



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church  
Bluemont (Pine Grove), Virginia



# 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting

February 19, 2023

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Our Place in The Diocese
- Clerical Leadership
- Vestry Elections
- State of the Parish
- Prayer and Meditation Garden
- Spiritual Growth
- Mission & Outreach
- Facility Maintenance and Improvements
- Financial Report
- Wrap-up / Questions / Closing Prayer



# Welcome



- Introduction
  - For online participants, please send questions, via the Zoom chat feature, to Tim, or use “Raise Hand” if you’d like to speak.
- Opening Prayer
  - The Rev. Martha Clark
- Opening Remarks
  - Senior Warden Lois Tapscott

# Our place in The Diocese of Virginia



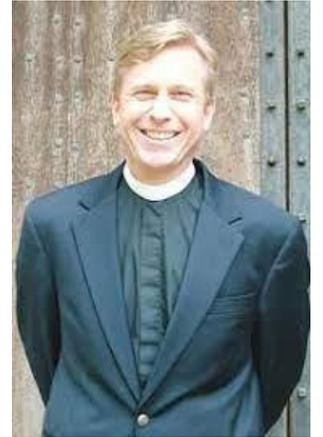
- The Rt. Rev'd E. Mark Stevenson is the 14th Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia.
- Good Shepherd is one of about 30 Mission Churches in the Diocese.
- Committee on Congregational Missions (CCM) lead by the Rev Webster Gibson
  - Determines the allocation of financial Mission Support
  - Provides oversight in reporting and operations
- Diocesan financial support critical to our operations
  - CCM aid: 2021 - \$13,900, 2022 - \$13,900, 2023 - \$14,400
  - 2021 Scott Foundation grant for \$3,500 for Church painting and repairs
  - 2022 CCM emergency grant of \$6,000 for repair of septic system
  - 2022 Peter Lee Small Church Grant for \$5,000 for Prayer & Meditation Garden
  - 2023 Grant request will be written for \$2,000 for new carpet for Parish Hall

# Our Supply Clergy



- Rev. Deborah Rutter
  - Retired from Calvery, Front Royal in 2017
  - Deb was our supply priest for our first outside service in fall of 2020 as we were coming out of the COVID shutdown
  - Rev Deb has served as a supply priest and provided spiritual guidance through 2022
  - She will continue as a supply priest with GS through 2023
- Rev. Martha Clark
  - Retired from St. Augustine, Washington DC in 2019
  - Martha and Bryan moved to Lincoln, VA in 2021
  - Martha was licensed to serve as a supply priest in the Diocese of VA in February 2022
  - With the Bishop's blessing she has served GS as a supply priest and provided spiritual guidance

# Our New Supply Clergy: Rev. Rob Banse



Rob retired from Trinity, Upperville in 2018, after serving for 11 years as their rector. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and the Virginia Theological Seminary. His most recent “post-retirement” service was interim rector at Christ Church, Millwood, before Rev. Melanie Lewis was called. Rob and Janie have 3 grown children and live in Delaplane, just a short 20 miles south of Good Shepherd.

# Vestry Elections



- Vestry Elections - Lay Leaders
  - Lois Tapscott: Sr. Warden
  - Tim Hall: Jr. Warden
  - Cindy Ingram: Treasurer
  - Janet Locklear: Register
  - Josette Keelor
  - Lee Ruddle
  - Judy Hall: Delegate to Convention

# State of the Parish



- Church growth
  - New members in 2022 - 5 persons
  - ASA increase from 12 in 2021 to 16 in 2022
  - increase in plate and pledge from \$23,007 (2021) to \$32,238 (2022)
  - Stewardship campaign for 2023: 12 pledges for \$35,680
- Worship services
  - Musical talents Eileen Cawood and Janet Locklear
  - Service Bulletin preparation Charlene Fu and Tim Hall
  - 30 Holy Eucharists in 2021 vs 33 Holy Eucharists in 2022
  - Cindy Ingram was added to the rotation (Tim Hall and Josette Keelor) of lay preachers and worship leaders
  - Zoom setup moved to back of church and added priest mic

# State of the Parish



- News from the Mountain Top - Josette Keelor publisher
  - This monthly newsletter started in May of 2022 and has been growing and changing all year
  - The newsletters are being distributed electronically via email and posted on the GS website
  - Beginning Oct. 2022 about 25 letters were printed and distributed by US mail
    - The number of print copies has increased to 37 by Feb. 2023
  - Josette has been trying to establish a standard format and schedule - but this is like herding cats
  - Thank you to all who have contributed articles
  - If you would like to contribute contact Josette with your article idea
  - If you would like a copy of the newsletter by email or US mail contact Judy

# Spiritual Growth in 2022



- During Epiphany Rev. Deborah Rutter lead a wonderful zoom discussion on "The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World", conversations with His Holiness the Dali Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. About 16 people attended, including 6 from outside our congregation.
- During March, Cindy Ingram lead a 4 week zoom discussion on "Living the Beatitudes". Each weekly meeting ended in Evening Prayer led by Rev. Martha Clark.
- Rev. Martha Clark led monthly "Fall Meditation Walks" at Cool Springs from Sept. through Dec. There were 18 individuals that participated. Many of these were people from outside our congregation.
- This winter 10 women met in the parish hall on Sunday evenings for a light supper and a "Centered" discussion led by Rev. Martha Clark. Together we explored what it means to center our lives on Jesus Christ in a way that leads us to form loving relationships. Listening to each other during these sessions blended us together as fellow disciples.

# Spiritual Growth 2023



- Tim Hall has started a men's Centered group. This band of four welcomes any who would like to join every other week in the parish hall for a light supper and centered discussions. The day and time float. They seem to be enjoying themselves.
- In January Martha has started a "Praying Through Winter" series that meets in the parish hall every 3rd Saturday. This series focuses on different methods of praying, including the use of our bodies.
- New member reception, confirmation, and baptism preparation classes will be offered this winter/spring in preparation for a visit by our new Assistant Bishop Gayle Harris on April 23rd.
- A variation of our meditation walks will begin in the spring or summer.

# Prayer and Meditation Garden - Fall 2022

## Making a garden space



- Clearing
  - Remove dead trees
  - Clearing branches, limbs, underbrush, large stones
  - Levelling garden areas
  - Building pathways with timber and stone
  - Weeding and preparing soil in garden areas
- Built a retaining wall for pollinator garden
- Plantings



Witch Hazel (Winter bloom), Great Laurel (One of Virginia's native Rhododendrons)  
Serviceberry (Early spring bloom), Blueberry bushes (For the birds, and us!)  
Herbaceous plugs: Allegheny pachysandra and Wood anemone

# Prayer and Meditation Garden – Spring 2023 Volunteer Gardeners



- Trees and shrubs
  - Black Huckleberry, Rosier Dogwood, Mountain Laurel, Butterfly weed, American (15/16) Chestnut
- Herbaceous plugs
  - Solomon's Seal, Indian cucumber, Partridge berries, Spotted and American wintergreen
- Installation of bird bath or Fire Pit to be a center for a gathering place
- Install benches or sitting logs for gatherings
- Pollinator garden
  - Prepare ground for planting
  - Scouting and collecting candidate plantings from friends and neighbors



# Outreach & Mission 2022



- Funding raising for Outreach and Mission organizations
  - Donated \$500 for Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) for Ukraine relief
  - Good Friday offering of \$1,000 in support of the Diocese of Jerusalem and Middle East. \$470 of this was raised from the congregation.
  - Remembering St. Francis of Assisi, during October we collected pet food and supplies for the Clarke County Animal Shelter
  - Collected 768 lbs. of food plus paper products, cleaning supplies, toiletries, clothing, and monetary donations for the FISH food bank in Berryville.

# Outreach & Mission 2022



- Reaching out to people in our community
  - Just Because it's July Celebration -
    - free chicken, hot dogs, sides, ice cream, and live music
    - About 40 people from the Pine Grove community attended
  - 3rd Annual Christmas Boxes
    - 130 boxes filled with homemade cookies and other goodies
    - Shared with our Meditation walkers, Centered, and the Pine Grove AA
    - Delivered to the Village of Pine Grove and some in Shenandoah Retreat and Raven Rocks Rd.
  - Christmas Caroling at Commonwealth Senior Living Center

# Outreach & Mission 2023



- Funding raising for Outreach and Mission organizations
  - Good Shepherd will be sending \$1,150 to Absalom Jones Fund. \$650 in donations from the congregation and \$500 from our outreach budget.
  - Good Friday offering in support of the Diocese of Jerusalem and Middle East.
  - Remembering St. Francis of Assisi, during October we will collect pet food and supplies for the Clarke County Animal Shelter
  - Collections of food plus paper products, cleaning supplies, toiletries, clothing and monetary donations for the FISH food bank in Berryville.

# Outreach & Mission 2023



- New partnership with FISH to bring food relief and social services support to Pine Grove and Shenandoah Retreat
  - Fish has started a new project called Community Table. This entails bringing a food truck to various locations in Clarke County.
    - Food is handed out.
    - New clients are registered.
    - Social Services is available to discuss other needs.
  - Good Shepherd will be one of these locations.
  - The first Community Table at Good Shepherd was Feb. 4th.
  - Starting in April, Good Shepherd will host this event on a monthly basis.
- Mardi Gras Party on Shrove Tuesday

# Facility

- Overview: Budget overrun... But we accomplished a lot!
- Maintenance
  - Cleaning, insect control, lawn care, snow removal, HVAC
  - Tree work, miscellaneous repairs & painting
  - Major septic system repairs
  - Basement: Two new doors, upgraded kitchen sink drains
  - Replaced all lightbulbs with LEDs
  - This continues to be (rightfully so) a major part of our operating budget
- Improvements
  - Installed additional hardwired internet connection in back of sanctuary
  - Initial work on Prayer & Meditation Garden (clearing, layout, fall planting)
  - Replaced church sign & refinished sign posts
  - New tables: two rectangular and one large round
  - Added 21A gravel to back parking area
  - Repaved main driveway & parking area



# Facility Improvement Photos



Lest we forget...  
January 2022



New Kitchen Door  
New sink drain



Church Sign  
(before/after)



# Facility Improvement Photos



Repaving (Sep)



Septic Repairs (Oct)



# Facility – Looking forward in 2023



- Complete work on Prayer & Meditation Garden
- Work on other landscaping
- Improve hybrid service capabilities (add cameras and microphones)
- Install new mail box (for deliveries to 27 Good Shepherd Rd)
- Apply for historic property / landmark status [*Penni volunteered to lead this effort*]
- Continue working toward “NetZero by 2030”
- Replace parish hall flooring
- Replace sacristy windows or add storm windows
- Find homes for the old pump organ and upright piano (in Parish Hall)
- And all the other routine maintenance as noted earlier

# Financial Report - Overview



- Operating Checking Account Overview
  - Balance on 12/31/22: \$21,747.89
- Building Checking Account Overview
  - Balance on 12/31/22: \$13,244.69
- Trustee of the Funds Investment Account
  - Opened in July of 2022 with a \$22,000 investment
  - Value as of 12/31/22: \$20,876.98
  - Vestry committed to routine additions to the account

<b>2023 BUDGET</b>							
<b>CATEGORY &amp; ITEM</b>	<b>Actual 2021</b>	<b>Actual 2022</b>	<b>Approved 2023</b>	<b>Updated 2023</b>			
<b>INCOME less EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$24,329</b>	<b>\$4,576</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$950</b>			
<b>I. INCOME</b>	<b>\$57,265</b>	<b>\$72,551</b>	<b>\$46,600</b>	<b>\$64,280</b>			
A. Pledge Offerings	\$14,490	\$26,830	\$21,000	\$35,680	<i>"More than Enough" 12 pledges</i>		
B. Plate Offerings	\$8,517	\$5,408	\$3,000	\$3,000			
C. Parish Organizations	\$1,200	\$1,050	\$1,200	\$1,200			
D. Rental Income	\$0		\$0	\$0			
E. Dio. of Virginia Aid (paid to church)	\$13,900	\$13,900	\$14,400	\$14,400	<i>Approved CCM Assistance</i>		
F. Dio. of Virginia Aid (paid via salaries)							
G. Dio. of Virginia Aid (paid on indebtedness)							
H. Regional Aid							
I. Investment Income							
J. Use of Investment Principal							
K. Gifts, Grants, Other Income for Operations	\$11,808	\$11,766	\$3,000	\$6,000			
L. Grants Received for Special Projects	\$6,800	\$13,078	\$3,000	\$3,000			
M. Contributions, Gifts Designated for:							
1. Local Outreach	\$315		\$500	\$500			
2. Outside Organizations	\$235	\$492	\$500	\$500			
N. Other Financial Assistance		\$28					

## 2023 BUDGET

CATEGORY & ITEM	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	Approved 2023	Updated 2023	
A. Missionary Outreach	\$3,508	\$4,623	\$5,400	\$6,700	
1. Diocesan Pledge	\$1,651	\$1,874	\$2,650	\$2,650	
2. Regional Pledge	\$200	\$200	\$250	\$250	
3. Local Outreach					
a. Discretionary Fund		\$300	\$300	\$300	
b. Congregation-based Programs	\$1,087	\$749	\$1,200	\$2,000	<i>Add pancake supper &amp; more</i>
4. Outside Organizations					
a. Episcopal Seminaries					
b. Other Organizations	\$570	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$1,500	<i>Absalom Jones, Good Friday, more</i>
B. Vicar's Compensation & Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
C. Other Staff Compensation <i>(specify position &amp; salary in Notes)</i>	\$6,435	\$8,148	\$16,150	\$17,800	
1. Stipend/Salary (music)	\$1,650	\$1,230	\$3,100	\$3,100	
2. FICA					
3. Staff Health Insurance					
4. Lay Pension Expenses				\$1,200	
5. Supply Clergy	\$4,785	\$6,918	\$5,850	\$6,300	<i>Worship Services</i>
6. Worker's Compensation					
7. Other			\$7,200	\$7,200	<i>Clergy support</i>

## 2023 BUDGET

CATEGORY & ITEM	Actual 2021	Actual 2022	Approved 2023	Updated 2023	
<b>D. Property</b>	<b>\$18,369</b>	<b>\$48,037</b>	<b>\$17,978</b>	<b>\$27,718</b>	
1. Utilities	\$4,678	\$5,284	\$4,500	\$5,000	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 3em; margin-right: 10px;">{</div> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">                     3600 Cleaning                      180 HVAC                      576 Pest Control                      600 Yard work                      300 Snow removal                      600 Miscellaneous                 </div> <div style="font-size: 3em; margin-left: 10px;">}</div> </div>
2. Routine Maintenance	\$4,996	\$8,748	\$5,856	\$10,096	
3. Mortgage/Principal					
4. Rent					
5. Insurance	\$2,622	\$2,728	\$2,622	\$2,622	
6. Major Repairs & Improvements	\$6,073	\$31,278	\$5,000	\$10,000	
					<i>Includes Prayer Garden</i>
<b>E. Program</b>	<b>\$554</b>	<b>\$2,645</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>\$5,100</b>	
1. Education	\$160	\$896	\$800	\$2,000	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 3em; margin-right: 10px;">{</div> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">                     Add "Sacred Ground", etc.                      Plus up 2022 actual                 </div> <div style="font-size: 3em; margin-left: 10px;">}</div> </div>
2. Worship & Music	\$206	\$1,015	\$800	\$1,200	
3. Youth Ministry					
4. Stewardship			\$100	\$100	
5. Fellowship/Evangelism		\$734	\$200	\$800	<i>Plus up 2022 actual</i>
6. Other Program	\$187		\$100	\$1,000	<i>Add Retreat</i>
<b>F. Administration</b>	<b>\$4,072</b>	<b>\$4,523</b>	<b>\$5,072</b>	<b>\$6,012</b>	
1. Office Supplies	\$391	\$465	\$400	\$400	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="font-size: 3em; margin-right: 10px;">{</div> <div style="margin-right: 10px;">                     120 Website                      180 Zoom                      900 Comcast                      168 Const Contact                      132 Miscellaneous                 </div> <div style="font-size: 3em; margin-left: 10px;">}</div> </div>
2. Office Equipment	\$1,139	\$36	\$1,200	\$1,200	
3. Telecommunications	\$1,149	\$1,653	\$1,500	\$1,600	
4. Printing/Postage	\$227	\$179	\$200	\$200	
5. Mileage Reimbursement	\$486	\$821	\$972	\$1,112	
6. Council Delegates	\$100	\$235	\$300	\$300	
7. Other	\$580	\$1,135	\$500	\$1,200	
					<i>Advertising</i>

# Wrap-up



- Questions
- Closing Prayer
  - Cindy Ingram
- Refreshments in Parish Hall