

The Cross & Staff - May 2013

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

101 North Walnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 + Phone: (269) 673-2254

An Update: Pros and Cons for Sunday Service Times

As part of our Stewardship Pledge Drive, people were invited to share ideas and observations related to our parish during a series of three "Koffee Klatches." Most of these comments were discussed in February and March during the Adult Forums (held the third Sunday of each month at 11:10 a.m.) and by the Vestry.

One of the questions that received some attention was our Sunday schedule. Feedback from those responding was almost equally divided as to whether we should celebrate Eucharist at 9:30 am or 10:00 am. (The 9:30 time was set when the parish went from two services to one.)

It is always confusing to switch service times and so the Vestry and I have been deliberate in discussing this choice since not everyone gets the word, and other factors, including Christian education and formation programs, are impacted.

For the time being, we plan to continue to with the 9:30 am celebration of Holy Eucharist. (We will continue this until at least after the Allegan County Fair.) Adult Education is offered on the 3rd Sunday of the month (unless otherwise noted) and overlaps with fellowship time after the service.

-- See "Update" on page 5 --



The ninth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of West Michigan will be elected Saturday, May 18 during a special convention at Grace Episcopal Church in Grand Rapids.

The Diocesan search team nominated three candidates:

- ❖ **THE REV. JENNIFER ADAMS, Rector**, Grace Episcopal Church in Holland, Michigan,
- ❖ **THE REV. WHAYNE HOUGLAND, JR.**, Rector, St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Salisbury, North Carolina, and
- ❖ **THE REV. CANON ANGELA SHEPHERD**, Canon for Mission, Diocese of Maryland.

One candidate was nominated through the petition process:

- ❖ **THE REV. CANON WILLIAM SPAID**, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Western Michigan

Detailed background information about each candidate is available in the parish office or at www.edwmsearch.org.

Please take time before May 17 to let our parish delegates – Norm Richards and Jan Meyers or Father Tom – know your thoughts about which candidate seems best suited to lead the EDWM into the future.

See page 5 for more information about a celebration to honor retiring Bishop Robert Gepert and when the new bishop will be consecrated.



Vestry members will gather for an extended meeting May 19 as part of our regular planning, brainstorming and evaluation schedule. If you have any comments or concerns that you hope the Vestry would discuss during this retreat, please share them with any Vestry member. (These include Ray Lewis, Linda Kauppi, Mike Buese, Ann Perrigo, Norm Richards, Sue Squiers and Nick Wenban.) Also, please keep the Vestry in your prayers as they look towards future direction and goals for the parish.



Happy Anniversary to . . .

May 2 – Cyle and Kalynn Slater; **May 6** – Jeff and Julie Northrup; **May 14** – Carrie and Matt Burza; **May 21** – Ray and Dede Lewis, and Doug and Stacey Ferris; **May 30** – Devyn Morris and Sean Conley

June 3 – Bobbie and Ron Wenzel; **June 12** – Dan and Anne Brenner; **June 18** – Nicholas and Theresa Wenban; **June 30** – Father Tom and Deirdre Toeller-Novak

May 2 Carol Hiscock
May 11 Quinn Simmons
May 12 Steve Winters
May 14 Jan Meyers
May 17 Jeff Simmons
Margaret Sturgis
May 24 Alex Granat
May 29 Ann Stough

June 1 Sandy Wheat
June 5 Amber Pettee
June 9 Julie Tibbitts
June 10 Richard Krickow
Daniel Meyers
June 11 Linda Kauppi
June 17 Michael Buese
June 26 Sherrie VanderPoel
June 27 Mark Zimmerman
June 28 Zachary Meyers
June 30 Melissa Washburn

Quick notes . . .

Ride for a Reason

The fourth annual bicycling tour to benefit the Allegan County Central Food Pantry is slated for Saturday, June 1 at the Allegan Sports Complex. There will be 55-, 25-, 10- and 1-mile rides. Registrations start at 7 a.m. More details about “Ride for a Reason – Feel Younger, Fight Hunger” can be found by calling (269) 941-3509 or visiting www.alleganrideforareason.com

Celebration of Thanksgiving slated

A special service is slated at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, at the First Congregational Church as Pastor Barry Lucas celebrates the one-year anniversary of his near-death experience after he collapsed playing basketball. Worship and fellowship will happen in the church at 323 Cutler Street in Allegan.

Allegan Farmers Market open for season

A variety of fresh produce and homemade items now are available at the Allegan Farmers Market, which is open from May to October. Vendors will be in the parking lot where Water and Cutler streets intersect in downtown Allegan from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each Thursday.

Help keep this list current. Let Sharon know about any special days marked by your family. If everyone takes a moment via phone, e-mail or written note to share birthdays and anniversaries, our parish can mark these important events.

You can also mark special occasions by sponsoring the altar flowers, bell ringings and/ or the sanctuary lamp. Details are on the parish bulletin board.

Event to honor the Corrigan family

A special coffee hour to honor Peter and Daniela Corrigan and Junjuan Lai is planned after worship on Sunday, June 2. Peter has accepted a job in New York state. Please come share some time with the family before they move from the area.



Celebration of Life slated

The family of Barb Washburn invites you to celebrate her life and share memories during a picnic event at the Washburn Farm, 1368 122nd Avenue, Hopkins, on Saturday, May 25 starting at 3 p.m.



“Faith Song: Music of an Easter People” – A special musical program is slated for 7 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Battle Creek. The program will include a “Mass for Four Voices” by Byrd, “Sicut Cervus” by Palestrina, “If Ye Love Me” by Tallis and more. Admission is a suggested \$10 at the door.

Quick notes . . .

ECW annual diocesan meeting scheduled

The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Western Michigan will hold their annual meeting from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 1, at Holy Trinity Church in Wyoming. Parishes are being encouraged to set up “craft” or “fundraising” tables.

Support group starting

A new support group for families of fostered and adopted children will begin meeting at the First Congregational Church of Allegan from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. the third Friday of each month. “Mosaics” began at the Ridgpoint Church in Holland and is expanding into this area. More information is available from wendycheek1@gmail.com.

Baccalaureate set at Allegan High School

The 137th annual baccalaureate program for Allegan High School will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 19, in the performing arts center.

Regent continues campaign for digital

Efforts continue to raise \$75,000 needed to install a digital projection system in the Old Regent Theatre. Through mid-May, you can donate by rounding up your purchase at Village Market.

 oung

 rganization

 nder

 he

 ighest

Christ has risen! Christ has risen indeed!

Our group continues meeting to learn about our faith, our Bible, our customs and traditions. We love to gather to discuss ideas and to challenge ideas. We love to gather to play games and share meals!

Every single one of us is a role model. Often we think of adults being role models for the youth, but let me tell you that these youth are often role models for me! Our participation in their lives is a lesson for both of us. Our lack of participation in their lives is also a lesson. When I think of my greatest role models, I stand a little higher, I walk a little truer, I think with greater focus. When I think of these people not showing up in my life, I

shudder to think of what could NOT have been! We all have a responsibility to show up for one another; young and old, we are all role models.

On May 8, there will be a meeting for the adults and parents who are a part of the Y.O.U.T.H. The meeting is slated for 7 p.m. in Immanuel Lutheran Church at 631 Grand Street. Our clergy leadership team wants to involve all who would like to participate. We will talk about specific programming goals including local missions, activities (Craig’s Cruisers!), current events, and human sexuality from a Christian perspective. Those with ideas and questions are welcome to attend. We would love to have more adults help prepare meals for Sunday evenings, transport youth for missions and activities and provide input about program ideas.

There is a change in the June calendar that should be made known now. June 16 is Father’s Day and the Y.O.U.T.H. group will not meet that Sunday. We will instead meet at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 15, at Immanuel Lutheran. The students will be making communion bread for our churches!

All students between sixth and twelfth grades are welcome to attend our meetings held on a rotating schedule at one of the three sponsoring churches. Students do not need to be members of any particular church. The upcoming schedule includes: **May 5** at Good Shepherd; **May 12** at First Presbyterian for the benefit concert series; **May 19** at Immanuel Lutheran Church and **May 26** at First Presbyterian Church.

Yours in Christ,
Martha Meek -- YOUTH Program Director

Author links comedy and family ministry ideas into fun events

Two special events are slated Monday, June 3, at Immanuel Lutheran Church featuring author, cartoonist, speaker, record producer, and family counselor Dr. Rich Melheim. Call the church at 673-3335 for more info.



1 to 5 p.m. – FAITH5™ Church team training where Dr. Rich will provide step-by-step strategies to involve parents in family ministry from cradle to graduation. What might a worship service look like if families were equipped at church through an immersion in the arts for their nightly engagement with the text and one another?

6:30 p.m. – Holding Your Family Together comedy event (free for all!) The entire family is invited to this event that, according to an informational flyer, will be “½ stand-up comedy, 12% practical parenting advice, ¾ sneaky parent recruitment and 100% just plain fun or your money back. (Oh yeah. It’s free.) Participants should bring a pillow for the pillow fight after the event and learn about the neurology, psychology, sociology and theology of combining exercise and fun with FAITH5™ for maximum results.” Seriously! Bring a pillow!”

Melheim, whose latest book is titled “Holding Your Family Together,” focuses on five simple steps that can strengthen the church – one family at a time, one night at a time.

Grief Support

For 30 years, Wings of Hope Hospice has provided compassionate care for the end of life and support through the grief process for individuals and families in Allegan County and surrounding communities. The group does not charge for services but rather is funded by tax-deductible community donations and memorials.



530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010 ☎ (269) 686-8659 or (800) 796-2676 ☎ www.wingsofhopehospice.com

Below are some reflections and programs from a Wings of Hope brochure about the grieving process.

Grieving is Natural

Grief is a normal and natural reaction to the loss of someone or something very special. The death of a loved one can be one of the toughest emotional and physical challenges we experience. When death occurs, people are often overwhelmed by the wide range of reactions to the loss. The pain is deep, and the process of grieving can sometimes seem devastation.

Dealing with Loss

While there is no timetable for grieving, it can take some time just to stabilize after the death of a loved one. The worst times do not usually occur at the moment of the tragic event, as the person may be in shock and numb. It may take several months for the shock to lessen and to feel the full extent of the loss.

The feelings that accompany loss can be very difficult to experience. “Stuffing,” or avoiding these feelings, will only postpone the healing process.

To heal, one must feel it’s all right to cry, to questions, and to be vulnerable. It is okay not to say “I’m fine” when asked how you are. Sharing feelings and talking helps!

Grief is a process to go through. Each person’s grief is as unique and individual as that person.

Be patient. It takes time.

Wings of Hope offers **various educational resources**: workshops about “Coping with the Holidays,” speakers for organizations, a lending library with books and videos, and the Seabiscuit Middle School expressive arts program. There are **group support programs**, including “Living with Loss” held weekly, an annual “Remembering Service” held each fall in Allegan, a lunch gathering at 11 a.m. the first Tuesday of each month in the Allegan General Hospital Schuyler Room, and a “Coping with Loss” meeting at 10 a.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Congregational Church, 323 Cutler Street. **One-on-one support also available in person** or via phone.

A Prayer for Discernment

as the EDWM seeks its ninth Bishop

Gracious God, Great Shepherd of your people, may we seek your wisdom as we listen for your voice among many voices. May we imagine boldly, pray unceasingly and act to be the community you would have us be. May we be strengthened by our companionship with each other and by your presence in our deliberations and decision making. May you bless the labors of those who seek our next bishop who will lead us with vigor and vision; and in this discernment may we all be encouraged in discipleship in Christ for the good of your people throughout Western Michigan. Amen.

Celebration for the Bishop Gepert



There will be a retirement celebration with hors d'oeuvres for Bishop Robert Gepert and his wife, Anne Labat-Gepert, at 7 p.m. Friday, May 17, at Grace Church, 1815 Hall Street, Grand Rapids. Please join us in wishing Robert and Anne well as they prepare to begin retirement. If

you would like to make a gift honoring the couple, Bishop Gepert has requested donations to the Dominican Republic Mission Fund. Please send your gift to the Diocesan Center, 535 South Burdick Suite #1, Kalamazoo, MI 49007 and write "retirement celebration" in the memo line of the check. The Geperts will be given a list of all the donors (but not the individual amounts) at the celebration.



**CONSECRATION OF THE NINTH BISHOP
OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WEST MICHIGAN**

1 p.m. Saturday, September 28, 2013

in the Van Noord Arena at Calvin College
3195 Knight Way SE, Grand Rapids

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori will be the chief consecrator.

Do you know someone who is quietly doing good things in our parish to honor God? If so, please let the office know so their hard work is recognized.

-- "Update" continued from page 1 --

Education for children is available at First United Methodist Church of Allegan from 11 am to noon. (This has been a significant consideration in the discussion.) Since First United Methodist also has a 9:30 worship service, it has been easy for parents to take their children next door without missing any of the program.

Another significant question is how attendance would be impacted by a move to 10 am. How many people who do not come to worship frequently would come if the time were changed? How many who currently attend regularly were come less frequently if the time were changed? And would we make it impractical to participate in children's education programs at First United Methodist?

It seems that having adult education opportunities after the Eucharist is preferred by most people who provided feedback, but people were not asked about the advantage of having an opportunity for children's education at our neighbor church.

We may have to take a more thorough survey in the fall before making a final decision but we would all do well to give the questions some thought and prayer. Thank you.



Minister assignments

Serving all of God's creation
through Christ's example of faith and love. . . .
Thank you for helping to serve the Lord!

Serving the week of May 5	
Chalice Bearer:	Norm Richards
Crucifer:	Ray Lewis
Lectors:	1. Linda Kauppi 2. Ed Spicer 3. Ann Perrigo
Altar Guild:	Linda Pullen
Ushers:	Betty Miner
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	Wendy Simmons and Carol Hiscock
Prayers for Peace: Monday – Mike Pettee Tuesday – Mary Ann Ferris Friday – Marv Voss	

Serving the week of May 12	
Mothers' Day and Sunday after Ascension	
Chalice Bearer:	Marv Voss
Crucifer:	Norm Richards
Lectors:	1. Linda Kauppi 2. Sue Buese 3. Wendy Simmons
Altar Guild:	Gari Voss
Ushers:	Ray Lewis
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	Ann Perrigo and Ed Spicer
Prayers for Peace: Monday – Lynne Winters Tuesday – The Wheats Friday – Mary Ann Ferris	

Serving the week of May 19	
Pentecost	
Chalice Bearer:	Kate Nameche
Crucifer:	Marv Voss
Lectors:	1. Sue Buese 2. Ken Mills 3. Ed Spicer
Altar Guild:	Dede Lewis
Ushers:	Kandi Gibson
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	Jan Meyers and Bobbie Wenzel
Prayers for Peace: Monday – Linda Kauppi Tuesday – Mike Pettee Friday – Marv Voss	

Serving the week of May 26	
Trinity Sunday and Memorial Day weekend	
Chalice Bearers:	Ray Lewis
Crucifer:	Gari Voss
Lectors:	1. Ed Spicer 2. Ann Perrigo 3. Kandi Gibson
Altar Guild:	Mary Ann Ferris
Ushers:	Norm Richards
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	Sue Huguelet and the Lange girls
Prayers for Peace: Monday – CLOSED Memorial Day Tuesday – Linda Kauppi Friday – _____	

Some calendar notes
Wednesday, May 8 – Meeting at 7 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran for adults supporting Y.O.U.T.H.
Saturday, May 11 – Deadline to submit recipes for the next ECW cookbook to be published later this year
Wednesday, May 16 – Parish office closed as Piper recovers from surgery.
Sunday, May 19 – Adult Forum @ 11:10 a.m. and Vestry retreat at the Kauppis in the afternoon
Monday, May 27 – Office closed for Memorial Day

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
Our Mission: The Good Shepherd parish serves all of God's creation through Christ's example of faith and love.
Our Vision: The Good Shepherd parish is a welcoming, vital, dynamic, spiritual force in the community.
Our Motto: Whoever you are, whatever you are, as you are . . . We welcome you!



Minister assignments

Serving all of God's creation through Christ's example of faith and love. . . .
Thank you for helping to serve the Lord!

Serving the week of June 2	
Chalice Bearer:	Kate Nameche
Crucifer:	Ray Lewis
Lectors:	1. Jan Meyers 2. Ken Mills 3. Norm Richards
Altar Guild:	Lynne Winters
Ushers:	Jim Wendt
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	Ann Stough and friends
Prayers for Peace: Monday – Betty Miner Tuesday – Linda Kauppi Friday – Marv Voss	

Serving the week of June 9	
Chalice Bearer:	Gari Voss
Crucifer:	Norm Richards
Lectors:	1. Wendy Simmons 2. Jan Meyers 3. Linda Kauppi
Altar Guild:	Kate Nameche/ Dede Lewis
Ushers:	Betty Miner
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	Chuck and Linda Pullen
Prayers for Peace: Monday – Mike Pettee Tuesday – The Wheats Friday – Mary Ann Ferris	

Serving the week of June 16 Fathers' Day	
Chalice Bearer:	Ray Lewis
Crucifer:	Marv Voss
Lectors:	1. Gari Voss 2. Norm Richards 3. Wendy Simmons
Altar Guild:	Linda Pullen
Ushers:	Ray Lewis
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	Mike and Sue Buese
Prayers for Peace: Monday – Linda Kauppi Tuesday – Mike Pettee Friday – Marv Voss	

Serving the week of June 23	
Chalice Bearers:	Norm Richards
Crucifer:	Gari Voss
Lectors:	1. Ann Perrigo 2. Wendy Simmons 3. Ed Spicer
Altar Guild:	Kandi Gibson
Ushers:	Kandi Gibson
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	Gari Voss
Prayers for Peace: Monday – Lynne Winters Tuesday – The Wheats Friday – _____	

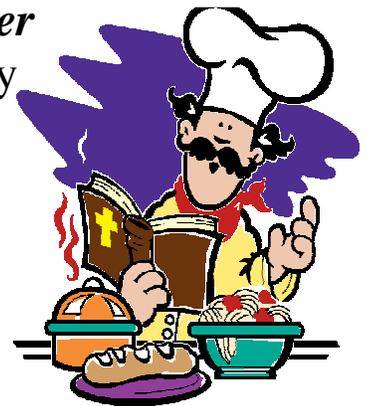
Serving the week of June 30	
Chalice Bearer:	Marv Voss
Crucifer:	Ray Lewis
Lectors:	1. Kandi Gibson 2. Gari Voss 3. Linda Kauppi
Altar Guild:	Linda Pullen
Ushers:	Norm Richards
Nursery:	TBA
Coffee Hour:	The Lewis and Burza families
Prayers for Peace: Monday – Betty Miner Tuesday – Mike Pettee Friday – Marv Voss	

Some calendar notes
Sunday, June 2 – Farewell party for the Corrigan family during fellowship hour at 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, June 2 – Y.O.U.T.H. meets in Good Shepherd at 6 p.m.
Sunday, June 9 – Vestry meets at 11:30 a.m. in Winchester Hall
Saturday, June 15 – Y.O.U.T.H. meets at 10 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran to make communion bread. (NOTE – No meeting June 16 because of Fathers' Day.)
Sunday, June 16 – Adult Forum @ 11:10 a.m.



HELP THE ECW CREATE A NEW PARISH COOKBOOK

The ladies are gathering recipes — new and old favorites — to include in an updated parish cookbook. *They hope to include at least one recipe from every parish member and friend!* To help reach the goal, please tuck a copy of your favorite recipe in the appropriate envelope on the information table in Winchester Hall before May 11. (Or send them via postal mail or e-mail to the parish office.) ECW hopes to publish the book before the fair opens.



The Episcopal
Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut Street
Allegan, MI 49010



EDWM continues
seeking its 9th Bishop
See page 1 for
updates on the process

Whoever you are, whatever you are,
as you are . . . we welcome you!