



# News Around the Flock

The Church of the Good Shepherd  
Anglican Parish of Lancaster



## Easter 2023 Newsletter

### Holy Week

**Tuesday April 4, 6:00 pm**

Stations of the Cross

**Maundy Thursday April 6, 7:00 pm**

Holy Communion with Stripping of the Altar. Prayer Watch - time to pray after the service to 10:00 pm (come & go as you'd like - whenever and for however long)

**Good Friday, April 7, 12:00 pm**

Celebration of our Lords Passion

**Easter Sunday, April 9 10:30am**

Holy Communion

### Regular Service Times

Holy Communion on  
Sundays at 10:30 AM

**Phone:** (506)635-8145 (Office open Tue-Fri 9-Noon)

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**Website:** [www.goodshepherdsj.ca](http://www.goodshepherdsj.ca)



**We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and Mi'kmaq Peoples.**



## Good Friday - Easter Day 2023



Dear people of the Good Shepherd ~

It's a powerful name - Jesus Christ. You hear it said, in so many places, in all kinds of circumstances, by 'religious' and non-religious alike.

Why? Because the power of the name comes from a body on a cross and an empty grave.

What Good Friday buried; Easter Day set free. And that's why Easter is meaningless if there's no Good Friday.

The taunts of Good Friday - *"he saved others, but he can't save himself!"* - are turned into the tender, divine calling to the heart - *"Mary"* - of Easter Day morning.

The apparent victory of evil and death that dark Friday afternoon became the glorious liberation that calls each of us by name. This is straight from the heart of God, spoken no less than by the Son of God himself. The glory of the crucifix - the death of Jesus on the cross - gives life to the joy of the empty tomb.

The shards of our fractured lives are brought together into His wholeness because Jesus' body was broken for us, and then raised to new life. In the midst of our doubting, our pain, our tragedies, we can *"taste and see that the Lord is good"* because he says to us, *"Take! Eat!"*



*"This is my body broken for you!"* When we eat, we eat the food of healing, renewing life - it is the food of God.

Let our minds and our souls be marked profoundly by both the crucifix and the empty tomb, the power of Christ's death on the cross and the joy of his physically rising from the dead. There's nothing more important in the universe; nothing more important for this world.

Have a truly blessed Holy Week, a glorious Good Friday, and a wonderfully joyful Easter.

By God's grace,

**Keith**

Fr Keith Joyce  
*Interim Priest-in-charge*

## **Our Dearly Departed**

**Mary "Betty" MacFarlane, February 23**

**Ann Green, March 10**

**Gloria Jennings, March 18**

**Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen**



## **Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Parish of Lancaster was held on Sunday February 26 after a delicious, bagged lunch. With approximately 33 attendees the annual report was reviewed and discussed, vestry members were voted in and delegates to the Synod were selected. Special thanks to Fr Keith Joyce for officiating, Terry Ricketts for taking minutes, all those who provided reports, those who provided the lunch and all those who attended.

### **Vestry Members 2023**

Susan Jack	Warden
Terry Ricketts	Warden
Heather Masson	Vestry Clerk
Jeff Maker	Treasurer
Janet Brown	
Doug Fillmore	
Shayne Galbraith	
Beverly Janes	
Barry McQueen	

### **Synod Delegates**

Susan Jack	Synod Delegate
Ann Stone	Synod Delegate
Jackie Clark	Synod Alternative
Bruce MacLeod	Synod Alternative

Please support these parishioners who have offered to serve our congregation and prayerfully consider if you are called to one of these roles in the future.



## **Volunteers Needed!**

Every church depends heavily on volunteers to keep things running smoothly. From the worship service to maintenance of our property to administration tasks, volunteers play an important role.

We need volunteers. Please pray about helping in any one or more of these roles.

- † Sunday Morning Greeters (training available)
- † Counters for the Collection (training available)
- † Altar Guild (training available)
- † Monthly Luncheons
- † Maintenance Projects
- † Sunday School
- † West Side Days

Please let any vestry member know if you are interested in volunteering.

**Remember... many hands make light work!**



## Altar Guild

Altar Guild volunteers work quietly behind the scenes every week to ensure communion is ready for worship services. They prepare the sanctuary with proper linens and hangings appropriate for each season of the Church.

As reported in the annual meeting report, a new set of glass cruets have been ordered and altar linens will be replaced as warranted.

We would like to thank **Sharon Titus** who has agreed to formally take on the role of president for the Altar Guild.

New members are always welcomed! Let Sharon or any member of the Altar Guild know if you are interested in this ministry.





## Layreaders

On our Layreaders by Fr Keith

On arriving here at Good Shepherd back last October it was heartening to find a good team of capable Layreaders. I've been ever thankful for them, for their helping me learn about Good Shepherd's past practices in worship and for their genuine willingness to adapt to yet another priest and his ways of 'doing things'. I appreciate their support, their readiness to serve the parish, and the good and reliable work they do Sunday by Sunday.

As I arrived, I also discovered that one Layreader had recently stepped down from this role after many years of faithful service. That's Ngaire Nelson. And so, it was a delight to have the bishop, Archbishop Edwards, this past Sunday, present Ngaire with a certificate to acknowledge these years and thank her for her ministry as an effective Layreader of Good Shepherd.

Congratulations, and thank you, Ngaire!



**L to R: Fr Keith Joyce, Ngaire Nelson, Archbishop David Edwards**

**Presentation of Certificate of Service to Ngaire Nelson**

**March 26, 2023**



## LIFT

Lift continues to meet on the second Thursday of the month at our new time of 2pm in the small hall. The meeting time change has been very popular with our members, and we are seeing an increase in the number able to turn out to our meetings. Our February fundraiser, the Bakeless Bakesale, was a phenomenal success and the ladies were busy preparing care packages for the homeless from the proceeds of this fundraiser. In total 35 care packages, 30 feminine specific care packages, and 30 small safety kits were assembled and delivered to the local Homeless shelter and the Coverdale Emergency Shelter for Women.



**Homeless Care Packages**



**Safety Packages**



**Feminine Care Packages**



None of this would have been possible without the generous support of our congregation. It is both heartwarming and humbling the way you have shown your support for the projects that LIFT has undertaken. THANK YOU!

**LIFT members preparing Care Packages**





In January LIFT reached out to our neighbouring schools to see if we could help with any needs that they may have. After some discussion Lift felt a monetary donation to Barnhill would best suit their needs so that the staff could direct the funds to individual student supplies as required. St. Rose had a specific request for water bottles since there are no longer water fountains in schools and some children have not been provided a bottle from home. We were happy to provide 18 water bottles.



Lift also supplied St Rose school with 20 bags of clementines as a special treat during their Spring Fling Week celebrations.

The **Caring Card** project continues and over 20 cards have been sent out to date this year. If you know of someone who needs a "LIFT", is celebrating one of life's special moments or perhaps should be recognized for an accomplishment, please let our Lift members know.





## MUSIC



Our organ will receive some much-needed TLC as it has been a while (due to covid) since it was serviced.

The Cassavant organ was originally installed during the ministry of Rev. Canon F.J. LeRoy, 1925-1955 and has been used in our worship services ever since.



## Tintinnabula Hand Bell Choir

The Tintinnabula Hand Bell Choir practices on Monday nights beginning at 6:45 pm. New members are always welcomed. If you aren't sure what its all about feel free to pop in any Monday night, they would love to see you (and you may get your own personal concert 😊)

Join us at our 10:30 AM Sunday service on April 16th to hear their progress!





## WORSHIP



Did you know that the Forward Day by Day devotional readings can be found online, <https://prayer.forwardmovement.org/fdd>

Fr Keith had a young helper, Livna, on Sunday, March 19, as he prepared the sacraments for Holy Communion. We are happy to welcome Livna, her parents Prabin and Sheeba and her siblings Livin and Livya to our church family!



Bishop David and his wife Debbie joined us on March 26, 2023 for the commissioning of the 2023 parish leadership. It was an extra special service as Ngaire was recognized by the bishop for her many years of service as a lay reader.

In our Sunday bulletin, there is a special section noting parishioner birthdays falling in the upcoming week. We are currently updating our list to ensure we are celebrating all our members. Please email or call Lori so that we can get you on the list. We only need your name, birth month and day (don't worry we don't need the year 😊)



We would like to take a moment and give special recognition to **Bruce MacLeod** who works diligently every week to prepare and present the worship service on the overhead and **Lori Maker** who prepares the bulletin each week - we especially like the large print! Thanks Bruce and Lori!

Thanks also are due to **Chris Titus** for stepping up to manage the sound board during services.



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

We are so happy to see young students once again in our Sunday School. Spread the word - Sunday School is back this spring until summer break. Vestry member Beverly Janes led the children in crafts on March 26<sup>th</sup>.



## **HOSPITALITY**

### **Monthly Luncheons Continue.....**

"Thank You" to Bruce MacLeod for providing a hearty lunch of chili and rolls followed by cheesecake and other sweet treats for dessert in **January**.

**Bruce serving his famous  
cheesecake to a full house!**





For sustenance prior to our Annual General Meeting in **February**, we enjoyed a bagged lunch of tasty deli sandwiches, grapes and cookies. As always, there was lots of coffee and tea available to fortify everyone throughout the meeting.

In **March**, homemade beans and wieners with rolls took center stage followed by decadent desserts.

**Thank you** to Ruth Ferguson, Terry Ricketts, Lina Toole and Carmen Webb for making the homemade beans and to Bruce Macleod and Edith Chilton for desserts!



**The April lunch will be provided by our lovely Ladies of LIFT. 😊**



## COMMUNICATION

Do we have your contact information? If not, you may be missing out on important notices. Please contact Lori in our office to update your information. Don't worry, your contact information is kept confidential.

Don't forget to check out our website, [www.goodshepherdsj.ca](http://www.goodshepherdsj.ca), and our Facebook page "*Church of the Good Shepherd, Saint John, NB*".

Are you enjoying the newsletters? Would you like to see different content? Please let us know: [goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca)

Did you know up to date news from the Diocese of Fredericton can be found on their website?

Check it out at <https://nb.anglican.ca/news>

## MISSION PROJECTS UPDATE

Our **Shepherd's Cupboard** mission was intended to supplement the Rector's Discretionary account but without a permanent rector, has been slightly under-utilized in the past few months. Sadly, one of the regular clients of the Cupboard passed away in January. We are still accepting donations and will make every effort to get these in the hands of those in need. Thank you for your continued support of this mission.

Please note that we are still accepting clothing and small household items for the Hillcrest Baptist **Caring Closet**. Please keep this mission in mind as you change over to your Spring/Summer wardrobe. Volunteers continue to transfer the items to Hillcrest Baptist on a regular basis.



The **West Side Food Bank** sends their thanks and appreciation as we continue to support them on a regular basis. You can donate to them directly or through an offering - just make sure to note on your envelope that the monies are designated for the food bank. At the end of the month the Church sends these donations to the food bank. Please leave any food items for the food bank in the small bench just inside the main doors. A volunteer will transport these to the food bank.



Kudos to our LIFT group for taking the initiative with their February Bakeless Bakesale proceeds to create **Homeless Care Packages** for the Out of the Cold shelter at the former Hilton Belyea Arena.

## **BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE UPDATE**

The following are designated 2023 Internal Volunteer and Summer Student Projects. If you can help with any of these please contact either Shayne Galbraith, Doug Fillmore or Barry McQueen.

- † Church Fire Evacuation Plan, with signage
- † Labelling of Light Switches
- † Internal Water Damage repair:
  - Chapel, Sunshine Room, Rector's office, Closet in outer office and Men's front washroom.
- † External repair
  - Front entrance concrete stairs
  - Wash siding of large hall



- Upper window large hall scrape and paint
- Repair siding and door on Cemetery Shed.

#### † Rectory

- Plug holes on both sides of the garage door.
- Windowpane Replacement
- Replace metal on external window frame.
- Repair/Paint Bathroom ceiling (water damage)



### Summer Maintenance Worker

Church of the Good Shepherd and Cemetery



Are you self-motivated and looking for a mixture of indoor and outdoor work this summer? We are hiring a student (through the SEED program) to mow our church (668 Manawagonish Road) and cemetery (corner of Manawagonish Road and Centennial Drive). You will also be required to do some light cleaning inside our church as well as some small maintenance projects. You will be given safety training in the proper use and maintenance of equipment and will be expected to wear proper safety gear. Although you will have people available by phone you will be expected to work without close supervision. You will also require transportation between the church and the cemetery (2.3km). You must be a student in the current academic year and be attending a post-secondary institution full-time in the fall. Please forward your résumé to [susan.jack@bellaliant.net](mailto:susan.jack@bellaliant.net) with the word SEED in the subject line.

## HOUSEKEEPING AND SAFETY



In a long-forgotten corner of the chapel sits a lonely piano looking for a good home. No longer useful to the church, it sits in earnest waiting for the day it will once again sing happy tunes. Can you help this poor piano out? Do you know of anyone who would play new life into its keyboard? If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested in giving it a new home, please reach out to a vestry member or call the office.





## FINANCE UPDATE

As you may recall from the annual report and the AGM, we budgeted for a near break even financial results for 2023. This is primarily due to having a part-time rector for the foreseeable future.

Financial results for Jan. and Feb. are currently showing a surplus of \$1,351. This small surplus, however, is due to the fact that we have yet to receive an invoice for natural gas since the Jan. conversion. Conservative estimates are that we will likely have to pay at least \$5,000 once the invoicing has caught up, so that puts our true YTD results at a loss of \$3,650.

The 2023 forecast figures reflected below do take the natural gas estimates into account, and we are still projecting a near break-even for the end of the year. I would caution, however, that we need to remain diligent at watching our costs and revenues as any little thing could substantially change that.

	<i>Jan - Feb</i> <b>2023</b>	<i>Jan - Feb</i> <b>2022</b>	<i>Jan - Dec Forecast</i> <b>2023</b>	<i>Jan - Dec</i> <b>2022</b>
Offerings	21,663	21,969	146,981	150,015
Rents	2,000	1,989	12,000	14,478
Interest	-	-	3,933	4,483
Misc Income	-	-	-	500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>23,663</b>	<b>23,958</b>	<b>162,914</b>	<b>169,476</b>
Salaries	12,662	18,954	76,509	76,052
Church Bldg & Office	4,702	12,690	52,454	69,292
Rectory	777	1,483	6,572	9,011
Worship & Programs	-	794	2,900	4,882
Shared Ministry	4,171	4,374	25,027	26,243
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>22,312</b>	<b>38,295</b>	<b>163,462</b>	<b>185,481</b>
<b>YTD Loss</b>	<b>1,351</b>	<b>(14,337)</b>	<b>(548)</b>	<b>(16,005)</b>

Please remember to pick up your 2023 offering envelopes in the Narthex. If you are unable to pick them up just let Lori know and we will do our best to get them to you.

For those of you on e-offering, special occasion envelopes are available in the Narthex.



We would like to Thank Ken Lewell and Eugene McKennelley for volunteering to audit our 2022 books.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **West Side Days, Jun 18 - 25**

A group of dedicated West Siders are putting together a spectacular week of activities for West Side days. Our church will be hosting the craft/vendor market for this event on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> in our gym. LIFT will operate a small café in the small hall during the market hours and we are hoping to have the church open with some items from St. Jude's, St. George's, and Good Shepherd on display with volunteers around to answer questions.

Stay tuned for more information!

**May the grace our of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.  
Amen**

We hope to see you at our Worship Services.

Wishing you a Blessed Easter!

~The Good Shepherd Vestry