

CHURCH OF THE
Good
Shepherd



1166 South Mason Road Town & Country, MO 63131

FROM THE
DESK OF
PAMELA
DOLAN

“I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.”

When people say they don't want to “give up” something for Lent, I wonder if they have heard this invitation to the observance of a holy Lent, traditionally proclaimed during Ash Wednesday services, and taken it to heart. Fasting and self-denial are right there, plain as day. These are important spiritual disciplines, not optional extras that we can take or leave depending on whether we feel like them or not.

That being said, each of us must decide for ourselves what these disciplines mean, how we will interpret them, and how they can be adapted to our own unique

circumstances each year so that they have the most possible meaning and impact. Some years that is as simple as giving up chocolate or swearing. Some years we need to work on forgiveness and letting go of a grudge. The possibilities are endless. This is why “self-examination and repentance” come first on the list. We need to be able to look at ourselves clearly and dispassionately in order to know where we are falling short and where we need to ask for God's help, the encouragement of our friends, and the support of our community.

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From the Desk of Pamela Dolan, Continued

If you decide to “take on” something during Lent, a new spiritual practice perhaps, be sure to think about whether you might also need to “give up” something as well. An obvious example springs to mind: If I want to make more time for prayer, perhaps I need to spend less time in front of the TV or immersed in social media. Your equation of adding on and giving up will be different than mine, but you get the idea.

This year I would like to challenge each and every one of us to take seriously the idea of prayer and fasting. How often do you pray for members of the parish by name? Do you pray for our congregation to grow and thrive, and ask God to help you be part of that growth? Have you considered fasting from habits and behaviors that are not in keeping with your identity as a beloved child of God? What about fasting from criticism and complaint, which can be so detrimental to the life of a community?

I know that would be a hard fast for many of us, myself included. Our culture values the ability to critique and find fault, with ourselves as well as with others, sometimes to the exclusion of gratitude and acknowledgment. This is an area where we as the church can truly create an alternative to the mainstream, a sanctuary of grace and reconciliation, simply by refraining from unnecessary words and choosing to build up rather than to tear down, to strengthen and nourish rather than to destroy.

I invite you to the observance of a holy Lent. May it be a time of growth, renewal, and joy.

Faithfully,

A Couple More Ways To Observe a Holy Lent

On Tuesday nights we’re having a class called “Your Faith Your Life,” based on the book of the same name. This is a good way to grow in your faith and also to get to know other parishioners better, strengthening the bonds between members of the Body of Christ. It is fine to drop in any Tuesday — all are welcome.

Lent is also a good time to become more involved in the life of the parish, perhaps by joining the Communications team, offering to help out with one of our upcoming events, or even by sitting in on a Vestry meeting. Invite a friend to church, if not for a Sunday morning service than for the Symphony Where You Worship concert on March 8. Or take home some seed packets and help us get an early start on the Shepherd Farm garden. Can you drive a Good Shepherd friend who doesn’t like to drive at night? We’re looking for drivers for Maundy Thursday and the Easter Vigil. (Call the office to volunteer or to ask for a ride!) Any one of these things can be a spiritual practice if done with intention and love.

Lent 2015

Church of the Good Shepherd

Palm Sunday—March 29

Holy Eucharist at 10 AM with Palm Procession

Holy Week—March 30 thru April 2

Holy Eucharist at 7:30 AM

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday mornings

Maundy Thursday—April 2

Soup Supper at 6:30 PM

Holy Eucharist at 7:15 PM

Good Friday—April 3—Liturgy at Noon

Holy Saturday—April 4—9 AM Liturgy

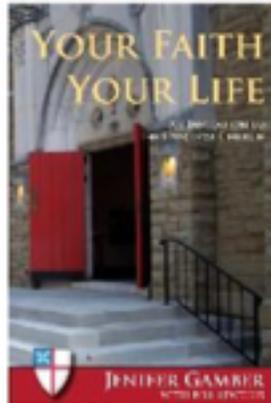
Easter Vigil—April 4 at 8 PM

“Your Faith, Your Life” Prayer & Study Group

Tuesday evenings, 7 PM, Feb. 24-March 31

Feel free to drop in any Tuesday!

*Be Attentive Be Intelligent Be Reasonable Be Responsible Be in Love Be Attentive Be Intelligent
Be Reasonable Be Responsible Be in Love Be Attentive Be Intelligent Be Reasonable Be Responsible Be in Love
Be Attentive Be Intelligent Be Reasonable Be Responsible Be in Love Be Attentive Be Intelligent*



Join us for YOUR FAITH, YOUR LIFE

Tuesday nights at 7 pm
Starting February 24
Mason Woods Starbucks in Town & Country

We'll explore how we in the Episcopal Church understand issues like Scripture, Church History, Baptism, Sacraments, Worship, and more. Come prepared to share and to learn—whether you are an enquiring stranger, are new to the church, or have been an Episcopalian your whole life.

*Be Attentive Be Intelligent Be Reasonable Be Responsible Be in Love Be Attentive Be Intelligent
Be Reasonable Be Responsible Be in Love Be Attentive Be Intelligent Be Reasonable Be Responsible
Be in Love Be Attentive Be Intelligent Be Reasonable Be Responsible Be in Love Be Attentive
Be Intelligent Be Reasonable Be Responsible Be in Love Be Attentive Be Intelligent Be Reasonable*

Snippets from Your Senior Warden

Greetings! Here we are well into Lent on the liturgical calendar and getting ready to “spring ahead” on the ordinary calendar. As we get ready for the seasons to change, I wanted to let you know about two major changes to the daily nuts-and-bolts working schedule at Good Shepherd that will require us to enlist your help and understanding if we are to implement these changes as smoothly as possible.

The first of these changes is that we will have a new sexton beginning April 1. Her name is Regina Smith and she will be moving into the rectory in late March. I know you will make her feel welcome! We plan to have Regina join us at coffee hour once she has settled in. I want to thank George Gray and Mickey Harrison for joining me on the sexton search committee. Their knowledge of the buildings and grounds, and their dedication to finding the right person to be the sexton here at Good Shepherd were apparent throughout this process. I also want to thank all who are helping to bridge the gap in this interim period until Regina gets up to speed. If you observe anything that needs attention, please let George, our junior warden, or myself know.

The second change is one that was discussed at the annual meeting. As most of you know, we are so blessed to have Debbie Wheeler as our parish administrator. With some financial assistance from the diocese, we share Debbie’s time and talent with St. John’s Tower Grove. Since 2013, Debbie’s time was split 60/40 (COGS/St. John’s). Beginning the week after Easter, the split will change to 50/50 and Debbie will physically be at COGS on Tuesdays and Thursdays. (On Mondays, both church offices are closed and Debbie will work out of St. John’s, half the day on St. John’s business and half the day on COGS business.) This means we need people to come in and cover phones and other office duties on Wednesdays and Fridays. Pamela+, Debbie and the vestry are brainstorming on which tasks can be eliminated or minimized, but the bottom line is that we will need help in the office. I would ask that everyone give some thought as to if, and how, you may be able to help. Please call me (or any member of your vestry), Pamela+, or Debbie if you can help or have ideas. This is a change that we wish we did not have to make, but it is a financial reality that we must address.

In my role as your senior warden this year, please do not hesitate to call me with any questions, ideas or concerns you may have. All my best,

Lori Fisher
314-677-0702

Youth Group Event

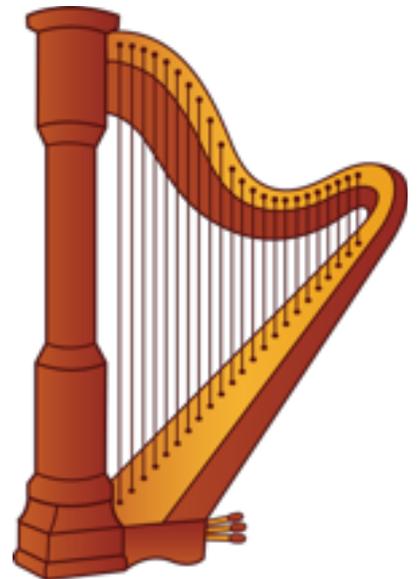
On March 15 at 2 PM at the Missouri History Museum (5700 Lindell Blvd in St. Louis) youth from the diocese of Missouri are invited to attend "Afflicted," a play about the Salem witch trials. Our field trip will include the play, a post-performance dialog with the cast, and a time to process the show with a group of interfaith youth, as well as a service project. The Rev. Pamela Dolan is heading up this trip. Adults are invited, too--we could use at least one more driver and chaperone! Please let Pamela know if you or a young person in your household would like to participate. She will buy discounted tickets and then you can pay her back. Scholarships available. More information about the play is available at <http://www.afflictedsalem.org/> or check out our Facebook event page!



St. Louis Symphony Comes to Good Shepherd!

The **Symphony Where You Worship** program presents musicians from the STL Symphony in concert in 10 host partner houses of worship each season. The music provides a wonderful means for bringing people from all faiths across the thresholds of houses of worship that may be unfamiliar. Each concert lasts for about an hour, is casual, and open to all. No tickets or reservations are needed. Concerts are made free of charge to audiences and to the house of worship partners.

Thanks to the perseverance of our friend Jamie Spencer, Good Shepherd will be hosting a **Symphony Where you Worship** program on Sunday, March 8, at 3 PM (See flyer on the next page). We would like to have a great turnout of people from all around our community, so be sure to mark you calendars and invite friends. The Symphony sent representatives to Good Shepherd to get a feel for our space, and they chose the nave (sanctuary) as the best spot for the performance. The **FREE** program will feature harpist Allegra Lilly and friends. We are sure it's going to be a real treat. To make this even a success, we will need help with publicity and hospitality so please help if you can. See you there!



Sunday,

*March 8, 2015
3:00 PM*

Symphony Where You Worship

St. Louis Symphony

Comes to Good Shepherd



Symphony Where You Worship is a community outreach program of the St. Louis Symphony. Join your friends and neighbors at Good Shepherd for a

FREE PERFORMANCE

*Featuring
Harpist Allegra Lilly and Friends*

Sunday, March 8, at 3 PM.

The concert is casual, lasts about an hour and is open to all. No tickets or reservations required. Space is limited, so come early for a good seat.

1166 South Mason Rd.
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Phone: 314-576-5502
E-mail: office@goodshepherdcc.org
Web Page: www.goodshepherdcc.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/goodshepherdcc

Shepherd Farm: Can You Help?

It's cold right now, but the calendar says Spring is around the corner. That means it's time to start thinking about our next season for Shepherd Farm! Last year was our inaugural year and we were able to donate more than 2,000 pounds of healthy, local produce to families in need in St. Louis. If you'd like to be part of this community effort, we have two ways you can help right now:

- 1) Grab a packet of seeds from the information table at church and start some seedlings at home. There's a handout to help you if you don't know how. Or go to your local garden/hardware store and pick up a pre-made seed starting kit.
- 2) Come help us at one (or more!) of our Power Plantings.

All **Power Plantings** are on Saturdays at 9 AM. Come join us!

- March 28
- April 11
- April 18
- April 25

Stay tuned for more ways to help our garden grow.



Mission Trip Reflection

It's time to start thinking about the 2015 Nicaragua Mission Trip. This year we have the option of going for one week or two; the two weeks are Sunday, July 19, to Monday, July 27, and/or Sunday, July 26, to Monday, August 3. For more information you can talk to anyone who has been on a recent trip, including Lynn Hedrick, Shara Erdel, Rick Braznell, Susan Naylor, Barry Schenck, Stevia Schenck, Maddie Eveland, Annabel Dolan, Kate Dolan, or Pamela Dolan. For a taste of last year's mission trip, please read this reflection from Kate Dolan, age 10.

As a first-timer on mission trips and only my second time out of the country, I wasn't entirely sure what I was getting into when we decided to go to Nicaragua. Even though we went to meetings ahead of time, I didn't really know what I thought Nicaragua was going to be like nor what I wanted it to be. But looking back on it now, my first and hopefully not last mission trip was amazing. In Nicaragua, the days were always hot and the place we were staying had pretty tropical birds and comfortable woven hammocks. The best part of Nicaragua, however, was what lay outside the gates of our "home away from home."

Outside the gates was a world unlike any I had ever seen before. The people there always seemed to have a job to do, which made everything feel very busy. My favorite job I saw there was on a bus ride when we saw two men on horseback herding a large flock of animals, and they passed right by our bus! Whenever we went to the market I saw unique and interesting goods I had never seen before. I got a colorful wooden calendar at the market. I like it because the months are written in Spanish, which is good practice. Next year when I am in middle school I want to take Spanish as a foreign language because after going to Nicaragua I realize how practical it is to learn Spanish. Sometimes at restaurants it was hard to communicate, and I had to ask how to pronounce words and ask for things I needed. Luckily we had three or four kind people on the trip who were able to give assistance to those who didn't speak Spanish.

My favorite job we got to do there was painting the school. I loved the feeling of knowing that I was helping other kids like myself. Some other jobs that we did in Nicaragua included visiting hospitals. When we went to the maternity ward I loved seeing all the moms with their adorable newborn babies. It wasn't all work on the trip, we had some fun too. When we went to San Juan del Sur we had lunch on a beautiful boat and got to swim to a sunny beach. My sister and her friends and I climbed up a rock face and, to our surprise, there were small crabs all over the rocks. I'll never forget giggling as we tried to avoid the crabs.

I hope I can go back this year because, as fulfilling as this experience was, there is always more work to do in the world, and it's up to us to get it done. Thank you to everyone who made this trip possible!

Calendar

March 2015		
Saturday, March 7	8:30 AM	EpiscoPals Meeting
Sunday, March 8	10:00 AM	Food Bank Sunday
Sunday, March 8	3:00 PM	Symphony Where You Worship
Sunday, March 15	11:30 AM	Vestry Meeting
Sunday, March 15	2:00 PM	Youth Group: History Museum Play
Tuesday, March 17	7:00 PM	DOK Meeting*
Sunday, March 22	6:00 PM	Taizè Service
Saturday, March 28	9:00 AM	Shepherd Farm: Power Planting

***Please note:** On Tuesday, March 17, the Daughters of the King will join the “Your Faith, Your Life” group rather than have a separate meeting.

Calendar

April 2015		
Thursday, April 2	6:30 PM/7:15 PM	Soup Supper/Eucharist
Friday, April 3	Noon	Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday, April 4	8:00 PM	Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 5	10:00 AM	Easter Sunday
Wednesday, April 8	7:00 PM	Vestry Meeting
Saturday, April 11	9:00 AM	Shepherd Farm: Power Planting
Sunday, April 12	10:00 AM	Food Bank Sunday
Saturday, April 18	9:00 AM	Shepherd Farm: Power Planting
Tuesday, April 22	7:00 AM	DOK Meeting
Saturday, April 25	9:00 AM	Shepherd Farm: Power Planting
Saturday, April 25	5:00 PM	Youth Group Overnight Retreat

Recurring Events	
AA Meetings	Mondays at 7 PM
West County Strings	Tuesdays at 6 PM
Your Faith, Your Life	Tuesdays in March at 7 PM
Yoga	Thursdays in March at 11 AM
Choir Rehearsal	Thursdays at 7 PM
City Voices	Thursdays at 7 PM
Holy Eucharist	Sundays at 10 AM

Birthdays

3/2 Carie Kennedy	4/6 Joan Coots
3/2 Lesley McIntire	4/6 Sally Albers
3/3 Audrey Kennedy	4/9 Jack Thompson
3/10 Kari Eveland	4/10 Molly Mercurio
3/11 Barry Schenck	4/10 Sheila Hinds
3/11 Mirthala Wieneman	4/11 Samantha Eveland
3/21 Tom Hedrick	4/15 Warren Mercurio
3/21 Bob Stirling	4/18 Pam Finch
3/23 Kathleen Dolan	4/26 Kathleen Strain
3/30 Pam Tvedt	4/26 Ryan Strain
3/31 Duncan Schenck	4/27 Bobbee Ross
4/2 Courtney Starling	4/27 Micah Schenck
4/3 Jenny Link	4/29 Drusilla Rees

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Anniversaries

4/3 Barry & Stevia Schenck
4/18 Tom & Janet Lowenthal
4/21 Todd Eller & Mark Sluss

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and His church; send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Our Mission: To Share a Place of Worship and Fellowship Where Our Hearts Meet God's Light
Our Vision: To Be a Vibrant Community That Knows Christ and Makes Him Known*

*The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
1166 South Mason Road
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