

# Good Shepherd Episcopal Church



## News from the Mountain Top

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November 2022

### A Happy Celebration, *by Charlene Fu*

Attendance was unusually high for a regular Sunday service at the Church of the Good Shepherd on Oct. 30, when worshippers turned out for the First Annual Volunteer Celebration Day.

Conceived to show appreciation for servants in the church, Tim and Judy Hall and Lois Tapscott were honored for their hard work and dedication to keeping Good Shepherd open and running for many years. The event was kept secret from the honorees. Tim was heard to have said before the service that it was "nice to see so many people."

During the service, the three were invited to the front for a special ceremony at which an Order of the Lambs of the Good Shepherd was established and into which the Halls and Lois were inducted as inaugural members.

Rev. Deborah Rutter read this proclamation:

"Whereas Good Shepherd Episcopal Church has served and continues to serve as a house of worship to Almighty God in the Village of Pine Grove because of the work of faithful parishioners over the course of more than a century;

"Whereas the exemplary service of these faithful parishioners is worthy of recognition,

"I proclaim the Order of the Lambs of the Good Shepherd hereby established on this day and for this purpose; and do forthwith induct Tim Hall, Judy Hall and Lois Tapscott the inaugural members of said Order.

"And whereas it may seem good to the people of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church to commemorate the establishment of the Order of the Lambs of the Good Shepherd, the final Sunday of October is hereby designated the annual Volunteer Day Celebration to mark this occasion and induct new members."

As a keepsake, the inductees were presented with scrolls of the proclamation, which was affirmed by church members, including some who had moved away, who wrote notes of gratitude that were also printed on the scrolls.

A potluck reception followed the service and the three Lambs talked briefly about how they came to Good Shepherd.

Lois was been coming to Good Shepherd since before she was born. She has been Senior Warden for about 40 years, and she is listed as the teen-age note-taker on some historical church minutes. Tim and Judy came to Good Shepherd around 2004 with the Rev. Chris Cunningham from St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Purcellville. Chris had been directed



*Rev. Deb Rutter, Lois Tapscott, Judy & Tim Hall*



by the Bishop of Virginia to “go see if there’s a pulse there.” At the time, the church building was about to be condemned, but through the hard work of many volunteers and donors this charming little mission church on the western face of the Blue Ridge Mountains continues to be a place to gather for sweet Sunday worship and holiday celebrations, and to mark various life passages.

### **A Sign of Good Things, by Lois Tapscott**

Our church has a new welcome sign thanks to the generosity of Shirley and Debbie Grey, our neighbors across the street.

Recently noticing that our sign was in disrepair, the couple offered to take care of its replacement and donate the new sign to our church. The sign was made by Patti House of Sign Design in Purcellville, Virginia. It was placed at the end of our driveway along Good Shepherd Road.

Rev. Martha Clark stained and sealed the posts for the sign and added some plants around the sign on Oct. 29. Then, on Oct. 30, Rev. Debbie Rutter offered a dedication service at the sign along with the Greys and some of our church members.



*Rev Martha Clark, Lois Tapscott, Debbie & Shirley Grey*

The Greys have been good neighbors living on Pine Grove Road across from the church for 38 years.

### **Stewardship: Using Our Gifts, by Rev. Martha Clark**

Stewardship begins with appreciation and grows out of gratitude. At its heart, stewardship is an understanding that everything we are and everything we have, including our financial resources, comes from God.

God has blessed each of us in different ways, and it’s important for us to be conscious of those blessings and say “thank you” to God, just as we thank anyone else. We do that by taking what God has given us and offering it for God’s use. We thank God by sharing our blessings and by growing blessings in the lives of others. It’s a great privilege to be a part of this ministry of stewardship as we offer our God-given time, talents, and treasure in the service of others and to build God’s kingdom of Love.



We often think of stewardship as a once-a-year fall pledge campaign – but really it’s so much more. Stewardship is how we approach our relationship with each other and all of God’s gifts to us all year. Whatever the resources, abilities, and relationships we have been given, those are what we must work with, sharing them with generous and grateful hearts out of a sense of God’s abundant care and promises.

This November, we “kick off” a ministry of year-round stewardship at Good Shepherd Church. To start, each of us will receive a stewardship letter including a Giving Commitment (Pledge) Card for 2023. We are invited to discern the gifts of time, talent, and treasure God gave us and to prayerfully consider committing those gifts to further God’s work through the mission and ministry of Good Shepherd.

*Based on the gift each one has received, use it to serve others, as good stewards of God grace. – 1 Peter 4:10*

May we be blessed with ever generous and grateful hearts!

### **Creation Care Corner: Let’s Talk About Recycling, By Cindy Ingram**

Did you know that recycling an aluminum can takes 5% of the energy that making a new one does? Aluminum cans are also one of the few recyclables that you can monetize. A typical carload of aluminum cans yields \$30-\$40 at Potomac Metals, a scrap metal recycling center in Sterling, Virginia (website noted below). Further, there are many other scrap metal recycling centers in a 50-mile radius of Bluemont, which can be found with a quick Google search!

Local recycling centers accept aluminum cans as well as glass, plastic, paper, tires, scrap metal, electronics, and much more. A list of the recycling webpages for the counties of Loudoun, Clarke, and Frederick can be found below; each website also provides a complete list of accepted items.

Lastly, please remember that recycling is not the only option; reuse is also a viable option and quite helpful at reducing the waste in landfills. Butter, whip cream, and ice cream all come in different size tubs which can be used in lieu of Tupperware, and glass jars can often be reused for canning. Further, reusing these things not only saves space in the landfill, it also saves you money.

Good Shepherd recycles paper, cardboard, metal, glass, and plastic and is striving to avoid single-use plastics through use of compostable products and those made from renewable sources. Let's all do our part to waste less, reuse more, and recycle as much of the rest as possible!

- [Waste Management | Loudoun County, VA - Official Website](#)
- [Trash & Recycling | Clarke County, VA](#)
- [Recycling | Frederick County \(fcva.us\)](#)
- [Potomac Metals - Electronics and Scrap Metal Recycling](#)

### Facility Update: *"Septic System Survival"*, by Tim Hall

After more than three months of fretting over our sewage waste system, new septic system components connecting the building to the tank and the tank to the drain field have finally been installed, tested, and county-approved. PVC has replaced terra-cotta and with the new clean-out riser, we'll never lose track of the septic tank again. McKim Septic & Plumbing did the repairs for \$8,900, which included several preliminary visits, plan submission, permitting, and all the site



work. Our Diocese, through the Committee on Congregational Missions (CCM) has offered to help with \$6,000. Thanks goes out to our CCM Liaison, Linda Bailey, for bringing our travails to the attention of the Rev. Webster Gibson, and to Webster for securing this aid. While not as gorgeous as our new parking lot, this much needed update is still a great relief!



### Diocesan News, by Judy Hall

This month, the Diocese of Virginia holds its Annual Convention, the forum for all lay delegates and canonical clergy to become the legislative body of the Diocese.

There are three areas of voting: Board members for committees and deputies for conventions; resolutions and amendments to the Constitution and Canons; and the budget. Links to the details are found at: <https://www.thediocese.net/who-we-are/governance/annual-convention/228th-annual-convention-2022-/pre-convention-information-and-forms/>

The convention will be at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Nov. 17-19. Due to COVID precautions, only voting registered individuals will be allowed to attend. Judy Hall is our convention delegate this year.

The budget is of main concern for Good Shepherd Bluemont. In the 2023 budget, \$494,200 is allocated to the Committee on Congregational Missions for distribution among 26 mission congregations. In 2023, Good Shepherd Bluemont will receive \$14,400 in grants from the CCM.

The Ordination and Consecration of the 14th Bishop Diocesan, The Reverend Canon E. Mark Stevenson, will be held on Saturday, Dec. 3; 11 a.m. at St. Paul's Baptist Church 4247 Creighton Road, Henrico, VA 23223. Please check this website for information on registering for in-person attendance or for livestreaming the service:

<https://www.thediocese.net/events/2022/12/03/consecration-of-the-14th-bishop-diocesan/>

## Local Events

Nov. 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Bluemont Juried Holiday Crafts Show at the Bluemont Community Center, 33846 Snickersville Turnpike, Bluemont.

Dec. 2, 4 to 8 p.m. – Christmas Tree Lighting in Rose Hill Park, Berryville, along with Santa's elves, holiday music, cookies, hot chocolate, and horse-drawn carriage rides.

Dec. 3, noon – Christmas Parade on Main Street in Berryville. Activities begin in Rose Hill Park at 10 a.m.

Dec. 10, 9 a.m. to noon – Breakfast with Santa Fundraiser at the Blue Ridge Fire Station. Adults pay \$10. Children 5-12 pay \$5. Children 4 & younger get in free. Pictures with Santa \$2.

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

SUN Nov. 20, 11 a.m. – The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King – Holy Eucharist with Rev. Deb Followed, at 12:15 p.m., by our Harvest Potluck Luncheon in the Parish Hall

SUN Nov. 27, 11 a.m. – The First Sunday of Advent: Lessons & Carols – Morning Prayer with Tim Hall

SUN Dec. 04, 11 a.m. – The Second Sunday of Advent: Morning Prayer with Josette Keelor

SUN Dec. 11, 11 a.m. – The Third Sunday of Advent: Holy Eucharist with Rev. Martha Clark

SUN Dec. 18, 11 a.m. – The Fourth Sunday of Advent: Holy Eucharist with Rev. Deb Rutter

SAT Dec. 24, 4 p.m. – Christmas Eve: Holy Eucharist with Rev. Deb Rutter

SUN Dec. 25 – Christmas Day – No Service – Merry Christmas!

To join via Zoom, go to our website at [www.goodshepherdbluemont.org](http://www.goodshepherdbluemont.org) and click the link on the home page.

## 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 to the church narthex by the last Sunday of the month. Lois, our senior warden, will be delivering the donations on the following Wednesday. In October, we donated 51 pounds of food and in November we've donated 94 pounds. The following items are needed for holiday dinners:

- Small turkey breasts
- Small hams
- Canned pumpkin
- Condensed milk
- Pie crusts
- Canned cranberry
- Stuffing
- Gravy
- Butter
- Eggs
- Sweet potatoes

## 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