – Episcopal priest, podcaster and author, founder of Austin Recovery and Friends of Dr. Bob, with over forty years of experience in addiction treatment. He will guide us through the retreat theme, *Bringing the 11th Step to Life*. The Ven. Mike Besson, Archdeacon of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, will be Spiritual Leader, providing worship services and pastoral care. Saturday offers break-out sessions and ample time for individual exploration. All friends in recovery are welcome, and no church affiliation is required.



Idyllic Camp Capers offers accommodations in comfortable Lodge rooms or in the Cabins used for youthful summer campers (with AC/heating and indoor plumbing!). Come enjoy warm hospitality, comfortable lodging, delicious food, and thoughtful presentations in this beautiful hill country setting along the Guadalupe River.

"Recovery happens in community. At this retreat, I enjoyed the awesome presence of God through others in recovery – and in a beautiful setting. It doesn't get any better!"

↑↑↑

"A great, relaxing weekend. I experienced the spiritual healing of the group, and enjoyed quiet time with my Higher Power in one of His most wondrous creations. In comfort with great food!"

Pricing includes 2 nights accommodations and 5 meals (Fri-Sun): Lodge, \$450 for single occupancy, \$255 per person for double; Cabin, \$165 per person (4-6); Commuter day rate (no lodging), \$105 per person. Registration information can be found at dwtx.org/events, scrolling down to the Spiritual Retreats in Recovery dates.

Registration opens Tuesday, March 24 and closes Sunday, April 26.

Limited scholarship funds are available based on need on a first-come-first-served basis. Scholarship recipients will be expected to contribute a portion of their own funds to this program. Contact Registrar David Coburn: (726) 228-9662 / david.coburn@gmail.com



CHURCH COMMUNITY

The Corner Celebrates 55 Years!

The Week of April 13 - 17

Fifty-five years ago, a group of ladies from the Church of the Good Shepherd founded The Good Shepherd's Corner to support the community as a mission-driven resale shop. As a resale shop, The Corner gives the community a place to recycle gently used items while earning money through consignments.

As a non-profit, The Good Shepherd's Corner supports the community in the form of grants to organizations like Good Samaritan Rescue Mission, Metro Ministries, Palmer Drug Abuse Program, Hope House, and The Food Bank.

Come by the Corner the week of April 13 - 17 to join in the celebration!

NEW Wednesday Evening Class

I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED... (or "Stump the Parson...")

Wednesdays beginning April 8 - Led by the Rev. Frank Fuller

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in Dobbins Hall Classroom

We've all had questions we've pondered all our lives long, and may have been afraid to ask. This class will take up questions previously posed by class members to allow for comment and group discussion: "Does God really exist?"... "What does the Bible say happens after we die?"... "Why does the Old Testament matter today?"... "Why does God let bad things happen?" This could get rowdy. Seek the truth, come whence it may, cost what it will.

Sunday School Classes

LIVING WORD

Led by the Rev. Milton Black from 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. in the Parlor

This is 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.

FROM ISLAM TO THE REFORMATION—JESUS' REVOLUTION CONTINUES

Led by the Rev. Frank Fuller from 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. in Munds Hall Library

The Church inherited the ruins of the western Roman Empire, and helped preserve learning and faith for a thousand years of chaos and darkness. This class explores how the mission of Jesus continued to reshape the world and opened the rebirth of the West.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS - FOR ADULT CONFIRMATION

Led by the Rev. William Campbell

9:30 - 10:15 a.m. in Dobbins Hall Adult Classroom

This class is for anyone wanting to officially join the Episcopal Church. It gives a wealth of information about the Church and what it means to be an Episcopalian. If you have any questions, please call Fr. William.

YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTRY

SUMMER 2026

SAVE THE DATES

Tacos on the Playground

Once a month - TBD

These will be announced the week of the event on beautiful Sundays after Church. Be on the lookout for information!

BUS Event for Families

Sunday, June 28

Light Bites and Fellowship following the 10:30 service

Pool Party for Families

Monday, July 27

Santa Fe Swim Club
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Beach Eucharist for Families

Sunday, August 16

Location and Time TBD

COFFEE IN THE COURTYARD

On Sundays in the Courtyard we have coffee and water for anyone who would like to enjoy fellowship following the 10:30 service.

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRIES



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Camper Registration

June 8 - 12

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

for 3 year olds - 4th grade

\$50 per child

Registration is open!
Scan code or go to cotgs.org.



Counselor Registration

Counselors: 5th - 12th grade are invited to be Counselors! [Scan the code to the right above to register a counselor.](#) There's no cost to be a counselor, and you can get service hours!

Adult Volunteers Needed for VBS

Vacation Bible School is a thriving outreach of our church to kids of our church and our community. It's a wonderful way to teach who Jesus is and show His love. But it could not happen without volunteers.

Whether you are a parent, a grandparent, or someone with a servant heart...come be a blessing to the kids at VBS. **We have all kinds of jobs to offer adults that will appeal to the type of volunteering you are most interested in doing**...crafts, games, Bible stories, movies, snacks, decorate, or travel with our toddlers.

Register online and let us know what kind of volunteering you are most interested in doing! You can go to cotgs.org or simply scan the QR code to the right. It's a very short online form!



Adult Volunteer
Registration

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH MINISTRIES

Youth Group in April



6th - 12th Grade

Sunday, April 5

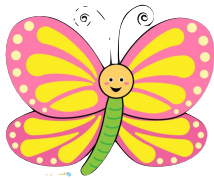
Easter Sunday - No Youth Group

Sunday, April 12

Youth Group Pool Party
Location and Time TBD

Sunday, April 19

Movie at the Youth House
4:30 p.m. Middle School
6:30 p.m. High School



Sunday, April 26

Capture the Flag
Middle & High School at 6:30 p.m.
Meet at the Youth House



Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, May 3

9:00 a.m. Confirmation Fair

10:30 a.m. Confirmation Service



Everyone is encouraged to join us on Confirmation Sunday to show support for our confirmands! The bishop will be with us for the Confirmation Fair and the service.

Join us in Munds Hall Auditorium at 9:00 a.m. for our Confirmation Fair. Our confirmands will display their posters and give their faith statements.

Then at the 10:30 a.m. service the bishop will preside and confirm all of our confirmands.

This is always a very special day!

KINGDOM KIDS



Wednesday, April 1

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Kingdom Kids is a fun evening of fun, food, and fellowship for children from Good Shepherd and St. James. There are games and free-play in the gym, as well as dinner and a bible story for children in 1st - 6th grade.

The nursery and Kid's Zone are available for Infants - Kinder. The cost is \$8 paid online at cotgs.org.



SUNDAYS

Sunday School

9:30 a.m.

Children Preschool 3 - 5th Grade
Water Street Classroom 107
Confirmation (6th Grade)
Munds Hall Auditorium

Children's Chapel

10:30 a.m.

for 3 year olds - Kinder

Celebration Chapel

10:30 a.m. in the Gym
1st - 6th Grade

NURSERY

Ages 6 months - 2 years

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

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

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

6 months - 2 Years in the Nursery 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Sunday School Classes

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

Children Meet in Water Street Classroom 107

Confirmation in Munds Hall Auditorium

Youth Meet in Munds Hall Auditorium

Adults:

Living Word w/Rev. Black in the Parlor

New Member Class w/Rev. Campbell in DHAC

From Islam to the Reformation w/Rev. Fuller in Munds Hall Library

Weekday Services

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 8:20 a.m. Preschool Chapels (4 services)

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

Parents are welcome at All School Chapel on Thursdays.