

# Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



## News from the Mountain Top

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March 2023

### Celebrating Shrove Tuesday with a Pancake Supper

Good Shepherd opened its doors on Tuesday, Feb. 21, to welcome neighbors for a free community pancake supper. The reason for this fun was Shrove Tuesday, the last day of Epiphany: the day before Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent.

Many people give something up during the 40 days of Lent as a way to prepare for Easter. But on this night, also known as Mardi Gras, we gathered to enjoy pancakes, fried apples, and sausage, listen to New Orleans-style music, play a Lenten trivia game, and burn the palms from last

year's Palm Sunday service to

make the ashes for this year's Ash Wednesday. The church's dining room was beautifully trimmed in green, gold, and purple by Janet Locklear and Rev. Martha Clark. Walls were adorned with festive masks, tables were set in matching colors with decorative centerpieces, and guests were given multi-colored beaded necklaces and feathered masks by Lois Tapscott as they arrived. Donations for FISH were collected and delivered the next day.

Many hands make light work, and so was the case this evening. Lois and Judy Hall prepared the fried



apples ahead of time. Lee Ruddle, Bryan Zidek, and Tim Hall manned the pancake and sausage cooking stations, passing loaded plates to Penni Tidwell and Charlene Fu who served them to the seated guests. There was no shortage of all the decadent goodies being served up, and many take-away boxes were carried home.

Rev. Martha led all in a fun trivia game that explored Lent, Shrove Tuesday, and Mardi Gras. We learned



that “shrove” means to confess one’s sins and that the three Mardi Gras colors stand for justice, faith, and power. Can you guess which color for which?

Following the trivia game, Janet’s homemade King Cake was presented. The King Cake is so named to remember the coming of the three kings (wise men) to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn king, baby Jesus, on Epiphany. The cake is baked in the shape of a ring to represent the circular route the wise men took to confuse King Herod. The cake even has a small plastic baby inside that is served in one of the slices of cake. Whoever finds the baby becomes the king or queen of the celebration. This year’s winner was Judy Anderson!



After everyone had finished eating, we withdrew to the outdoor patio for the burning of the palms. This tradition also marks a circular path: between Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem for the Passover and the imposition of ashes to begin Lent, when we remember that “we are dust, and unto dust we shall return.” The palm burning was made even more special by the attendance of one of our guests, Margaret Kidwell, who plays the shofar, which she brought along. As we prayed over the palm flames that leapt into the night sky, she gave a few haunting blows on the ram’s horn, helping bring the evening’s festivities to a worshipful close.

## Blood Drive

**WHEN:**  
**Saturday, April 8, 2023**  
 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**WHERE:**  
**Blue Ridge Fire Hall**  
 131 Retreat Rd. Bluemont, VA

*The Inova Blood Donor Services Bloodmobile will be parked in the parking lot.*



**Every Drop Counts.  
 Donate Blood.**

### Book Your Appointment Today

- Visit <https://bit.ly/MVD040823>
- Call 1(866) 256-6372, use Sponsor Code 8464
- Contact Greg Valker (571) 264-1901 – [greg.valker@valker.net](mailto:greg.valker@valker.net)



Clarke County Fish will be hosting a Food Drive. Bring a donation & be entered to win a prize from Veramar Winery!

## Volunteer for FISH of Clarke County

FISH is extending its service to Pine Grove and Shenandoah Retreat, adding various volunteer positions at different exertion levels, such as answering phones, making deliveries, working at its clothing store and food pantry (36 E. Main St., Berryville), receiving donations, sorting and displaying items, and packing food boxes.

As a growing organization, FISH can use more help from our community. Call 540-955-1823 or email [fishfoodpantry@comcast.net](mailto:fishfoodpantry@comcast.net)

FISH is a volunteer-led nonprofit Christian ministry that, with help from local churches, organizations, and residents, supports neighbors with necessities like food and clothing, financial assistance, and a fuller integration into local community life.

## Bishop Harris to visit Good Shepherd

Due to COVID-19 and transitions in our diocese, it's been quite a few years since our last bishop visit at Good Shepherd. We are excited to announce that this long, three-and-a-half-year drought is over. The **Rt. Rev'd Gayle Elizabeth Harris**, newly appointed Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, will celebrate Holy Eucharist with us for the Third Sunday of Easter, April 23, at our 11 a.m. service.

The Rt. Rev'd E. Mark Stevenson, Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, announced the appointment of Harris as Assistant Bishop on Dec. 8, 2022, with plans to begin her ministry in the diocese on April 1, 2023. We are thrilled that she will be visiting Good Shepherd in her first month serving the diocese.

"Joyfully, I look forward to joining with you in the proclamation of the Gospel of love and reconciliation in the Diocese of Virginia and beyond" Bishop Harris says in a greeting to the people of the diocese. "I pray that our ministry together in the name of Jesus, continues to empower us to be God's agents of healing and transformation in our own lives, and in the world."

Bishop Harris will play a lead role in broadening and deepening the diocese's formation ministries for both clergy and lay leaders. She will also share in the full range of Episcopal duties, including support of clergy, congregational development, and visitations to churches, schools, colleges, and retirement communities.

**Please come meet Bishop Harris  
at Good Shepherd Church  
on April 23 at our 11 a.m. service.**

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, Bishop Harris obtained her Master of Divinity degree from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, California. She was

ordained to the priesthood in 1982 in the Diocese of Newark in New Jersey. From 1982 to 1992 she served in the Diocese of Washington, D.C., where she held positions on a range of diocesan leadership committees and at the National Cathedral.

In 1992, she was called as rector of St. Luke and St. Simon Cyrene Church in Rochester, New York, where she served until her June 1, 2002, election as Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Massachusetts. In addition to her duties as Suffragan Bishop, she led annual pilgrimages from the Diocese of Massachusetts to the Holy Land and was active in the Diocese of Massachusetts partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.

Bishop Harris's involvement with the national Episcopal church has been quite extensive. She is a past Vice Chair of the Church Pension Fund Board of Trustees. She has served on the Board of Directors of CREDO, the Steering Committee for Bishops Working for a Just World and the Church Investment Group. Some other committees she has served are the House of Bishops' Pastoral Development Committee, the Convener of the Episcopal Bishops of African Descent, The Episcopal Church's Task Force on the Theology of Money, the House of Bishops' Planning Committee and of the Standing Committee on Interfaith and Ecumenical Relations of the Church.

## Creation Care Corner: Spring is in the Air, *By Cindy Ingram*

Our first workday for the Prayer and Meditation Garden will be March 25. The first order of business will be clearing the garden of fall leaves and sticks. Once cleared out, the space will be ready for the first phase of spring planting. The plan is to plant the rest of the bushes and trees which are three huckleberry bushes, three mountain laurel trees, a Rosier dogwood, and two chestnut trees. Once the trees and bushes are in, we will turn our attention to finishing up the path border with Allegheny spurge.

Start time for this workday will be 9 a.m. and we'll work until about noon. Additionally, on April 1, we would like to do another workday after we serve pancakes at the FISH Community Table. We'll do general grounds clean up, light planting, and mulching in anticipation of Palm Sunday and Easter. Many volunteers will be needed for both days, so grab your gardening tools and come join us. We look forward to dedicating this space for worship and the care of God's awesome creation!



## Church Calendar - All are welcome at our services!

**SUN Mar. 19**, 11 a.m. – The Fourth Sunday of Lent: Holy Eucharist with Rev. Deb Rutter

**SAT Mar. 25**, 9 a.m. to noon – Prayer Garden workday

**SUN Mar. 26**, 11 a.m. – The Fifth Sunday of Lent: Morning Prayer with Tim Hall

**WED Mar. 29**, 9 a.m. – Due in Narthex FISH Food Collection for month of March delivery

**SAT Apr. 1**, 9 to 11 a.m. – FISH Community Table: Social and food distribution

**SAT Apr. 1**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Parish Workday: Prep for Holy Week

**SUN Apr. 2**, 11 a.m. – Palm Sunday: Holy Eucharist with Rev. Deb Rutter

**THU Apr. 6**, 6 p.m. – Maundy Thursday: Sacred Supper, Foot Washing, Holy Eucharist with Rev. Martha Clark

**FRI Apr. 7**, 6:15 p.m. – Good Friday: Stations of the Cross, Good Friday Service with Tim Hall

**SUN Apr. 9**, 11 a.m. – EASTER Sunday: Easter Holy Eucharist with Rev. Deb Rutter and Rev. Martha Clark

**SUN Apr. 16**, 11 a.m. – The Second Sunday of Easter: Holy Eucharist with Rev. Rob Banse

**SUN Apr. 23**, 11 a.m. – The Third Sunday of Easter: Holy Eucharist with Bishop Gayle Elizabeth Harris

**SUN Apr. 30**, 11 a.m. – The Fourth Sunday of Easter: Healing and Holy Eucharist with the Rev. Martha Clark

**SAT May 6**, 9 to 11 a.m. – FISH Community Table: Social and food distribution

Join by Zoom, at our website, [www.goodshepherdbluemont.org](http://www.goodshepherdbluemont.org), and click the link on the home page.

## Native Plant Sale

**Saturday, April 22, 2023**

9:00 am - 3:00 pm



Morven Park

17195 Southern Planter Ln., Leesburg  
(main parking lot)

[www.loudounwildlife.org/events](http://www.loudounwildlife.org/events)

## Outreach



AA meets at Good Shepherd every Saturday night at 8:30 pm, in person or by Zoom.

Drop in or contact:

<https://aavirginia.org/meetings> and search for Bluemont.



FISH of Clarke County (36 E. Main St., Berryville) The FISH clothing store and food pantry are open 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Visitors should wear face masks. Anyone not able to stop by when FISH is open may contact FISH at 540-955-1823 or via email at [fishfoodpantry@comcast.net](mailto:fishfoodpantry@comcast.net) to schedule no-contact delivery.

Good Shepherd gathers donations for FISH every month. Please bring your donations canned and dry goods, paper products, and toiletries to the church narthex by the last Sunday before the last Wednesday of the month. Checks made out to FISH to support this effort are also appreciated. Lois, our senior warden, will deliver the donations on that last Wednesday.

In February, we donated 59 pounds of food along with \$60 raised at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. The FISH Community Table mobile pantry will set up again at Good Shepherd on Saturday, April 1, from 9 to 11 a.m.

## Giving

Checks may be dropped in the offering plate or mailed to:

**Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 324, Bluemont, VA 20135**

Thank you for your generous support.

Any questions or concerns? We would love to hear from you by email, phone, or in-person:

[office@goodshepherdbluemont.org](mailto:office@goodshepherdbluemont.org) \* 540-252-5825 \* 27 Good Shepherd Road, Bluemont, VA 20135