
December 2004

The Shepherd's Herald

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
Over 100 Years of Service in Kips Bay

Editor's Note

To whom does God offer His gift, to the brightest, the most beautiful, or the most charming? No. His gift is for us all—beggars and bankers, clergy and clerks, judges and janitors-- all God's children, and He wants us so badly, He'll take us in any condition — "as is."

We at Good Shepherd feel we have a gift to offer, so we open our hearts and our doors to all God's children.

Carole de Braganza, Editor

A Stewardship Note

Leaves come in a wide variety of shapes. Even if you don't recognize which trees they're from, you wouldn't mistake an oak leaf for a pine needle, or a weeping willow leaf for one from a maple. There are even differences among leaves in different types of the same tree. Yet despite all their differences, all leaves have the same purpose: to make food for the tree, using water, light, and carbon dioxide. Without all three of these things, the tree cannot grow or even live.

A church is like a tree, and its members are like leaves. Without their constant donations of time, talent and treasure, the church will soon suffer and may not survive. However, with careful stewardship, the church will flourish. And a healthy church, like a healthy tree, will benefit others. It can be a source of food, shelter and inspiration, too. Remember this as you decide how you can provide your time, talent and resources to make the "tree" flourish.

The Celebration of Christmas

Exploring the Psalms: Passion, Promise & Praise

Wednesdays in Advent
December 1, 8 and 15

We will gather for Evening Prayer at 6:30 p.m., followed by a simple supper (please bring a sandwich or something to share). After our discussion of the Psalms, we will close the evening with Compline. Study guides for the course are available for \$15.

* Because so many people have expressed an interest in the Psalms, we will plan to resume our studies in February, 2005

Handel's "Messiah" Highlight of our Christmas music season Sunday, December 12th 11:00 A.M.

We have waited a long, long time to hear Handel's Messiah performed at Good Shepherd, and even longer to experience it as part of the celebration of the Eucharist. Add to that the return – at long last – of the Good Shepherd Orchestra and you have a blue-ribbon occasion, not to be missed!

Deck the Halls

Saturday, December 18th is the date we'll all gather to prepare the church for Christmas. First, as we work, shoulder-to-shoulder, to clean and sweep and polish and shine; then to decorate with Christmas greens. It's wonderful to work as the Good Shepherd's team -- a morning full of laughter, good cheer and usually, a wonderful lunch of homemade soup

and crusty bread. When we're done, what marvels we've made! The more of us who show up, the faster the work goes, so join us, 10 am Saturday, December 18th.



And to spread that good Christmas cheer into the community of Kips Bay, we'll be hitting the streets once we've decorated the church. We've bought hundreds of candy canes, and in the tradition of our Easter Flowers, we'll be giving passers-by a little piece of holiday cheer with our Good Shepherd tags and our schedule of Christmas services. Volunteers are needed, so we hope you'll join us!

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve-

Friday, December 24th

Parish Carol Sing -----6:30 pm

Candlelight service -----7:00 pm

Lessons & Carols-

Sunday, December 26th 11:00 a.m.

2005 Leadership Nominations

Senior Warden Jean Krulis has announced the formation of the 2005 Nominating Committee, to consist of herself (chair), Mike Moran, Christina Hing, Pam Heywood and Jeanet Radifera. The committee welcomes your nominations.

Positions to be filled are two Vestry persons for three-year terms, and a Warden for a two-year term (having served three 2-year terms, Jean is not eligible to run again). Please contact any member of the committee with your nominations.

Stewardship Committee Update

Pamela Heywood, Shirley Brooks, Co-Chairs

A big **"Thank You"** to everyone who has already made a financial

commitment to support the life and ministry of the Church of the Good Shepherd for the year 2005. To date, we have received **24** pledges totaling **\$37,970**. Included in this total are 2 new pledges.

If you haven't already made your financial commitment for the coming year, it's not too late! Pledge cards are available in the rear of the church, or by calling the parish office.

Now that we are nearing the end of another year of parish life, we want to thank everyone who has shared that life with us. It is the prayers and participation of **all** our people which enables our church to be the Body of Christ in this place. We do appreciate your being a part of it.

Friendship Center

The Friendship Center has begun to attract weekly regulars. We invite one and all to sign up for its upcoming programs – including Tai Chi and Cooking for One classes, among others.

Look for the schedule of events for the Friendship Center in the Sunday Bulletin. Call, e-mail or sign up at the back-of-church, leave a message in the church office or contact Jeanet Radifera.

Thrift Shoppe

The Thrift Shoppe gets a steady flow of traffic every Saturday. Stop in to see the many treasures Marie Forray has in her corner.

The Search Process –An Update

Adair Russell, Chair

Early in November, the Search Committee completed its work when the names of three priests to be considered for the rectorship of Good Shepherd were recommended to the Vestry. Because all three candidates are solid, well qualified, and charming (the Bishop was pleased with our "strong list"), the Vestry will have to work very hard to discern the one best suited to the needs and chemistry of our parish.

As this newsletter goes to press, two candidates have been interviewed by the Vestry, and the third interview has been calendared for early this month. It is not an easy task, and we hope that you will hold the Wardens and Vestry in your prayers.

Seaman's Institute: Some Parish Project Possibilities

Seafarers who cross the world's oceans bring us goods and materials that directly affect our quality of life. Yet those who work at sea face particular perils, endure hardships, tolerate strict discipline, suffer lonely separations, and confront dangerous seas. When weary seafarers arrive in a port, their stay ranges from less than eight hours to just a few days. Seafarers may spend up to 9 months of the year away from family. Knowing that someone cares boosts their spirits. Lonely, home-sick seafarers look to the Seamen's Church Institute's chaplains and volunteers for a friendly face and a warm welcome.

The Seamen's Church Institute is a voluntary, ecumenical agency affiliated with the Episcopal Church. Since its founding in 1834, its first priority has been the welfare, safety, dignity, and improved working and living conditions of seafarers and port workers.

SCI depends on the efforts of volunteers to support its programs and services. This would seem to provide an ideal opportunity for Good Shepherd, and we're calling all interested Sheppies to get involved. As a parish, we can offer a Seafarers' Sunday and request an SCI staff member to speak at Good Shepherd.

How can we help?

- Pray for seafarers
- Knit a scarf or cap for the Christmas-at-Sea program
- Collect *National Geographic* magazines, sundry items for Welcome Bags, and warm men's clothing
- Train to be a ship visitor

- Teach seafarers to use the Internet

For further information, or to volunteer, call the parish office, speak to one of the wardens or look for sign-up sheets in the back of the church.

Welcome Companion Bird Club

We're pleased to welcome the New York Companion Bird Club, which now meets at Good Shepherd monthly on Sunday afternoons for a "Birdie Play Day." The group's goal is to increase public awareness regarding the proper and humane care of avian companions, to ensure them an optimum quality of life, and to foster an interest and appreciation of birds. For further information, contact Kate Stronk or the parish office.

Happy Birthday – December – Sagittarians and Capricorns

Canon Mary Michael Simpson-1st, Paul Jacobson, Jr.-2nd, Christina Hing- 4th, Michael Moran,-15th, Danielle Edwards-28th

Please share your anniversaries (of baptisms, confirmations, marriage, sobriety, smoking cessation, joining Church of the Good Shepherd, for example) with us!

Rev. Dr. Winfred Vergara

We welcome the Rev. Dr. Winfred Vergara, the new Missioner for Asian-American Ministries in the Episcopal Church Center, who celebrated at Good Shepherd on December 12th and be preaching anuary 2nd and 9th. He has worked as priest and missionary for over 25 years but his most fulfilling task has been planting new churches. In Philippines, he has revived two city-churches with extension centers in the 5 mile-radius; in Singapore as priest at St. Andrew's Cathedral, he organized and over- saw two youth-missions which grew to be large parishes. In California and Nevada, he planted two Filipino churches and assisted in the planting of one Chinese church. Recently in Queens, New York he and his wife organized a pan-Asian congregation that now meets on

Sundays at 5 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 61st Street, Woodside, New York. "Fr. Fred" as he is known to his parishioners, believes that "ministry is primarily relational

and people come to church where they are loved, respected and welcomed in the name of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit."

December's Recipe Corner

How about an old fashion Pineapple Upside Down Cake? Here's an easy one.

Makes 12 servings
 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
 1 package (18 ¼ ounces) yellow or pineapple-flavored cake mix
 1 can (20 ounces) pineapple slices, juice reserved
 10 whole red maraschino cherries
 ¼ cup butter or margarine, melted
 Preheat oven to 350° F. Drain pineapple; reserve ¾ cup juice. In 12-inch cast iron skillet (or skillet

with heatproof handle), stir together melted butter and brown sugar. Arrange pineapple slices in sugar mixture. Place cherry in center of each pineapple slice.

Prepare cake mix according to package directions, replacing water with reserved ¾ cup juice. Pour batter evenly over pineapple. Bake 40 to 45 minutes, or until tooth pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 5 minutes. Loosen edges and invert onto serving platter. Serve slightly warm.

HAPPY HOLIDAY EATING!!

IF YOU HAVE A SPECIAL RECIPE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE, LET US KNOW.

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

240 East 31st Street
 New York, NY 10016

The Rev. Margaret Rose, Priest
 Rectory Telephone: (212) 532-3039
 Office Telephone: (212) 689-1595
 Office Fax: (212) 686-2613

E-mail: GoodShepherd2003@aol.com
 Website: www.goodshepherdnydioceseny.org

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Kenneth Nourse
Administrator: Essence Bailey
Interim Organist: Don Carolina,
Sexton: Fred Timm
Wardens: Jerome Hanauer & Jean Krulis
Vestry: Josephine Abalos, Carole de Braganza, Shirley Brooks, Christina Hing, Jarrett Kroll & Jeanet Radifera
Treasurer: Annabelle Marchadesch

Editor, Shepherd's Herald: Carole de Braganza,

The Shepherd's Herald is published by the Communications Committee of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Co-Chaired by Jarrett Kroll and Carole de Braganza.

Outreach & Activities

Quilters & Crafters	2 nd & 4 th Saturday of the month
Thrift Shoppe	Every Saturday
Friendship Center	Every Saturday
Dickens Society	1 st Sat. of the month
Gamblers Anonymous	Every Tuesday
Meditation Group	Every Monday
DAR	Monthly
Pigeon People	1 st Sunday of the month (afternoon)
Crochet Group	1 st Thursday of the month
Chess Kids	July & August, Thursdays during the winter
New York Companion Bird Club	4 th Sunday of the month
MFM Metropolitan Filipino Ministry	3 rd Saturday of the month @ 6:00 PM
MJM Metropolitan Japanese Ministry	3 rd Sunday of the month @ 3:00 PM
Phipps Plaza Tenants Assoc.	Monthly