

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

January 28, 2018



Parish Mission

*The Church of the Good Shepherd
is a Christ-centered community sharing God's love.*

Parish Vision

We strive to Strengthen Faith, Build Community, Serve Others

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**The Church of the Good Shepherd
2017 Annual Meeting
January 28, 2018**

AGENDA

Meeting Called to Order

Opening Prayer

Appointment of Secretary – Tom Appich, Register

Acceptance of 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes

Gratitude for retiring Vestry members: Anne Allen, Tom Appich, Charley Hoffman, Jeff Greenfield

Election of Discernment Committee Report

Recognition of New Vestry members: Heather Abrams, Perry Brown, Kathy Moore, Paul Palmore

Installation of New Vestry by Senior Warden

I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation;

I do yield my hearty assent and approbation to the doctrines, worship and discipline of the Episcopal Church;

I promise to faithfully execute the office of Vestry member of The Church of the Good Shepherd, in Region VII, in the County of Fairfax, according to my best knowledge and skill.

Reports

Treasurer's Report – Linda Kay

Finance Committee Report/2018 Budget – Charlie Biele

Building and Grounds Report – John Morris

Senior Warden's Report – Charley Hoffman

Rector's Report – The Rev. Christine Love Mendoza

Q&A

**The Church of the Good Shepherd
Minutes of 2016 Annual Meeting
February 5, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by The Rev. Bruce McPherson at 11:16 a.m., who then led the opening prayer.

Claire Elser was appointed recording secretary.

The minutes of the 2015 meeting were approved unanimously.

The outgoing vestry members, Cindy Thomas, Karen Geier-Smith, Bob Hall, and Gaela Hime, were recognized and thanked for their service.

John Sniegowski and Karen Geier-Smith reported on the 2017 vestry election results. Rich Allen, Bill Chambers, Susan Generazio, and Doug Price were sworn in as 2017-2019 vestry members.

Roger Libby provided the search committee report. He thanked the search committee, noting that they're about halfway through, but have made a big turn. They have completed the opening section where they've gathered information about where we are as a parish and where we want to go. They have completed focus groups and the parish survey, and now the Community Ministry Profile (CMP) is completed to be approved by the vestry, and will then go to the diocese to be posted.

Linda Kay provided the treasurer's report. We started 2016 with a tight budget, but ended the year with a \$68,000 surplus, partially due to personnel savings and partially due to the phenomenal giving of our parishioners. As a parish, we had 99.4% pledge completion. Regular offerings were \$20,000 above budget, plus we saw an increase in special offerings. The rental ministry met budget. A number of groups within the church contributed to the general fund; most notable among those were ESOL and the preschool. We renegotiated our mortgage rate. Our annual payment in 2017 will be \$161,805. We have money invested in a fund with the diocese (TOTF). The value of this investment has increased to slightly over \$400,000. This year, we used \$14,910 from this fund.

Charlie Biele provided the finance committee and budget report. In 2017, we will be spending additional money on additional part-time staff, the capital reserve, building and grounds, and the parish hall sound system. The diocesan contribution was also increased this year. Going forward, we have a constrained but flexible budget, and are ready for a new rector!

Charley Hoffman provided the senior warden report. We started this year with a great deal of uncertainty, and have made a lot of progress thanks to the hard work of the people of the parish and also to Bruce and Leslie, who have put us in the position where we are strong going forward.

Bruce McPherson provided the interim rector report. He expressed his thanks to the staff and volunteers. He hears nothing but optimistic ideas, and there's still plenty to do.

ANNUAL OVERVIEW REPORTS

RECTOR'S REPORT

What a year in the lives of both Good Shepherd and the Mendoza family! Building on the good work led by the parish leadership and assisted by the Interim Rector, the Rev. Bruce McPherson, my family and I entered a parish that had done the hard work of reconciliation of the past and was ready for the future.

During the rector search process this spring and early summer, I was introduced to the Good People of Good Shepherd through the Search Committee and Vestry. Through them, I discovered a loving community that values relationship, welcomes the stranger, loves their neighbors, and is centered in Christ. To my great honor and joy, I found God calling me to serve alongside you for this important next chapter of our life together. My family and I, after a whirlwind summer of travel and interviewing, picked up and moved from Texas to Northern Virginia in a mere few weeks. We are thrilled to be here and to have found our home with you.

Since my arrival, I have felt the active and vibrant presence of the Holy Spirit moving through our parish. The energy and excitement within our parish family is unmistakable! Some examples of this include:

- Our Sunday worship attendance is high – our Average Sunday Attendance for 2017 increased by nearly 10% over 2016
- Participation in our Sunday children's and youth formation classes has increased – this month has seen an average of 20 youth and 25 children in formation classes
- Our parish life events such as Trunk or Treat and Breakfast with Santa have enjoyed greatly increased participation and enthusiasm
- Our outreach events are also booming with our having assembled and distributed a record 230 Thanksgiving Baskets and over 95 Christmas Boxes to support local families
- A successful stewardship campaign resulted in pledges for 2018 having increased by 10% over last year

The Holy Spirit is calling visitors to our parish every week and our coming challenge will be to continue to keep our hearts open to welcome these newcomers and to develop the programming necessary to keep and support them. To do so, we will need to build on the good work already invested and devote particular effort to the work of ***equipping the saints for ministry***. Looking forward to 2018, this will involve particular focus on the development of pastoral care ministries and youth formation programming.

This coming summer, The Church of the Good Shepherd will celebrate its 130-year anniversary as a community of faith. We will celebrate this great achievement on May 20 as we celebrate the birthday of the church universal with the Feast of Pentecost. I look forward to serving alongside you as we move into the next chapter of this parish's life together.

For over a century and a quarter, Good Shepherd has been a community that welcomes the stranger and loves and serves its neighbors.

The Rev. Christine Love Mendoza

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

2017 was an important year in the life of Good Shepherd. During that time the inevitable uncertainty of an interim period gave way to rising confidence and enthusiasm for the future as we welcomed our new Rector, Reverend Christine Love Mendoza. It is useful to take a moment and remember some of the things that were new and different during that year.

During the first half of the year, the Search Committee was hard at work in a nationwide search for our new Rector under the leadership of Roger Libby, Gail Calabrese, and Perry Brown. This search benefited from the support of the Diocese and particularly, Mary Thorpe, Director of Transition Ministry. It culminated in the unanimous recommendation to the Vestry to call Reverend Mendoza.

During the summer, we began a new program of Family Fun Nights under the leadership of our Jr. Warden, Mary Helman. This program helped us welcome and get to know more young families, a number of which became members of the parish. This was an important step in rebuilding programs for younger children and their families. Another important step in this regard was the hiring of Diana Foote as our new Director of Children's Formation. Among other efforts in rebuilding programs for children, we have continued to forge greater ties between the Preschool and the parish.

The departure of our Office Manager in late summer to attend Seminary provided an opportunity to expand and reorganize the staff of Good Shepherd and as a result we have a new Director of Operations and Rental Ministry, a new Administrative Assistant, and a new Bookkeeper. While all three are less than full time, this more complete staffing will provide a foundation for adding and expanding programs in the next few years.

In late summer, we sadly said good bye to our Interim Rector, Reverend Bruce McPherson. In his slightly more than a year with us, Bruce's experience, wisdom, and optimism helped us to restore confidence in ourselves and to focus on moving forward into a brighter future.

Our sadness soon turned to joy as we welcomed Christine as our new Rector along with her husband, Jonathan and daughter, Emma. It did not take long for us to recognize the potential for growth and new beginnings that the Search Committee had recognized in Christine.

Christine's arrival helped engender a new optimism about our future. This optimism is reflected in the very successful Fall stewardship campaign in which pledges increased by more than 10% over the previous year. This was the second year of increased giving following a period of flat or declining finances.

That optimism is also reflected in our plans for the future. The greater financial resources have made possible the new Godly Play program being introduced in our Sunday School and allowed us to begin to consider the calling of a new Associate Rector sometime later in the year. It also allowed the installation of a new sound system including assistive hearing devices in the Nave and plans for a new sound system in the Parish Hall, and planning for the renovation of one of our rental houses

It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your Sr. Warden during this exciting period. I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to work with the many people who devote so much time and effort to the many wonderful Ministries undertaken by Good Shepherd. I look forward to our exciting future in this parish.

Charley Hoffman

TREASURER'S REPORT

Overall

Our financial picture is good. The Church concluded 2017 with a surplus of approximately \$50,000 owing primarily to increased giving and reduced personnel costs, including the decision to defer the hiring of an Associate Rector or additional Formation staffing until our new rector has sufficient time to assess staffing needs. The AUP (Agreed upon Accounting Principles) Audit, conducted in November, resulted in a "clean" report and was accepted by the Vestry at their recent January 2018 meeting.

Revenues

Our giving (pledge and other regular offerings) again exceeded budget predictions. Pledge fulfillment exceeded 100% and other Regular Offerings were 42% above budgeted amounts. The generosity of the Parish was commendable. Several ministries also contributed to the general fund. Most notable were the Good Shepherd Preschool contribution of \$8,170 and the ESOL contribution of \$3,178.

Expenses

All budgeted needs were successfully funded, including our new formation programs for children, Godly Play and Spark. Individual ministries managed their budgets carefully which helped keep expenses lower than expected, but the generous surplus was due primarily to less than expected personnel costs.

TOTF

In 2007, the Vestry voted to invest the remaining building fund cash plus additional contributions with the Trustees of the Fund (TOTF) of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia. The Vestry authorized that a portion of the TOTF annual earnings be used to partially offset our mortgage loan interest payments (including \$14,280 this year), thereby reducing impact on the annual operating budget. As of 31 December 2017, the market value of our holdings in TOTF was \$465,329.

Mortgage

We are seven years into our current ten-year mortgage with John Marshall Bank. The interest rate is 4.25%. Our unpaid balance as of 31 December 2017 balance was \$2,066,021. The annual payment for 2018 is \$161,805 (\$13,484 monthly).

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The 2018 church budget, prepared and approved by the Vestry, is a constrained budget. It is larger than the 2017 budget and uses the funds from the surplus to augment our normal revenues. Because pledge and plate income normally provide at least 75% of our revenues, the Vestry recognizes that even with the 2018 pledge revenue over 11% higher than 2017 we still need a broader pledging base to continue to meet our budget needs into the future.

Key comparisons between the 2017 and 2018 budgets are:

	2017	2018
Total Budgeted Current Year Pledge Revenue	\$650,443	\$700,000
Total Revenue from all Outside Sources	\$936,157	\$994,350
Total "Revenue" from Reserve Accounts transfers	\$39,280	\$49,280
Total Expenses	\$933,707	\$990,879
Total Budget Surplus (Deficit)	\$2,450	\$3,471

We want it to continue to be clear to the Parish that our operating budget is currently subsidized by withdrawals from our Capital Reserve and cash surplus from the end of 2017. In 2018 the planned withdrawal amount is \$49,280. Given the size of our capital reserve and our projected capital and facilities-related expenditures over the next ten to twenty years, the Vestry feels we must break the habit of using reserves to supplement the operating budget. Increasing revenue through growth in our pledge base or making modifications to our physical plant/property, or a combination thereof, is the way forward.

On the Revenue side, final pledge figures for 2018 were 10.7% higher than the 2017 pledge figures. The reduced expenses for clergy and reduced Formation staffing, as well as significant increased contributions were key contributors to an approximate \$50K surplus at the end of 2017. Other Regular Offerings were significantly above budget in 2017 (\$19,429 or +42%). The 2017 surplus was used to subsidize the 2018 budget as well as increase our Operating Support restricted funds. The \$60,000 from the Rental Ministry and approximately \$14K from leasing the two houses on our property are key parts of our revenues.

The Vestry carefully evaluated Expenses across the board in all areas. For 2018, clergy support to the Parish, including pastoral care, will be met with a combination of our new Rector plus a new Associate Rector later this year as well as our current Interim Associate Rector on Sundays, supply clergy, and our Pastoral Care Associates. Almost all program areas that use fees to offset expenses (e.g., retreats, trips, etc.) require these fees to cover all expenses with no general operating fund subsidy. Our "new" building is 11 years old and there are many upkeep items that continue to need attention. New initiatives to grow our parish will be a primary topic of emphasis this year. The amount of money pledged to the Diocese of Virginia was increased

from \$27,000 in 2017 to \$30,000, or 3.9% of our 2018 pledging and offering income, well below the Diocesan expectation for tithing.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

This year the Stewardship Committee adopted the Diocesan theme of, "To You All Hearts Are Open" and focused on October for the Stewardship campaign. This coincided with Reverend Mendoza's arrival at the church, and she was able to integrate portions of the theme into her sermons for the month. In addition, Stewardship events included public presentations of pledge envelopes by Vestry members, children's religious classes, and representatives of groups from across the congregation who brought their pledges to the altar throughout the month. In addition, we were blessed by a few selected members who provided comments about what the Church of the Good Shepherd has meant to them in terms of changing their lives. The Committee helped draft letters and materials to publicize the Campaign and tracked progress into November. The campaign resulted in 190 individuals, couples or families pledging \$720,152 for 2018. While the number of pledging units was down 6 from the 196 who pledged for 2017, the total amount was up from last year's \$662,152. And while some of last year's pledgers moved away or were not able to pledge this year, the 190 included 16 new pledging units. Working with Reverend Mendoza, the Committee plans to better incorporate Stewardship throughout the coming year, so that next year's campaign will be a reflection of the Church of the Good Shepherd's own unique themes and values and the planned one-month campaign will be just a normal aspect of who we are as people of faith.

GOOD SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL

Good Shepherd Preschool was established in 1970 as an outreach of The Church of the Good Shepherd and is proud to be celebrating 47 years of educating young children. The preschool currently serves 2.5, 3, 4, and 5 year-olds and enjoys a strong reputation in the local community.

The preschool is a non-profit, self-sustaining, and semi-autonomous organization of The Church of the Good Shepherd. It is sponsored by, and uses the physical plant facilities of, The Church of the Good Shepherd but receives no formal subsidy from the parish.

The mission of Good Shepherd Preschool is to educate young children through exploration and discovery in a nurturing environment. The mission acknowledges the important effects that the early years have on a child's total development, and endeavors to motivate children to anticipate future school experiences with enthusiasm and confidence.

Good Shepherd Preschool continues to provide excellent early childhood education to members of the church and community, and has completed all items on its Five-Year Plan, including physical improvements such as replacing the playground equipment, the playground

fence, and the Big Room (Education Room) floor. The Preschool Board is currently developing a new Five-Year Plan for the preschool.

The Preschool, like other preschools in the area, began its year under-enrolled. Enrollment has steadily climbed to a more comfortable place. The preschool continues to be fortunate in retaining dedicated staff members, two of whom are Good Shepherd Preschool alums.

Good Shepherd Preschoolers enjoy several field trips, and riding on school busses, each year. In 2017, we visited Frying Pan Farm Park, Tiny Tots Concert, Udvar Hazy Air & Space Museum, and Hidden Pond Nature Center. Additionally, we bring in special visitors to enhance our curriculum. In 2017, we welcomed KayDee Puppets, Reptiles Alive, Feels Like Om Yoga, Cody & BJ (Kids rock band), and Dr. Sarah Bunin (dentist).

To celebrate the many countries and cultures of the preschool families, the Preschool annually hosts the very popular International Night in the church's Parish Hall. Preschool families are invited to bring an appetizer, bread, or dessert to share which represents their family's cultural heritage. Families enjoy a craft, delicious food, and friendship.

The Preschool held its annual Family Festival in March. For the past 25 years, the Family Festival has been held on the first Saturday in March, a date that aligns with local elementary school carnivals and is known by families in the community who rely on the thrift sale to purchase clothing. The Festival is the preschool's biggest fundraiser, bringing in between \$5,000-\$7,500 each year, but also serves as a charitable community outreach. The Fun Fair consists of games, crafts, and lunch, while the Thrift Sale offers gently used children's items at bargain prices. At the end of the Thrift Sale, all remaining items are donated to the Marih Center, a crisis pregnancy center in Alexandria, VA.

Preschool families were once again asked to contribute canned goods for the church's Thanksgiving baskets. Parents were happy to join teachers in this valuable experience for the children, and responded overwhelmingly. Preschool families also baked and donated over 60 dozen cookies for the church's Christmas boxes.

Physical improvements totaling \$32,125 in 2017:

- New Floor in the Big Room and Hallway by the Nursery and new Treads on the stairs leading to church (\$22,924)
- New fence around the playground (\$6,600)
- New mulch on the playground (\$1,260)
- Removed rotten landscape timbers on the playground (\$200)
- New trees along the playground fence (\$891)
- New mats and a sandbox were purchased and will be installed in the spring (\$250)

In addition to making physical improvements, the preschool provides a donation to the church for \$10/student/month and 10% of our lunch bunch fees. In 2017, this amounted to \$8,375.

Preschool staff and families enjoyed participating in Family Fun Nights, Trunk-or-Treat, and Breakfast with Santa.

Contacts: Amy Brennan, Preschool Director, 703-323-6120, gs.preschool.director@gmail.com
Michelle Gotico, Preschool Board Chair, montvamj@hotmail.com

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

In 2017, B&G continued to upgrade the security of the church buildings and grounds. The remaining parking lot lights were replaced with low wattage/high intensity LED bulbs; two automatic external defibrillation (AED) units were installed and staff trained; handrails around the altar area were installed; and John Morris and Charley Hoffman attended faith based security workshops conducted by the VA State Police and FFX County Police departments. In 2018 we will continue this effort beginning with a security assessment performed by a FFX County Crime Prevention Specialist.

Other major expenditures in building maintenance included repairing a gas leak in a heating boiler; repairs to the air conditioning condensers; installing overhead spots for the hand bells; replacing the Nave sound system; repairing water leaks in the flat roof; and replacing six broken classroom handle locks. The Good Shepherd Preschool, through their Director, Amy Brennan, fronted the cost of replacing the Education Room floor, hallway, and staircase with new flooring. The new floating floor was installed directly on top of the old asbestos tile negating the requirement to do an extensive containment effort if the asbestos tile were removed. The Preschool also paid for the replacement of the chain link fence around the preschool\playground and the planting of two crape myrtle trees. The Church expresses much gratitude for the Preschool's generosity.

Around the church grounds, the major expenses for the year were in the removal of six diseased pear trees along Braddock Road, several dead pine trees around the outdoor worship area and Parish House, and one very large dead pine that threatened the Dove house if it were to fall. Additionally, every five years the County inspects all bio-retention areas and we were required to refurbish our bio-retention area off the north end of the parking lot to meet County standards.

Many other minor repairs on electrical, plumbing, heating, lighting, and kitchen systems were accomplished with minimal expense as DIY projects by B&G. DIY projects around the exterior grounds included flower bed maintenance, mulching, rose pruning, leaf raking, sidewalk clearing of ice, tree pruning, and underbrush clearing. For the first time, our rose bushes were attacked by caterpillars, but B&G was able to save all but one of the bushes. Grounds upkeep is a year-round job that can always use extra hands.

In the process of working with the Preschool Director to get County approval for 2-year olds, the Church learned of a discrepancy in our occupancy permit granted by the County in 2007. Through extensive efforts with County Zoning, B&G was able to get our permit corrected and approved.

The tenant in the Parish House signed a new 2-year lease this summer, but in October we allowed, with penalty, the Dove house tenant to break his lease early. The Rector formed a

Dove House Task Force to review all the Church's options with respect to that house and property, from selling to demolishing to remodeling. The Task Force recommended, and the Vestry approved an effort to remodel the house for long term future use, either as a parsonage or as a rental. Going into 2018, the Task Force will seek bids for the remodeling effort.

B&G continues to be mindful of the obsolescence of our nave lighting system. Besides being configured with high wattage bulbs, the relay panel through which all the lights are wired is no longer supported with spare parts. New LED bulbs have been purchased for the Nave chandeliers and are awaiting installation. Lower wattage LED floods for the Nave are more difficult and we continue to research our options. Once the new bulbs are installed, the focus will be on replacing the outdated relay panel.

We thank all parishioners who lent their hands in and around the church this year. Volunteers are always welcome as it truly takes many hands to keep our church welcoming and running smoothly! Contacts: John Morris, jtsmgb@verizon.net; Peggy Morris, peg.morris@verizon.net; Bob Wilcox, bobcwilcox995@gmail.com.

COMMUNICATIONS

During the last year the communications team has continued to maintain and support the various communication tools and infrastructure used by the church.

In February, we migrated to using the Microsoft Office365 platform including cloud, desktop, and mobile tools. Now all church staff have Office365 accounts with access to all of the Office365 applications and email based upon their role@good-shepherd.net.

This year the Vestry approved improvements to our sound system in the parish hall. This new system will help provide a better audio experience for events held in the parish hall.

In July, we began exploring and prototyping new web and mobile communications apps. A new committee will continue to explore and develop our website to help expand our reach and engagement between the church and our community.

Contact: communications@good-shepherd.net.

MINISTRY REPORTS

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Education

During 2017, COGS implemented a robust, multifaceted adult education program which will continue and expand further this year. The 2017 program included presentations and discussions on a wide range of topics at the Adult Forum (which meets at 9:10 am in the Parish Hall). Speakers and discussion leaders included COGS members and clergy as well as experts from other faith traditions. Topics included Jesus' Last Week and the Beginnings of Christianity,

The Great Schism, Historical Origins of Anglican Liturgy, Grand Questions of the Bible, Women in Islam and others. Given the critical important of personal introspection during Lent, the program also included an evening series focusing on human and divine justice and forgiveness.

The COGS Adult Education program is designed to explore the historical roots and spiritual traditions of our Christian faith, encourage an exchange of personal experiences in living the Christian life, examine the areas where Christians agree and disagree, and develop an appreciation for the perspectives of other faith traditions.

Children's Christian Formation

Beginning last spring, we started to prepare a new program for both the Preschool through 4th grades and the 5th-6th graders. Through the generosity of the congregation, we were able to train teachers, purchase supplies, and find two new rooms for this goal. We have successfully launched Godly Play and it has attracted nearly 20 children to the beautifully appointed room where they will learn all of the great stories of the Bible through storytelling, guided discussion, and 'working' with very well-crafted objects depicting the stories. The more than ten 5th and 6th graders are working with an interactive video program displayed on new audio/visual equipment, and attempting to bring the Biblical stories into their own stories.

Youth Ministry

All young people in grades 6 - 12 are invited and encouraged to participate in Good Shepherd's Youth Group activities. After a year of insufficient critical mass of middle and high school students to make regular meetings viable, there are bright signs that our Youth Group is on the verge of a new renaissance. We started working with other Episcopal churches in our Region, who were experiencing a similar dip in middle and high school aged youth. We participated in a Fall Kick-off event at St. Peters in the Woods in September, the Elf party at St. Andrews in December, and we are hosting a Super Bowl Party in Feb 2018.

Good Shepherd sent six young people to the Diocesan High School Retreat in November, and 2 young people to the 6th & 7th grade retreat last April, and two to the 8th grade retreat last May. All of these young people, and the adult sponsors that joined them, returned energized and are looking for a group that meets regularly. In addition to the Region events, the Youth Group has an event roughly once a month, like bowling, and casual get-togethers. We participate in family events such as a stripping palms and helping with the Easter egg hunt last Spring, participate in Youth Sunday last June, and helped with Breakfast with Santa in December. Upcoming events include helping with concessions for the "Joseph ..." musical, hosting the Regional Super Bowl Party, and hosting the food portion of the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper. If you want to be put on the mailing list for Good Shepherd Youth events, contact John Merchant, merchant@verizon.net. Also contact John if you are interested in helping either directly with the Youth or in the background with communications or logistics.

WORSHIP

Acolytes

Good Shepherd is blessed to have several young people who have committed to participate in our worship as acolytes. The acolytes range from 10 to 17 years of age: 12 are scheduled on a regular basis and 4 have offered to be substitutes, when required. Two of our acolytes participated in the National Acolyte Festival last fall. Four of our acolytes were invited to participate in a Diocesan ordination, hosted at Good Shepherd last spring, and received many compliments from the Diocesan Staff. Young people in grades 4 to 12 interested in joining the acolyte corps, contact John Merchant, merchant@verizon.net. Younger children are encouraged to participate in the Children's Chapel where they learn what acolytes do in a casual setting.

Altar Guild

The purpose of the Altar Guild is to prepare and clear the altar for all regular and special services including baptisms, weddings, and funerals. While Altar Guild members care for and clean the sanctuary, the linens, silver, and brass, they are not "housekeepers", but rather Christians serving the Lord and the parish. The 23 members serve on one of five rotating teams and can be found in the sanctuary and sacristy every Saturday and Sunday morning.

Goals for 2018

- Recruit new members to serve on one of the existing teams once every five weeks
- Build a cadre of substitutes trained to fill in when a regular team member cannot serve and at times of special need (e.g., Christmas, Easter, summer Sundays, and funerals)
- Replace one existing fair linen and the cere cloth
- Help furnish the side chapel altar

Contact Persons through June 30, 2018

Chair	Mary Helman 703-323-8495 (h) 703-909-0577 (c) maryberghelman@gmail.com
Co-chair	Kate Kroehler 703-323-9238 eKatherineK@aol.com
Supply Chair	Sara Gibson 703-216-7468 Sbgibson18@gmail.com

Flower Guild

Established in 1992, The Flower Guild creates beautiful flower arrangements weekly for the nave and children's chapel. The Guild also adorns the entire church for Christmas and Easter and, upon special request, does flower arrangements for parishioner weddings, funerals, and

receptions. We love using fresh garden flowers and greens, so please call one of the captains below if you have something to donate!

The Flower Guild is funded solely by parishioner donations throughout the year. Multiple donations are needed each week to cover flower purchases. Please mark birthdays, anniversaries, and deaths of loved ones by donating Sunday flowers. The signup sheet is in the Narthex or contact Jennifer Burns jennifer.burns@verizon.net. Suggested donations: \$25-main altar; \$20-children's chapel. Make checks payable to The Church of the Good Shepherd and indicate Flower Guild in the memo section. Please deposit checks in the Volunteer Office safe or place in the collection plate on Sunday.



The Flower Guild is divided into five teams with each team responsible for a week on a rotating yearly basis. At Christmas and Easter, all teams work to decorate the church. **We are always actively seeking new members. No experience is required.** New members work with an experienced team leader learning how to design, purchase, condition, & arrange flowers for the church. Contact Peggy Morris peg.morris@verizon.net if you are interested in joining the Flower Guild. Come be part of this active ministry to God and the faithful parishioners of Good Shepherd!

July 2017- June 2018 Team Captains:

Team A: Anne D'Aleo (anne2drew@yahoo.com)

Team B: Alexandra Hall (abgjhall@verizon.net)

Peggy Morris (peg.morris@verizon.net)

Team C: Judith Bell (jab0405@aol.com)

Team D: Kate Kroehler (ekatherinek@aol.com)

Team E: Peggy Barr (pegibar1@yahoo.com)

Flower Funds Chair: Jennifer Burns (jennifer.burns@verizon.net)

Supply Chair: Betsy Jouannet (capt.pete@verizon.net)



Music Ministry

The music program at Good Shepherd provides organ, choral, and instrumental music at Sunday services and other major services throughout the church year. The ensembles include four choirs, two bell groups, brass ensemble, as well as individual instrumentalists.

Director of Music Ministries – Carleen Dixon Webb
musicdirector@good-shepherd.net 703-323-5400, ext. 107

2017 Accomplishments:

1. The concert series continues to be an artistic success featuring outstanding artists from the DC metropolitan area. The 2016-2017 season included concerts by the Maryland

State Boychoir, the Tower House Band, and Patagonia Winds. The concert series has been enthusiastically supported by the Good Shepherd community and online ticketing was added for the 2016-2017 season.

2. The Junior Choir continues to use the curriculum of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) Voice for Life series to improve their musical skills.
3. The second year of the summer Music Camp was held in July and was a highly successful week. The total number of participants increased to nearly 30 children and youth, ranging in age from 7 to 16, who participated in the week's activities, and presented a musical sermon the following Sunday. The Music Camp included a diverse group of young people, some of whom are now participating in the youth choirs.
4. The Director of Music Ministries continued the plan of performing a major work each year with the presentation of the Fauré *Requiem* in May at the Good Friday evening service. The performance was supported, in part, by funds from the June Lepthien Memorial Fund.
5. Other special services, including All Souls Choral Evensong and Advent Lessons & Carols, were held as a way to integrate the music and worship experience and to provide challenging musical opportunities for the choirs. Attendance at Advent Lessons & Carols increased significantly this past year and the reception was moved to the Parish Hall to accommodate the increase in numbers.
6. Regular music staff meetings were held each month to coordinate and plan musical activities at Good Shepherd.
7. Ring & Rejoice, Hallelujah Handbells, and the Brass Ensemble continued to provide music at special services during the year, and enhanced the worship experience for the congregation.
8. Cherubs Music, a new group geared to ages 4-6, began in the Fall of 2017. The curriculum includes a hands-on approach to learning music theory, listening and singing skills, and includes parent participation in the class.
9. A Music Ministries Celebration was held in May 2017 in which participants in the music program gathered for food, fellowship, awards, and recognition of all the many contributions made by individuals to enhance the music ministry at Good Shepherd. Seniors Grace Hall and Sam Conner were recognized for their many contributions to the Music Program at Good Shepherd.

2018 Goals:

1. The Good Shepherd Concert Series continues to be an artistic success. New marketing strategies will continue to be explored in order to increase attendance and visibility. Online ticket sales will again be available this season.
2. The Director of Music Ministries will continue to plan special services in which the Good Shepherd choirs will participate, such as Choral Evensongs and Lessons & Carols. In addition, a Jazz Ensemble made up of talented parishioners, will continue providing music for special events such as the Jazz Vespers. These special musical events, including the concert series, will be marketed in a different way, such as "Second Sundays at Good Shepherd" in order to coordinate and streamline marketing efforts.

3. The Senior Choir will again present a major work as part of the Sunday 10:15 service on with support from the June Lepthien Fund.
4. The music staff will continue to discuss strategies for increasing the number of participants in the youth choirs.
5. The Director of Music Ministries will continue to improve the quality and music repertoire of the choirs.
6. The bell and brass ensembles will continue to work on recruiting new members.
7. The Good Shepherd Music Program will continue to present a summer Music Camp for area youth. The registration fee will be slightly increased in order to adequately cover the costs of the camp. This summer's camp will be held on August 6-12.

Ushers

The Ushers for Good Shepherd support both services and emergent requirements as needed. Teams are assigned that rotate every 5 or 6 weeks depending on the service. New ushers are always welcome to join. Contact: Pete Jouannet, pete.jouannet@gmail.com.

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Christmas Boxes

Our Good Shepherd Christmas tradition is to make wishes come true for needy children referred to us by Britepaths in Fairfax and Jubilee Housing in the Adams Morgan neighborhood of Washington DC. On December 17 and 18 we delivered 45 overflowing Christmas boxes to families in Fairfax and 50 boxes to Jubilee Housing in DC. Our Good Shepherd Preschool families generously baked over 60 dozen cookies which were added to each box. We were also able to provide cash donations and extra toys to these two charitable organizations. This ministry was led by Lisa Libby and Ingrid Sides. Contact: Ingrid Sides, 703-250-3688, isides@verizon.net.

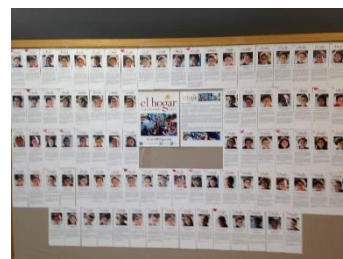
Complete the Circle FOODRaiser

For the first time, Good Shepherd participated in this community service event and public art project designed to collect food and raise awareness for the hungry in the Fairfax County area. It is hosted by Britepaths, a local charitable organization, and Lorton Community Action Center. Good Shepherd collected food for the entire month of October, and brought a full truckload to the event on October 29, which was then distributed to local food banks. In addition, we had a team of 14 parishioners who participated in the event and are part of the aerial photograph that commemorates the day. At this event 12,600 pounds of food was collected, as well as \$2900 in grocery gift cards and cash donations. Contact: Ingrid Sides, 703-250-3688, isides@verizon.net.

El Hogar, Home of Love and Hope, Honduras

El Hogar is a home and school centered in Tegucigalpa, Honduras that provides a home and Christian education, including career skills training, to about 250 children ages six to eighteen. El Hogar is financially supported by US and Canadian churches and individuals and is sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras, part of the American Episcopal Church. Good Shepherd has had an ongoing relationship with El Hogar since 2006. In 2017, we continued to sponsor a student, Rene Sanchez Oliva, who graduated from El Hogar elementary school in November.

During Lent, we offered the El Hogar Friend a Child opportunity for parishioners to select and take home a picture-bio card of a student to pray for and make a Lenten donation in their honor. The very generous response to this resulted in contributions of \$11,550 sent to El Hogar Ministries to be used for the benefit of all the children. Contacts: Sharon Holcombe, 703-909-4158, shh5508@cox.net and Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.



Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)

ERD is an international relief and development agency offering a compassionate response to human suffering on behalf of The Episcopal Church of the United States. Their work to heal a hurting world is guided by principles of compassion, dignity, and generosity. ERD programs work toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals which aim to cut extreme poverty. In 2017, Good Shepherd supported ERD with a contribution of \$3000. This is in lieu of voicing a call for response to specific disaster situations as they occur. Contacts: Gail Calabrese, 703-425-0961, gailcalabrese@verizon.net and Sharon Holcombe, 703-909-4158, shh5508@cox.net.

ESOL

(English for Speakers of Other Languages)

The ESOL program provides morning and evening English classes at the church for our neighbors whose primary language is not English. This past semester students came from 16 different countries of origin on 5 continents.

During 2017, ESOL offered 36 class sessions over a 12-week period each semester, from January 17 to April 20 and from September 19 to December 7. Morning and evening classes were held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays each week. Both the winter and fall sessions enrolled students in 5 morning classes and in 3 evening classes, staffed by volunteers. Students received books, workbooks, notebooks, classroom instruction, and (in the morning sessions) the opportunity to use the Rosetta Stone English computer program. A Saturday luncheon honoring student achievement was held at the end of each semester. In addition, we held a free, informal Coffee and Conversation session in the Spring.

The ESOL budget is supported solely by student fees. This year we had to replace our office shredder. We purchased additional white board cleaner to share with others who use the boards. We collected \$8,035 in student fees and had \$4,857.01 in expenses. At the end of 2017 we contributed \$3,177.99 to the church's general fund.

In 2018 we will continue to offer the same schedule of classes at the levels needed, provided enough volunteers continue to be available and we have enough students for each level. Volunteers are always needed as team teachers or subs for morning or evening classes or to help with administrative tasks. No experience is necessary-just the ability to speak English and the desire to help others. Training is provided. Contact: Carol St. Germain, 703 978-0823, earthcarol@verizon.net.

FACETS

(Fairfax Area Christian and Emergency Transitional Services)

FACETS works locally to build strong families and safe communities by improving the quality of life for impoverished men, women, and children through programs addressing their physical, emotional, and educational needs. Good Shepherd parishioners are involved in the work of FACETS in a variety of ways such as Hot Meals, contributing to supplies drives, and attending FACETS fundraising functions. The church, through the Outreach Committee, provides \$4000 annually in financial support. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

FACETS Baby Supplies Drive

Our parishioners contributed over 400 diapers, along with baby wipes, food, and clothing. These donations enable FACETS to address the needs of families to have necessary supplies to care for their babies. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

FACETS Back to School Drive

Parishioners donated 15 backpacks and a wide variety of school supplies for the Back-To-School drive. These donations helped FACETS serve more than 200 school age children who are in low income families. The families cannot afford to outfit their children in the same way as most Fairfax County children. The self-esteem derived from quality school supplies incredibly adds to the child's educational experience. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

FACETS Benefit Breakfast

Six parishioners again attended the FACETS Benefit Breakfast, an annual networking and fundraising event held last year at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel. Attendees were invited to hear the story of how FACETS changes lives directly from the people served along with enjoying a wonderful breakfast. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

FACETS Hot Meals

Healthy food is a top priority in the FACETS program. Hot, healthy food is a key component of improving the quality of life for impoverished men, women, and children through programs addressing their physical, emotional, and educational needs. Of all the participating churches in Fairfax County, Good Shepherd continues to be the leader for the FACETS Hot Meals program. We have six teams of parishioners that provide hot meals for 60 to 110 homeless people on 40 nights throughout the year. Meals are prepared in the Good Shepherd kitchen and parishioners

distribute the food to three sites: a motel where the homeless are provided shelter by the county, and two locations where people who live in the woods come to get dinner. The team leaders include Kathy Moore, Steve and Jacki Lowe, Judith Bell and Packy Daniels, Arline Easley, Dottie Wimberly, and Gail Calabrese. We added several new volunteers in 2017 but more are welcome. Thanks to all who participated in this FACETS program. Want to get involved? Contact: Charley Hoffman, 703-425-9236, hoffman.charley@gmail.com.

FACETS School Lunches

Healthy lunches are provided by FACETS on non-school days to those children who receive free or reduced-price lunches and whose families are in the FACETS or county homeless programs. FACETS gathers these lunches by calling upon individual volunteers at their partner churches and other organizations. In 2017, Good Shepherd lunch teams provided 65 lunches on six of these out-of-school days. Voting days, teacher work days, and school holidays present this need. The work is easy. We gather two to four people for an hour in the church kitchen to make the sandwiches and bag the “fixings.” Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc@cox.net.

FACETS Taste of Fall and Silent Auction

This annual FACETS fundraiser was again an outstanding success. Gail Calabrese prepared the Italian gourmet food gift basket that Outreach donated for the auction. Several Outreach members and non-members attended the event. A good time was had by all supporting the FACETS cause. Contact: Richard Holcombe, 703-909-4138, jrholc49@cox.net.

Faith, Hope, and Joy Scholarships, Honduras

In 2017 Good Shepherd continued a scholarship program for 16 needy, deserving children who are attending the Episcopal school at the Faith, Hope and Joy community. COGS helped build this community by sending mission teams near San Pedro Sula, Honduras following the devastation of hurricane Mitch. In 2005 COGS team members began this scholarship program to maintain its relationship with the people there. The program is



recommended by the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund and is run by the Episcopal Bishop of Honduras. Our point of contact in the Bishop’s office is the Rev Jackie Ruiz. Twelve parish families participated in the program in 2017 giving more than \$5000 to fund these scholarships. We give thanks for that continuing support. Contact: Jim Connally 703 978-7116, james.connally17@gmail.com.

FISH

(For Immediate Sympathetic Help)

FISH is an ecumenical outreach program comprised of 16 churches in the area which provide funding and volunteers to serve local citizens who are in temporary need of assistance with rent, utilities, food, prescriptions, gasoline, or transportation. Good Shepherd is one of these churches. We work through Fairfax County Office of Coordinated

Services. Outreach supports FISH with a donation of \$2600.
Contact: Jane Wiedhahn, 703-978-5458, janewied@cox.net.

Inova Blood Drives

Good Shepherd blood drives for Inova are held to help provide a safe and adequate blood supply for the community. Inova Blood Donor Services is a major supplier of blood in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, routinely supplying blood and blood components to the Inova system of hospitals, Montgomery General Hospital, Potomac Hospital, Prince William Hospital, Sibley Memorial Hospital, Suburban Memorial Hospital, Virginia Hospital Center, and Walter Reed Army Medical Center Bethesda. Good Shepherd held three blood drives in 2017 collecting 80 units of blood. Blood Drives are scheduled for March 11, June 10, and October 28, 2018. Contact: Lois Lightfoot, 703-978-2867, loiselightfoot@verizon.net.

National Rebuilding Together Day

On Saturday, April 29, 17 members of Good Shepherd converged on a townhome in Springfield as part of National Rebuilding Together Day. Major work areas included outdoor painting, minor electrical work, bathroom and dining room painting, toilet replacement, handrail installation and many "odd jobs". The weather held out and the work lasted until the early evening. The homeowner was beside herself with the work we had done and the improvements to her home. Good Shepherd clearly made a difference in the life of a member of our community! Many thanks to the Rebuilding Together team –Heather Abrams, Robert Buckley, Duncan McNeill Burton, Sam Calabrese, Jim Cleveland, Jim Connally, Bill Ezekiel, Tom Godin, Mary Helman, David Helman, Charlotte Hinkle, Charley Hoffman, Roger Libby, Kathleen Price, Doug Price, Stephen Reith, and John Sniegowski. Contact: John Sniegowski, 571-529-6868, stickusn@gmail.com.

Special Treasures Sale

The Special Treasures Sale held in October 2017 raised more than \$4,500 for the Compassion Fund after all receipts were received from the sale itself and from the sale of "treasures" sent to other auctions. Items brought to the sale by generous parishioners were responsible for this gift to the Compassion Fund. Good Shepherd families brought items after cleaning out their houses, and neighbors purchased reasonably priced goods for their households. More than 40 volunteers sorted, priced, and sold items at the Special Treasures Sale, and most unsold items were given to Value Village for its charitable activities. However, we received jewelry and other valuable items which were sold at Wechsler's Auction in Maryland and Quinn's Auction in Falls Church at prices which reflected their true value and added considerably to the gift for the Compassion Fund. We hope you enjoyed supporting this Outreach Compassion Fund event no matter how you participated, and we appreciate your contributions of time, talent, and treasure. Contact: Arline Easley, 703-323-1875, bobarleasley@verizon.net.

Thanksgiving Baskets

In November, Good Shepherd delivered a record 231 Thanksgiving Baskets to our neighbors in need. Thanks, Good Shepherd parishioners, for donating baskets of food, cash, gift cards, and for all the shopping, packing, and delivering. It was truly a united effort by many hands, veteran and new, young and old! Because of the congregation's outpouring of generosity, we also donated over 200 pies and multiple boxes of non-perishable food items to FACETS and had cash remaining to donate to other Outreach ministry projects. Baskets were distributed as follows: Fairfax County Social Services - 13; Prince William Free Clinic -36; FACETS - 104; Safe Haven - 25; Yorkville Cooperative - 50; and 3 to others.



We gratefully thank the preschool children for their food donations, the many volunteers who worked throughout the day, the youth who helped assemble baskets, and those who helped with the Giant Food collection days. Well done! Contacts: Jan Wilcox, 703-550-0616, jhwilcox@aol.com, and Judy Caddell, 703-425-8585, judycaddell@verizon.net.

Our team of drivers receiving a plaque of appreciation from the Yorkville Cooperative.



United Thank Offering (UTO)

The UTO is a ministry of the Episcopal Church nurturing the habit of giving daily thanks to God; leading to a daily gift in recognition of the blessings that we receive; and using these gifts to support grants for ministries at home and overseas such as kitchen equipment for a homeless shelter, a dental clinic for the poor, a school in the Dominican Republic, handicap access in churches and service buildings, and more. The United Thank Offering Grant Application information is available at the Episcopal Church website, www.episcopalchurch.org/uto. All information for grant preparation is available there. The deadline for submission of applications is March 2, 2018. UTO's focus this year was "Becoming Beloved Community: Racial Healing, Reconciliation, and Justice". The total contributed in 2017, from Good Shepherd, was \$1,146.20 all from donations by parishioners. Contact: Gail Calabrese, 703 425-0961, gailcalabrese@verizon.net.

PARISH CARE AND FELLOWSHIP

Bereavement Support Ministry

The Bereavement Support Ministry (BSM) was formed in August 2016. The purpose of this ministry is to help a family plan a reception they wish to hold at Good Shepherd for a parishioner or a member of a parishioner's family, who has recently died. It is our way of supporting families who have suffered loss.

The BSM is made up of six teams with approximately 4 to 5 members on each team. Each team will serve one month during the winter and one month during the summer. To date, the BSM has worked with a dozen families who have held a funeral reception at Good Shepherd.

The BSM welcomes volunteers who would like to participate in this ministry. Contact: Peggy Barr, 571 242-2064, pegibar1@vahoo.com or Priscilla Baetcke, 703 239-9424, kpbpmbPverizon.net to learn more about how you can help and to sign up. It is our way of ensuring that Good Shepherd can consistently and lovingly provide this service to its parishioners.

Coffee Ministry

We have served real coffee, decaf coffee, hot tea, lemonade, and water to folks every Sunday all year except Christmas when we were asked not to make coffee. We support the breakfast group and the Vestry donut providers, when needed. We also support the Bereavement Support Ministry providing beverages for funeral receptions. Contact: Cappy McMurtray.

Daughters of the King (DOK)

The Daughters of the King is an International religious order of Episcopal, Catholic and Lutheran women who have taken a vow to follow a Rule of Life which includes daily prayer, service and evangelism and to support the rector of our parish in the spiritual up building of the church. We are continued our *Making Sense of the Bible* Study. Our Sister Marge Powell passed away in April 2017 and we admitted 3 new sisters after a 12-week discernment in June 2017. Our 2017 activities in support of our mission included hosting a Seder Supper for the church on April 13, our Sister Elvira Beracochea continued her Walking/Health Club, hosted a wine & cheese for parents during one of the Family Fun Nights during the summer, and we participated in the Nov. 2 All Soul's Service. In November the Rector tasked the DOK with creating a 5-year Community of Caring Plan that focuses on Inreach. Outside of Good Shepherd we donated \$217.00 worth of supplies to Fairfax's Ronald McDonald House throughout the year and also began collecting for the Lamb Center.

We held a Chapter Retreat at Meadowkirk in Middleburg for the majority of our chapter. Two members attended the Diocesan DOK Spring Retreat at Truro in April and one member attended the Province III DOK Retreat in MD in June. Our chapter hosted the Diocesan DOK Fall Retreat at Good Shepherd with approximately 40 Daughters from our Diocese attending which included a Eucharist service lead by the Rev. Leslie Chadwick and assisted by the Rev. Christine Mendoza. Our monthly meetings are held on the 4th Saturday of the month in Rm 6.

In 2018 we will continue to finalize and begin to implement the Community of Caring Plan, have a Chapter retreat at Meadowkirk, and host a Seder Dinner during Lent as well as continue to work at the discretion of the Rector. Contact: Susan Generazio, stgenerazio@gmail.com, 703-451-3285 (h) or 703-989-9686 (c).

Good Shepherd Players

Good Shepherd Players is a ministry of The Church of the Good Shepherd that puts on an annual Broadway-style production for local audiences. Our purpose is to enjoy fellowship while sharing the gifts that God has given us. We are entirely self-supported by ticket sales and private donations and receive no direct financial support from Church of the Good Shepherd. In May 2017, Good Shepherd Players presented the Broadway classic *The Music Man*. Our multigenerational cast ranged from ages 8 to 80 and brought together people of many faiths. The company included more than 70 actors, stage crew, and musicians from Good Shepherd, other Region 6 Episcopal churches, Nativity Catholic, Congregation Adat Reyim, and others. Despite dates that conflicted with shows at several area high schools, we attracted enthusiastic audiences for each performance and sold about 650 tickets to five performances over two weekends, with audiences growing at each show. Our net profit was about \$2000 and we made a donation of \$900 back to Church of the Good Shepherd towards the purchase and installation of a new sound system.

Good Shepherd Players members have also been working to clear the “bride’s room” downstairs and the rooms to the side of the stage. Looking ahead in 2018, we plan on working with the church on storage solutions and maximizing current storage space. The highlights of our year were our free “sensory-friendly” performance we did for a special needs audience and their families and our joyous, moving circle after our closing night performance, where the cast and crew share prayers and stories of our faith.

This year, we look forward to our presentation of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* on January 26, 27, February 2, 3, 4, and our sensory-friendly performance on February 1.

Pastoral Care

In the past year, Pastoral Care has been to hospitals, nursing homes, retirement facilities, and private houses. We’ve brought prayer shawls made by the Knit and Purl group. Wrapped in them, patients feel the warmth of God’s and the congregation’s love. We have given out small olive wood pocket crosses. We have taken patients cuddly prayer bears that carry the prayers of the congregation and give a bit of comfort in the dark hours. There is a bear that has made at least one round trip back to the hospital with its owner. Sometimes we have been able to bring flowers from the church. Often Holy Communion and Prayers is the focus of the visit. We have raced to answer emergency calls. And there have been times when we have just been there to hold hands, pray, and listen.

We’ve gone along on visits to specialists. Given Communion in a doctor’s waiting room after hours. We know the main surgery waiting room at Fairfax Hospital well; we have spent hours

there with anxious family members. We have done prayers for the dying, and prayers for the dead. We've planned and participated in funerals.

We've listened to hours of phone calls, and given the best advice we could given what we know.

It's easy to think of Christ speaking to the multitudes, and feeding vast numbers of people with ridiculously small amounts of food, but Christ first soothed the sick. He comforted the afflicted, he drove out demons, and he raised the dead. In our own small way, Pastoral Care at Good Shepherd reaches out to those who are dealing with tough times, if only to arrange for a meal or two to be brought to a family with someone who has been injured. Our gifts are paltry, but we give the best we have, with God's help, to encourage and comfort those who need us. Contacts: Carol and Phil Johnston.

Welcome & Newcomer Ministries

The Welcome Ministry is a dedicated group of greeters who provide a warm welcome to all who enter the doors of Good Shepherd on Sunday morning. We assist visitors, offer name tags, answer questions, and make introductions. Newcomers' receptions are held periodically to treat recent members to good food, conversation, and a chance to learn more about this community. We ask everyone in the parish to please wear a name tag, an important way to show that you are open to getting to know others. Contact: Kathy Moore, kmooreslp@yahoo.com.

PROGRAMMING

Family Ministry

In July 2017, Family Fun Night at Good Shepherd was begun so young families could stay in touch during the summer and to recruit new families to Good Shepherd. Each night began with a picnic in the grove and was followed by an activity for all ages. Publicity for the events included a Braddock Road banner, neighborhood newsletters, word of mouth, and the church website. The activities included a bike rodeo, a movie night, a scavenger hunt, a sports/games night, and a picnic with water games night. A core group of young families and older parishioners welcomed new parents and children each week. At the end of the summer, these core members met to lay out a fall schedule which included the following:

- Ministries Fair in September – The tables for the Preschool, children's Sunday School and the Family Ministries group were closely clustered and a joint effort ensured that all families with children were greeted and provided with information about upcoming events as well as the music programs for children
- Trunk or Treat in October – While not new to Good Shepherd, Trunk or Treat was different this year. A planned chili supper was held for all those in attendance. Because of rain, the event was held in the parish hall. Table tops were turned in to trunks, the bounce house was set up in the corner, the center of the floor had coloring tables and floor games including pumpkin bowling, pumpkin hockey, and pumpkin tic-tac-toe. Parishioners donated bags of candy to be used by those who ran out. Trunk or Treat

surpassed expectations with over 250 folks attending, 22 trunks, scads of kids in costumes (and parents in costumes as well), great chili and cornbread, and lots and lots of laughter, joy, and fellowship.

- Thanksgiving Baskets in November - All families were encouraged to provide a Thanksgiving Basket and all preschoolers donated food and helped sort their donations prior to "Basket Day".
- Breakfast with Santa in December – This event is not new to Good Shepherd, but it was hoped the growth seen in the previous event would continue to build community. Crafts; music; great food served by the Men's Fellowship; a children's play area including a child-sized gingerbread house; a chance to visit with Santa and have pictures taken; and beautifully decorated tables were enjoyed by 139 adults and 115 children.

2018 Goals

- Improve publicity including better signage on Braddock Road
- Create a planning group
- Hold a minimum of 1 activity per month for young families (already in the planning stage are Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras celebration in February, a Games night in March, an Easter Egg hunt in April, and a church-wide picnic in June)

Contacts: Mary Helman, maryberghelman@gmail.com 703-323-8495 (h) 703-909-0577 (c)
Diana Foote, foote.diana@gmail.com
Leslie Chadwick, leslie.chadwick@hornsonata.com

Knit and Purl for Love

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share our accomplishments with the congregation. Last year we knitted and gave 50 prayer shawls to members in need of them. In addition, we knitted about twelve baby blankets and five children's sweaters and hats to Ronald McDonald. Contact: Miriam Vega

Men's Fellowship

Every Saturday morning at 7:30, a group of men numbering between 12 and 20 meets for the purpose of fellowship and support. There is no agenda and no rules. Discussions are wide ranging and sometimes spirited. We drink coffee, tea and some, only water. Occasionally, there is something to munch on. We leave at 9:00 sharp whether we have solved all the world's problems or not!

Even though the group is older, we are open to all men regardless of age. We invite all men to come and try us out. If you have any questions, feel free to ask them of any of our members or call Frank Vincent 703-608-8700. He'll try to answer them, maybe!