

# News Around The Flock

## The Church of the Good Shepherd

Anglican Parish of Lancaster Website: [www.goodshepherdsj.ca](http://www.goodshepherdsj.ca)

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## Fall 2021

## Thanksgiving Message

Rev. Jonathan Springthorpe

**Col. 2:6** As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup> rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6 reminds us that if we know Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior that we are on a life long journey with God. Paul, the author of Colossians, instructs us to live our whole lives in Christ. Paul encourages us to base our lives around the amazing truth that God became a man and died on the cross for us in Jesus. We therefore are to live our lives "rooted" in Christ. We are being "built up" in Him. This is the process we sometimes call sanctification. We are saved when we come to faith in Jesus and our salvation can never be lost for no one can take us from the Father. Then after we are "established in the faith" through salvation we are called to grow in Christ. Just like the metaphor that Jesus uses to teach His disciples "I am the vine and you are the branches". The Scriptures make it clear that we are called to grow and mature and yet at the end of the verse from Colossians Paul adds three words to describe what our attitude ought to be like as we walk our journey of faith, he writes "abounding in thanksgiving". The Greek word translated "abounding" is perisseuo and it means to go over and above, to be in full quantity and abundant". The Greek word for thanksgiving is eucharistia and it means to perform an act of thanksgiving, to have a cheerful heart and to be grateful. I pray that this fall you will abound in thanksgiving. I encourage you, if it is not already your practice, to give God thanks for 3 things each morning and evening. I pray you will have a thankful and cheerful heart, and I encourage you to make time to worship God each day, and to look outward to those you can love in practical ways.



## Service Times

We have moved back to our regular service times:

Sundays - 9:00 am  
& 10:30 am

Sunday school has resumed during the 10:30 service

Morning Prayer on Wednesdays at 9:00 am



## YOUTH GROUPS

Youth Groups started up on Sept. 15th and meet on Wednesday evenings. There are two youth groups this year. The Jr. Youth Group is for ages 8-12 yrs and meets from 6:30-7:30 pm, and the Sr. Youth Group is for ages 13 & up and meets from 7:30pm till 9:00pm. We play games, do crafts, build community, and learn about God and His love through Bible study.

## BIBLE STUDY

We continue our Bible Study "Learn The Bible in 24 Hours" on Tuesday evenings this Fall at 7pm in the Small Hall. We will meet for 12 sessions of about an hour and a half in length. Each session is a video presentation by Chuck Missler. He will cover the New Testament in 12 sessions. You can participate in person or through the Zoom software.

# COVID Operational Plan Update

Patti Skidmore

"Sing Praises to God" (Psalm 47:6) and that is just what we started to do when NB went green! And then we stopped when the numbers of COVID cases spiked and mask wearing once again became mandatory in indoor public spaces in NB.

The COVID Operational plan committee met to talk about how to move forward in green and embrace the relaxing of some of the restrictions we had become accustomed to. The plan shifted again Sept. 22 with mandatory masking put in place. As a committee we agreed that seeking proof of vaccination would be a safeguard for our parishioners that we would put in place. We decided to only serve bread at communion for the foreseeable future. The offertory plates will remain at the front and back of the church, and hand sanitizers remain in accessible locations. Waving at the PEACE remains the preferred greeting and for a short while we enjoyed seeing smiles from everyone waving. We once again smile with our eyes as we wave. We have lifted the need to put in directional flow and parishioners can enter and exit through both the front and back doors.

With this September comes the re-opening of programming that has been on hold such as youth groups, choir practice and hand bell choir. Bible study, Sunday School and Vestry meetings can be attended in person with mandatory mask wearing effective Sept. 22, 2021. We are also able to participate in and enjoy the word through Morning Prayer (Wednesdays). The ability to worship and enjoy the music that David Mitchell and the choir provides is a bonus to this long pandemic period.

Vestry had also been looking at options for the return of Coffee hour although this is currently on hold. For future consideration, what are your thoughts about a shared coffee hour between the 9:00 and 10:30 services? If you are interested in hosting or discussing coffee hour, please approach Patti Skidmore (9:00 am) or Sharon Baxter (10:30 am).

The COVID Operational Committee will continue to monitor the Pandemic and its impact here locally and adjust our plan as needed to ensure that the safety and participation of our parishioners is maintained.

Thank you to all for support and patience as we have gathered and worshipped together.

## Our Dearly Departed:

William Patterson - March 9, 1943 - April 7, 2021  
Frances Reid - Oct. 25, 1921 - April 8, 2021

Frances Coloris - Feb. 14, 1929 - Aug. 20, 2021  
Audrey Wolno - June 5, 1928 - Sep. 10, 2021

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

## First Communion

In June two children from our congregation, Dylan Ricketts and Sydney Breen attended First Communion Classes. We met three times to learn what it means to receive communion and we practiced coming up to the rail to receive. Dylan and Sydney were quick to learn and engaged in the material. We had a First Communion Service on July 18th!



## DISCERNMENT UPDATE

Rick recently finished his three month placement with Jasmine and Terence Chandra at Stone Church. He says that he learned a lot about what it is to be a community priest. Rick also explored chaplaincy in Emergency Services and has finished his first year of his Masters program and is very busy reading for his next semester.



## Baptisms



April 11<sup>th</sup> - Anthony Joseph Erb



July 25<sup>th</sup> - Kane Regan Xavier Slaunwhite  
- Great grandson of Norm and Lina Toole



## Our Finances

### KEYS, KEYS, KEYS

We have spent over \$100 so far this year cutting new keys. The front door keys are particularly expensive. Vestry decided it would be good to take an inventory of our keys (there are many in the church office that either aren't marked, or are marked incorrectly. It was also felt that a database or log of some type indicating who has church keys would be prudent.

If you have any keys to any of the church doors (inside or external) that you no longer need, please return them to the church office.

If you have keys but still need them, that's great, but please contact the church office to tell us what keys you have so we can create and/or update the log.



As you may recall we went into this year budgeting for a loss of \$18,000. Our expenses continue to exceed our income and as of the end of August we have lost \$26,000 so far this year.

Offerings have dropped a bit from those of 2020 and we have received much less in Federal Wage Subsidies. Our expenses are a bit higher than last year, primarily due to general increases in costs.

We pray that income improves and that we can manage costs for the remainder of the year so that our current loss does not increase. Any loss we experience is covered by our Memorial Fund which currently sits at \$167K.

	<i>Jan-Aug</i> <b>2021</b>	<i>Jan-Aug</i> <b>2020</b>	<i>Jan-Dec</i> <b>2020</b>
Offerings	95,151	91,639	156,125
Reaching the Kingdom	2,164	0	5,093
Rents	6,880	8,114	9,109
Interest	2,314	3,055	4,800
Federal Subsidy	1,544	15,896	16,040
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>108,052</b>	<b>118,703</b>	<b>191,168</b>
Salaries	76,114	75,839	111,526
Church Bldg & Office	32,229	27,975	41,481
Rectory	5,918	7,388	9,592
Worship & Programs	1,242	2,109	6,625
Shared Ministry	18,621	18,873	29,658
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>134,123</b>	<b>132,184</b>	<b>198,882</b>
<b>YTD Loss</b>	<b>-26,071</b>	<b>-13,480</b>	<b>-7,714</b>

How to make your offerings:

- E-Offerings: see form and instructions at <https://nb.anglican.ca/programs/eoffering>
- E-Transfer: [goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:goodshep@nb.sympatico.ca) (create security question using answer: Lancaster)
- Mail or drop your offerings off at the church office

Call the church office at 635-8145 for more info on any of the above options.





## NATIONAL DAY FOR Truth & Reconciliation

In recognition of the Day of Reconciliation on September 30th, the Church of the Good Shepherd included in our September 26th services a very moving worship piece, prepared by layreader Heather Masson. We had orange pins and lit 6 candles, with a special prayer for each. Our prayers continue for Indigenous people across Canada as we remember the victims of the residential schools.



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

# Choir Update - Reasons to Rejoice

David Mitchell

19 months of crisis and counting.... . So much upheaval and change, leaders called upon to be experts in things for which they have no previous experience or training. Health care networks, businesses and churches expected to bring order to things over which they have little or no control.



This has certainly been my experience in supplying ministry through music at Good Shepherd. At times it has been a daunting and lonely task but that is not what I want to dwell on here. In fact my heart is full of thankfulness today.

Through it all, God has been so faithful to me and shown me on so many occasions how He has helped me to keep trusting Him. I can recall many instances when I began to wonder if I was my wasting my time and serving nothing more useful than elevator music, but then someone would be inspired to tell me how the music ministered to them in a special way. There were times too when I would just know that God was speaking through a hymn or recorded selection.

Today especially, however, I want to praise God for those special folks we know as the Good Shepherd Choir.



What I am rejoicing in is their faithfulness. It dawned on me yesterday that as people have stepped back from so many things in the past 19 months our choir has not lost a single regular member. In fact, I believe we have grown by 2. For many different reasons, usually Covid related we can't all make each rehearsal or service, but I want the congregation to know that you can count on the choir!!

Proverbs 20:6 says "Many a man claims to have unfailing love, but a faithful man who can find?" NIV



Our cantata this year is the beautiful **FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS**, by Mary McDonald. God willing, it will be presented on December 12 during our morning service. We would solicit your prayers that conditions will be such that we won't be prevented from doing so. For those who wish to join us for just the cantata without committing to our regular services, you are more than welcome to join us in the Small Hall on Wednesday at 7:30 for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an hour or so. We have part recordings and annotated scores available.

I am also thankful to have been able to acquire a new Yamaha DGX 670 keyboard. Although it is my own instrument, it will be used exclusively in the nave while the Roland I have been using is now residing in my studio. I am really pleased with this upgrade. Please bear with me as I learn to operate it smoothly and expeditiously.

God bless you. Stay safe.





# Request for Greeters and Counters

Patti Skidmore

Have you ever wanted to participate in a mini ministry within our church family? Being a GREETER/SIDE PERSON or a COUNTER may be just the role that fits. Let me fill you in on what is involved and how your leadership is vital and valued.

**GREETER/SIDES PERSON:** the one that smiles and greets the folks coming in for service. Along with your welcoming smile and greeting, you would be passing out bulletins, directing folks, answering inquires about the service, ensuring doors are open...a bit of a host/hostess role. You will also be ringing the bell at 5 minutes to the service. If you need someone to ring it for you, there is always a gentleman around that will step in - the important thing is remembering to do it.

Greeter duties differ slightly in the two services. Greeters at the 9:00 am service also pass out the small plastic communion cups at the front of the church when the wine is part of the service. These are always prepared by the Altar Guild and wrapped in paper towel to keep them sterile. Currently, and for the foreseeable future, we are only having the bread served at Communion.

Greeters at the 10:30 service not only do all the above, but they also guide the congregation at Communion time. Two greeters are necessary at the 10:30 service. An extra duty is locking the back door and turning off the outside light 10 minutes after the 10:30 service has started.

New this season, as you may have experienced in other settings, greeters are being asked to request parishioners provide a one-time proof of immunization as required by Provincial mandate. Once verified, simply check the parishioners name on the master list, and you won't have to ask to see proof of immunization again.

The role of Greeter has many facets to it, all designed to create a comfortable, welcoming, and safe worship environment. This role is also a great chance to buddy up with a pal or someone new. Depending on numbers it may be you are a Greeter once per month or once every 6-8 weeks.

## CANADIAN CHURCH CALENDARS 2022

As in years past, we will once again have Canadian Church Calendars for sale later this fall.

Last year we ordered more than were needed, meaning the church had to absorb the loss. This year we will order fewer. Please contact the church office to reserve yours.

The price will be \$7.00 each (or less). This is not a fund raiser for the church, so we try to pass them along at cost.



## PEWS FOR SALE!!!

The church has had several pews stored in the cellar for many years. We have decided to offer them for sale to parishioners. There are two different sizes - see below for a picture of one of the smaller size. If you are interested in purchasing one of these, please contact the church office for more information.



**COUNTERS:** the folks that tally up the weekly offerings from both services and logs the information and prepares the deposit. The system is a well-oiled machine and practically runs itself once you get the steps down pat. This is a two-person role, so a buddy is necessary, but we can help match you to someone, so please don't think you can't volunteer if you don't already have a partner in mind. On site training will be provided to those who wish to become a counter.

If either of these opportunities have piqued your curiosity or answered a longing you have had, please contact the wardens, Patti Skidmore (654-0015) or Sharon Baxter (343-1907), or speak to us at church. Thank you.

## Tintinabula Handbell Choir

Lynn Adams



The St. George's Church Tintinabula Hand Bell Choir - that's our official name (you know, the name your mother would call you if you were in trouble), but to most people we are Tintinabula, or just the Hand Bell Choir of the Church of Good Shepherd - has been making plans to resume practice and playing for others. During the Covid season, like most groups, we did not meet or play in various locations due to safety and restrictions, but as our members are all now vaccinated and restrictions are being lifted, we can hardly wait to play for you again.

We were saddened to learn our Director, Arlene Trask, decided not to return, and so we set out to find a new Director. Hearing our call was former member, Mary Carr, who has graciously stepped up to fill the void but "should a more qualified candidate offer, she would gladly step aside" (her words not mine).

Over the last year or so we have lost a valuable member in Olive Estabrooks, one of the original members of our group. She has been called to play Hand Bells in Heaven and I am sure will be watching over us with a smile and discerning ear.

We have put a call out for new members and have been pleasantly surprised by the response. We shall meet Monday nights, 6:45 pm to approx. 8:15-8:30 pm in the church's small hall.

Our goal is to play here for Church services this Christmas and if restrictions permit out at a few Senior and Nursing Homes. We thank Rev. Springthorpe for his support and encouragement during our rebuilding stage and hope to soon, "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."





# Building Updates

**NURSERY ROOM** Janet Brown approached vestry about creating a dedicated space for families with babies and toddlers who sometimes need a quiet sanctuary while in church to attend to their needs. Vestry readily agreed this would be a worthwhile project. A request for a funding grant was made to, and approved by the Diocese and vestry designated the small office behind the Small Hall for this purpose. During the summer the room was cleaned, new trim paint applied, a blind installed, the interior window fixed, flooring installed, decorated, and furnished. The furniture was either on hand or donated which

helped decrease the cost of the project. A video baby monitor was purchased so that services could be heard and seen in the room in real time. It was important to make this space warm, inviting, and inclusive for young parents and their babies. Thanks to Janet for taking the lead on this project and following through on the execution. We invite you to have a look at the room and to keep it in mind when you see young parents in church. Please let them know we have this area available and if possible, show them where it is.

**MEETING ROOM** The meeting room next door to the new nursery room has been being rented out to Go-Go Gymnastics as their full time, year round office space. The same flooring from the nursery room was carried into the Go-Go office at our cost, and then Go-Go painted the room at their own cost.

**ROOFING UPGRADES** In April of this year, the roof over the Narthex was replaced and new asphalt shingles were installed. Then in June, a large section of roof over the small hall, the upper kitchen and the sunshine room was upgraded with metal roofing (see photo below). The funds to cover these were taken from our Capital Memorial fund invested with the Diocese.



# L.I.F.T.

Janet Brown

Lift meets every second Thursday of the month in the small hall at 6:30pm. Though this year continues with challenges due to COVID we were able to start meeting in person in March 2021.



In May LIFT held a takeaway Lunch fundraiser on Mother's Day. This picnic lunch included a sandwich, bottle of water, hugs and kisses chocolates, and a cookie. Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser.



The ladies have also been sharing their artistic skills by creating homemade cards which we will use for various occasions.



In June we took our meeting outdoors and spruced up the front gardens by planting some colorful annuals and adding solar lights.



**We pray that we can continue to gather as we have booked the Cool Chicks & Ugly Doclings to ring in the Christmas season. Circle December 4, 2021, on your calendar – you won't want to miss it!**

We would like to open our group up to any ladies who would like to join us regardless of whether they attend our church. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us at our next meeting. 😊





# Engaging with and Supporting Our Community

## ROMERO HOUSE COOKING TEAM

The group (Ann, Susan, Sharon, Gilles) continue to cook on Sat. mornings for Romero House. The menu has not changed much in 18 months, still approximately 18 liters of turkey vegetable soup and 180 sandwiches are made each time. The generosity of our congregation is what keeps us being able continue this important work each week – Thank You!!



Left to right: Sharon Baxter, Ann Stone, Gilles Roy  
Missing from photo: Susan Dole

## ST. ROSE WALKS – GOOD SHEPHERD CHEERS!

Throughout the month of June, St. Rose School promoted physical activity with their students by walking/running a course laid out behind and adjacent to the school area every morning before the start of classes. They asked if Good Shepherd could provide a few volunteers each day to be “spotters” along the route to keep everyone on course and to be a safe resting stop for any students wishing to drop back and join a slower paced group part way through the course. A core group of 5-6 volunteers were able to ensure that we had enough spotters each day and by the end of the month, both teachers and students were familiar with our red hats and cheers of encouragement!



## MAP (MISSION ACTION PLAN)

As requested by the Diocese we started the process of discovering our Mission Action Plan – MAP. In May Terry and Janet presented to the congregation the first phase of gathering information. They asked the congregation to share what they see, hear and read about our neighborhoods. The second phase of this will start in the Fall where the information gathered will be reviewed and recommendations made as to where we, the Church of the Good Shepherd, can serve to the best of our ability and resources, the greater community.

If you wish to know more about the Mission Action Plan please see the Diocese website [Mission Action Plans | Resources | Anglican Diocese of Fredericton](#).





## BIKER'S BREAKFAST

On August 14 we held our Annual Blessing of the Bikes and Biker's Breakfast. Paul Desjardins headed this project and gathered the Bikers. The Men's Group with the help of some ladies spent hours in the kitchen preparing a delicious and hearty breakfast. There were over 60 bikes in the parking lot and over 100 people fed. Jonathan lead a prayer over the crowd after breakfast and a good time was had by all.

Photos courtesy of Joseph Comeau



## SHEPHERD'S CUPBOARD



In June Vestry voted to create the Shepherds Cupboard as it was recognized as an important outreach ministry. This ministry is not to replace the use of the Food Bank but to aide those in need who have experienced a particularly hard time. Those in need contact Rev. Jonathon who will deliver the groceries to them. This enables Jonathan to have a one-on-one visit as well as supplement the use of the Rectors Discretionary fund.

In July, Terry Ricketts and Janet Brown took on the task of cleaning out the small kitchen upstairs to make space for the shelving. The plea for groceries was graciously answered – THANK YOU! - our shelves are filling up. We continue to accept donations. We are in need of cereal, pasta sauce, peanut butter, and jam.

Rev. Jonathan has passed on heartfelt thanks from those that have benefited from this ministry thus far.





## YARD SALE SUCCESS!!!

On Saturday September 11, 2021 we opened our doors at 9:00 am for our first yard sale in several years. Every corner of the gym and stage area was full of “new to you” treasures and there was literally something for everyone! The entire morning was a whirlwind of activity as dedicated “yard-salers” streamed through the door - some came back a second time! We stayed open throughout the afternoon as an “add-on” to our corn boil/bouncy castle event running outside and enjoyed a full-family crowd in those hours. Thank you to all who donated, prepared for and worked this sale. Volunteers worked tirelessly sorting the donated items and on sale day, we had a lot of fun talking, laughing, and practicing our sales pitch with our customers! 😊 The result was \$1,934 in revenue, a lot of purged corners in the church and a great connection with many of our church neighbours! Select items remaining after the sale have been given to Hillcrest Baptist Church for distribution to newcomer families and Community Living has picked up the balance.



## CORN BOIL/BOUNCY CASTLE FAMILY COMMUNITY EVENT

Back during the summer, Rev. Jonathan approached vestry with the idea to hold a free corn boil to invite our neighbours and community to come see who we are. Vestry agreed whole-heartedly. As planning for this evolved, it was decided to hold it in conjunction with the yard sale; to also offer free hot dogs; and to have bouncy castles, face painting, and other children's games and activities. 10 dozen corn were cooked along with a similar number of hotdogs. Leftovers were donated to Romero House. Thanks to all volunteers who helped to make this event possible.



## CHRISTMAS BASKETS

As we move into the busy fall season, it is time to start thinking about our annual Christmas Basket project. It may be easier for some parishioners to pick up items in bulk when they are on sale rather than waiting until mid-November for the traditional "tree tag" selection of mixed items. The list below includes all of the grocery staples that we include in the baskets. If you do your shopping early from this list, kindly bring those items into the church by the end of October so that we can deduct them from the tree tags that will go up in the Narthex after Remembrance Day. As always, financial donations are welcome and will be needed in December when we purchase the turkeys, fresh produce, dairy, and bread to complete the baskets.

**PLEASE INDICATE "CHRISTMAS BASKETS" ON ANY DONATIONS LEFT AT THE CHURCH FOR THIS PROJECT.**



Item	Required
Peanut Butter	30
Jam	30
Pancake Mix (No eggs required)	30
Syrup (for Pancakes)	30
Box of cereal	30
Canned Juice	60
Canned Soup	120
Saltine Crackers	30
Canned Spaghetti	30
Kraft Dinner	120
Canned Beans	40
Canned Tuna	30
Canned meat (ie. Pram)	30
Uncooked Pasta	30
Can/Jar Pasta Sauce	30
Fruit Cocktail	30
Cookies	30
Canned Corn	48
Canned Peas	48
Cranberry Sauce	30
Stuffing Mix	30
Christmas Candy	30
Box of chocolates	30



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED  
SUPPORT OF THIS MISSION!!**

### **Do we have your e-mail address?**

One thing the pandemic has taught us is that we need to be adaptable to new ways of doing things. We've increased the frequency of e-mail communications (weekly links to the services on YouTube, Covid updates, these newsletters, etc. - we might even change the year-end tax receipts to electronic distribution, if possible).

By distributing this newsletter electronically, not only is the church saving money on paper, printing, and postage, but you get the full impact of the colour photos and graphics. If you're receiving a printed copy of this newsletter and have an e-mail address, please contact the church office so we can add you to the Parish distribution list. If you don't have e-mail, that's fine, you will continue to receive printed copies.