

AGENDA
46th ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church--Centennial, Colorado
January 29, 2022--10:45 a.m.

- 1) Prayer for the Parish**
- 2) Approval of Agenda, Appointment of Clerk & Quorum Call –
Fr. Gary Brower**
- 3) Approval of Minutes of the 2022 meeting – Fr. Gary Brower**
- 4) Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members – Fr. Gary Brower/Jim Wolfe**
- 5) Nominating Committee Report – Jim Wolfe**
Presentation/Election of Vestry Members & Junior Warden
Appointment of Senior Warden – Fr. Gary Brower
- 6) Presentation of Slate for Corporate Officers – Fr. Gary Brower**
- 7) Presentation of the 2022 Financial Report –**
- 8) 2022 Stewardship Report – Anne McMahon**
- 9) Presentation of 2023 Budget –Amy McLaughry**
- 10) Reminder of Who We Are: Holy Spirit Awards – Fr. Gary Brower**
- 11) Presentation of the 2022 Annual Report and Pastor's Remarks—
Fr. Gary Brower**
- 12) Congregational Comments**
- 13) Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

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2022 Financials – Projected during the Annual Meeting.

2023 Budget – Projected during the Annual Meeting.

Vestry Nominee Biographies – Sent to Parish via email before the meeting.

Changes to the Good Shepherd By-Laws, regarding the Legacy Society
– Sent to Parish via email before the meeting.

2022 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES— ROUGH DRAFT
GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH
JANUARY 23, 2022

The 46th Annual Meeting of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church was called to order at 10:15 a.m., virtually via Zoom, following the 9:00 a.m. online service. Members signed into the meeting via the Zoom Chat feature.

Fr. Gary Brower opened the meeting by leading a Parish prayer. Kathy Hunter, Good Shepherd's Parish Administrator, was appointed Clerk for the meeting, and a quorum was acknowledged. The agenda for the Annual Meeting was approved.

Regarding the Minutes of the January 31, 2021, Annual Meeting:

The Motion was made, and seconded to approve the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion passed. There were zero "no" votes.

Fr. Gary Brower recognized the outgoing members of the Vestry Class of 2021—Nan Behringer, Christina Blackburn, and Deb Sampson, and also Nora Earnest, who was filling a partial term in place of a Vestry member who resigned. He also offered a "huge" thank you to our Senior Warden, Karin Elsen, and Junior Warden, Ellen Blackburn, who have completed their year of service.

The current members of the Vestry Class of 2022 are Anne McMahon, Dennis Phillips, and Doris Truhlar. Members of the Class of 2023 are Tom Billings and MaryAnn Panarelli, with one vacant seat. The Vestry is Good Shepherd's decision-making body, overseeing the mission, ministry, and maintenance of the church, while also moving forward with its vision.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by outgoing Senior Warden, Karin Elsen, included Donna White, and also input from our Good Shepherd youth. Karin presented the slate of nominees for election to the Vestry: For the two-year unexpired term in the Class of 2023, the nominee is Robin Gear. For the Class of 2024—Nan Behringer, Hugh Cook, and Linda Messer are nominated. Outgoing Vestry member Christina Blackburn is nominated as the Junior Warden for 2022. The biographies for the nominees were distributed to the Parish via email prior to the meeting.

A Motion was made, seconded, and approved by acclamation to accept the Vestry Slate as presented by the Nominating Committee.

A Motion was made, seconded, and approved by acclamation to accept the nomination of Christina Blackburn as Junior Warden.

Fr. Gary announced with gratitude that he has appointed Jim Lee Wolfe as our Senior Warden for 2022.

The slate for the Corporate Officers was presented as follows: President – Fr. Gary Brower; Vice-President – Jim Lee Wolfe; Secretary – Kathy Hunter; Treasurer – Elaine Gilley.

A Motion was made and seconded to approve the slate of corporate officers. On a voice vote, the motion passed.

Joe Namaksy, Good Shepherd's Treasurer, will not be continuing this year. Elaine Gilley, a member of the Finance Committee, has been elected by the Vestry to serve as Treasurer for 2022. Joe believes Elaine will do an excellent job, and he has agreed to remain on the Finance Committee.

Joe also offered a special thank you to Charlotte Stasko, our Business Manager, for her support and assistance in 2021.

Our total 2021 income was \$535,538, with total expenses of \$486,524, leaving a surplus of \$49,014 going into 2022. When the second Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan funds were received, in the amount of \$62,790, the church then had \$111,803 in unbudgeted funds for 2021. We were able to fund and complete several capital-improvement projects, in the amount of \$44,945, leaving an adjusted net income of \$66,858 at the end of the year. These projects included the completion of the high-speed internet and Wi-fi project, resurfacing of the church parking lot, replacement of the front doors with upgraded locks, and replacement of the patio, with a new sidewalk installed along the west wall of the church. We are also in the process of installing a security system with cameras inside and outside the building, along with warning signs about the cameras

The church was also able to pay off the remaining mortgage on the church building, leaving us debt-free for the first time in many years.

Anne McMahon reported on the Stewardship Campaign for 2022, *Building Relationships through Christ, Church and Community*. Good Shepherd parishioners stepped up and pledged more than we have ever had in commitments to the church's ministry. We have 138 pledges totaling \$490,650. These are extraordinary results, with 82% participation from the congregation. This result tells us that we are together, and supportive of all that Good Shepherd envisions for the year 2022. We should thank each other for this amazing result. Anne thanked the members of the Stewardship Committee, and those who participated in the campaign as ambassadors and as prayer partners.

Joe Namaksy then presented the 2022 budget to the Parish. He explained how the budget numbers add up for this year. Total income is projected at \$551,049, with expenses of \$525,077, which shows a Net Income for 2022 of + \$25,972. The total for budgeted pledges is \$435,021, which is adjusted for prepaid pledges given before the end of 2021, and expected underpayments. The Building and Grounds Committee has \$16,500 in projects needed for 2022, and the sound a livestreaming technology for the Sanctuary is estimated up to \$72,484. The Vestry and the Finance Committee will have to decide how to address these two large expenses, which are not listed in the 2022 budgeted expenses.

Fr. Gary Brower explained a pie chart showing the 2022 Functional Budget expenses, which shows the percentages of spending according to the different ministries of the church, including the staff salaries and expenses that support each ministry. This chart shows 28% to Administration, 24% to Music & Worship, 17% to Building Operations, 11% to Education, 11% to Outreach, and 8% to Community and Pastoral Care, which is easier to understand than our regular budget information.

A Motion was made, and seconded by Nan Behringer, to approve the 2022 budget as presented by the Finance Committee. On a voice vote, the motion passed.

Fr. Gary Brower presented the 2021 Holy Spirit Awards, which are given to parishioners who have served the church in major ways. This year's award goes to Joe Namaksy, our outgoing Treasurer. Joe has gone "above and beyond" in his service to Good Shepherd in 2021, with capable help from his wife Duanne. Fr. Gary gifted Joe with a St. Matthew icon. St. Matthew is the patron saint of Treasurers.

Fr. Gary Brower encouraged all members to read the 2021 Annual Report, which is full of useful information about all of Good Shepherd's ministries. The report will be available online on the church website tomorrow.

He then asked for any feedback the members had to share. There were questions about how to pay for the new sound and livestreaming equipment for the sanctuary. Is the task force still working on the project? The Vestry will be looking at the next step for this project, and the funding of the project. A new committee will be formed to move these changes forward as soon as possible.

Thanks were expressed to Renee Tschetter and Kip Travis for taking such loving care of the church grounds. Irma Princic campaigned for new and younger volunteers for the Altar Guild. Karin Elsen encouraged members to talk with our youth about the church, and their thoughts about programs. The possibility of a youth forum was suggested, so that members can interact with the youth about matters of the church.

A really big THANK YOU was expressed to Fr. Gary Brower, our Rector. We have been truly blessed to have Gary leading us through the pandemic and beyond.

Fr. Gary Brower led us in prayer to end the meeting.

A Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the 2022 Annual Meeting, and it was rigorously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Hunter
Vestry Clerk

CLERGY REPORTS

REPORT FROM THE RECTOR

The Rev. Gary R. Brower, PhD



From Psalm 15: “Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? who may abide upon your holy hill?” (v 1). And, from Micah 6: “With what should I approach the LORD and bow down before God on high?” (v 6).

Psalm 15 was probably part of a liturgical “entrance rite”, suggesting that a worshipper approaching the Temple might inquire of a priest what was required before admission to the sacred place. While other ancient religions might focus on ritual performances, in this psalm’s case, entrance to the Temple required a character pleasing to God: blamelessness, truthfulness, honesty, trustworthiness, etc. Micah 6 also represents an entrance rite: a worshipper, probably seeking atonement for sins, is honestly trying to understand what offering might be appropriate. The possibilities increase in “worth”: a simple burnt offering, or the most valuable of calves (year-old), the offerings of royalty (1000’s of rams), or the dedication of one’s firstborn. The answer, as with Psalm 15, is not necessarily a dismissal of the value of those offerings, but rather suggests a complete alteration of one’s behavior. Two very similar verses, but from very different historical contexts, that seem to ask the same question: “How shall we truly worship God?”

Neither of these “entrance rites” discount the worship that had characterized Israel from the earliest times. They simply put the rituals in a different context. Liturgy falls flat if the worshipper’s character is self-serving, not accompanied by a larger concern for justice, faithfulness and humility. Worship that “works” is wholistic; and it engages the entire person at all times. In other words, worship is more than just what happens in the sanctuary. I have little doubt that we, at Good Shepherd, understand this. This congregation has always had more going on than just what happens on Sunday morning. And that is due to faithful members who love God and this church.

“Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?” Standing both outside and inside the building, our Greeters are often the first of many friendly faces to welcome worshippers, followed by our Ushers who provide bulletins and additional welcome. Ably coordinated by Joe Gavlick (the Greeters) and Chuck and Sue Kelley (the Ushers); these folks are critical to our “welcoming spirit”. Liz Peel and her helpers extend that welcoming spirit to the Coffee Hour. Thanks to you all. And, of course, if anyone would like “try their hand” in any of those roles, I’m sure Joe, Chuck and Sue, and Liz would be happy to talk with you.

In the larger context of “welcome”, I must also mention the work of the Marthas—that group of parishioners who provide hospitality and logistical help at weddings and funerals. As you probably know, Good Shepherd has experienced a (probable) record number of funerals this past year, and the Marthas have always risen to the occasion. Thank you to Jennifer Spahr and your crew; your generosity-of-time and hospitality have been an amazing offering to grieving families and friends at a difficult time.

Who may abide on your holy hill?” We are blessed with clergy who stand at that altar to “perfect our praises”. Thank you Bishops Cal Schofield and Chris Epting! Thank you to the Reverends Merrie Need and Sandy Boyd! A big “thank-you”, too, to the Reverend Deacon Nadine Pope who has come to serve this congregation in so many ways, and who I’m so grateful to have at “my right hand” most Sundays!

The sanctuary of our “holy hill” would not be what it is without the faithful work of the Altar Guild, ably coordinated by Nan Behringer. Thanks too, to Lori DeLue for the floral adornment of our sanctuary. Ellen Blackburn masterfully juggles the various individual schedules of Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers to ensure that the necessary “slots” are filled for each Sunday. Ellen has also labored to recruit and schedule acolytes. Coming out of COVID, all these ministries have operated

“short-staffed”, but with skill, grace and good humor! By the way, see Nan or Ellen if you feel called to serve in those areas.

“With what should we approach the Lord?” Music! Our extraordinary choir, contemporary ensemble, bell choir, and Black Sheep provide offerings that “touch all the bases” and more. We are blessed by the devotion and expertise of Connie Branton who, post-COVID, has also taken on the roles of organist and director of the Black Sheep and Contemporary Group (assisted in this latter ministry by Marge Pegula). Thank you, too, Tricia Hartman for your work with the bells. Thank you to ALL of the musicians—singers and instrumentalists. Our music program now has a more unified and positive sense about it that has been absent for some time. Y’all praise the Lord with timbrel and song and, sometimes with dance!

Our “holy hill” grew during COVID by means of technology! Yes, I learned to Zoom worship from my basement . . . so long ago now! But we’ve moved on from there . . . streaming the 7:45 am service from the Chapel. “Temple attendance” via Zoom is sometimes greater than that of the in-person worshippers. Thank you to Elaine Oxenbury for taking some of the Zoom-related “button-pushing” chores off my plate! And now, we can see where this new technological world is going! The new A/V Booth is mostly done, thanks to the work of Whit Hill, David McLaughry, Curt Watson and Ken White. And a double thanks goes to those four, and the others on the Technology Task Force for the all the work, including fund-raising, that will enable us—once all the equipment arrives!—to ensure that “dwelling on God’s holy hill” does not require being in this physical space.

Our Sunday worship take place (mostly) in a “temple” that is well-stewarded by other ministers. Our Building and Grounds committee has washed windows, replaced aging weather-stripping, shampooed carpets, replaced furnaces and A/C units, as well as old and sunken concrete. Thank you to all who serve on that group! And a special thanks to Renee Tschetter, our grounds-tender and gardener extraordinaire, for ensuring that our “tabernacle precincts” are beautiful. And, thanks to those who, during “warmer” times of the year, exercise their gifts as lawn-mowers, saving us a lot of money that can be directed to other aspects of mission and ministry.

But more goes on in this place than just Sunday services! As Psalm 15 asserts, true worship is borne out of right knowledge and good character. We have faithful people who exercise their gifts in education. Thank you to Sue LeFant, Elaine Oxenbury, Cole AllSmith, Anna Branton, and their helpers for working to form our young people—including putting on our Reformation Day play and Christmas Pageant. And thank you to Maddie McGrath for being there for our littlest attendees.

The increase of knowledge and devotion is not confined to young people. In our adult faith forums, we have learned about “Interfaith and Ecumenical Involvement.” We have wondered about a “Dog in the Manger”! Panels formed of long-time members helped us understand our congregational heritage in “Saints and Skeletons”. Thank you Merrie Need for your willingness to take us through significant stories of the Hebrew Scriptures. Thank you to Curt and Melissa Watson for sharing your experiences on the Camino de Santiago. Thank you, too, Bp. Epting, Larry Hitt and Jim Wolfe, for helping us understand the importance of church conferences and conventions (By the way, most of those classes were recorded and can be found on our YouTube channel.) And “Thank you” to Melissa Besfer and Celeste Parmley, for re-organizing our library! You’ll hear more about that in a few weeks!

The gatherings of the faithful beyond Sundays feed our weekly worship experiences. Relationships nurtured in the Book Group, Faith Club, and Men’s Group survived COVID through the use of Zoom.

And Zoom has continued to be a great option to keep those relationships alive when gathering physically is difficult. Similarly, over the course of the last couple of years, we had non-Sunday worship opportunities—made possible by Zoom. Until its hiatus last summer, Wednesday evening Compline provided a wonderful mid-week respite for many. The Morning Sheep Count kept several people in contact with one another, with regular attendees from Virginia Beach, VA and Albuquerque, NM! Thank you to all who have facilitated those gatherings!

Our Finance Committee, Outreach Committee, Technology Task Force, Advocacy Team, and the Vestry have all also utilized the “technological option” either to hold their entire meeting remotely, or to allow some folks to “call in” because of travel or health restrictions. “Thank you” to all who are members and who have led those groups over this last year. Your concerns for “justice and faithfulness” and mission, feed, and are fed by, our worship. We see that in our involvement at Walnut Hills Elementary School, St. Francis Center, St. Clare’s Ministries, Covenant Cupboard Food Pantry, Giving Heart Englewood, and so many other places. Our heart for serving God is not confined to one time or one place.

Nor is our heart for the greater worship of God confined to traditional “categories”! During Lent last year, Deacon Nadine led a wonderful series on “Called 2 Transformation”—several weeks of dinner/discussion about how we can match our parish “assets” with those of the community to the greater benefit of both. That was followed up by a fabulous “Gathered and Gifted” experience, the results of which we are continuously recognizing and exploring. God at work beyond the building! Thank you, Nadine! And, in December, the Bazaar and Living Nativity! Absolutely fabulous. A huge “Thank you” to Marge Pegula and Marilyn Taylor for organizing the Bazaar—raising over \$4,300 for outreach, as well as providing opportunities for fellowship and interaction among vendors and shoppers! Thank you, too, to Kathy Alfeld, Susan Bailey, and Mary Ann Panarelli for bringing the Living Nativity indoors for a different kind of experience!

Serving God is not confined to one context; we all know that ... and we live it out. Good Shepherd and its members engage in ministry beyond the Denver Metro Area! Aside from the financial support we give to the Diocese, the National Church and, when needed, Episcopal Relief and Development, we are well-represented in the “Councils of the Church.” Three members of the congregation sit on the Executive Council of the High Plains Region of the Diocese: Shelley Hitt, Deacon Nadine and Jim Wolfe. Larry Hitt and Dianne Draper work in the Office of the Bishop. Deacon Nadine is the “Dean of Diaconal Formation” for the Diocese. I serve as Chair of the Board of Examining Chaplains, and am a member of both the Creation Care Task Force and Disciplinary Board. At the national level, Karin Elsen serves on the national board of the United Thank Offering. And Larry Hitt has served as a Deputy to General Convention, and now sits on the National Church’s Executive Council.

None of the work—the greater “worship” on this “holy hill”—happens without a lot of behind-the-scenes support. Kathy Hunter, our Parish Administrator, handles so much—from requests for Grocery Cards to scheduling rooms for music teachers to pointing outside repair folks in the right direction to assembling the bulletin and E-news and so much more. We are blessed! And we’re grateful for the addition of Nat Ryan as Communications Director. She has been drinking from the proverbial fire hose for the last six months—learning the parish, revising the website, taking photos, and, significantly, helping with the Stewardship Campaign. Oh, Stewardship! Thanks to its chair, Anne McMahan, and her teams, not only was this year’s campaign successful, but our overall stewardship efforts have grown beyond the fall season! On the more challenging side, we lost long-time, and beloved, Finance Administrator, Charlotte Stasko, to cancer last winter. We’re grateful that we had the experience in the parish to ensure that deposits were made, checks written, and payroll processed.

In many Episcopal “tabernacles” the Senior and Junior Wardens are often seen as the “senior lay administrative leaders”. That is true here. BUT, both of our wardens are people of deep spirituality and prayer. Jim Wolfe not only has his finger on the pulse of all that goes on with this building and its

finances, he also knows what's going on with its members. He maintains the Men's Group prayer list, a wonderful ministry. I am so grateful for his partnership. Christina Blackburn, likewise, is deeply engaged in prayer. She has coordinated Healing Prayer Sundays, and is currently working with several other women to re-charter our chapter of the Daughters of the King—a women's order devoted to prayer and service. I'm grateful to her for calling us back to this ministry. And, in the realm of "prayer and service", I so appreciate former Senior Warden Karin Elsen's work with our Congregational Care Team, which includes Eucharistic Visitation to shut-ins, the Prayer Shawl ministry, and more. It has provided well-attended workshops on preventing falls at home, and Tai Chi. More is envisioned. And thank you Tricia Hartman for your work with the prayer chain! Thank you to you all!

Good Shepherd was an active worshipping and serving congregation before COVID and during COVID. And it remains an active worshipping and serving congregation as we emerge from COVID; over the last few minutes, I hope I've highlighted that! But COVID has, indeed, changed us. It has challenged us with depleted resources; we are not seeing—yet—everything we had "before": "When will we hear the bells again?" "What about a printed newsletter?" And more. Yet, it has also offered us new vistas, new opportunities. We have been challenged to consolidate our ministries. We have been challenged to, in many ways, re-constitute ourselves. And, we are doing so; the long-time faithful have been augmented by many new folks who've decided that Good Shepherd is the place to worship.

We are also challenged, as we have been all along, to serve to worship wholistically by living out our Baptismal Covenant in this new, post-COVID, world. God calls and empowers us beyond what we can imagine: to proclaim the gospel by word and example—we must engage in evangelism!, to seek and serve Christ in everyone we meet, and to strive for justice and peace in an increasingly contentious world. That is a high calling. But we've shown we are up to challenges. We have indeed provided a place for worship, but we have served beyond this place. And we do so together, with honesty, integrity, and a desire for justice.

Amen.

Fr. Gary Brower's report will be available after the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29.



“Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given me by the working of his power.” (Eph.3:7)

The year 2022 marked my first full year at Good Shepherd as your deacon. My recollection of the beginning of the year and emerging from COVID is that it was slow with fits and starts. But I’m not going to try too hard to reflect back on that journey. The most significant undertaking I was involved in during 2022 was born of the desire of many in the congregation to further explore what God is calling Good Shepherd to be/do here at “the corner of Dry Creek and Yosemite.” This presented the perfect opportunity for me to share information about the Episcopal version of Asset Based Community Development, “Called to Transformation” (C2T), to continue to explore similar questions related to mission, and, as Bishop Michael Curry said, “To help us identify the treasure that is already in our backyard, then go figure out how that treasure can serve the goals of the Kingdom of God.” So, Karin Elsen, Shelley Hitt, and I put together a Wednesday evening series during Lent, which included a simple meal and discussion. After Lent, a group of 12 folks who had been in attendance were interested in “next steps.” We continued to meet, explore, and plan. The result was a parish-wide event called “Gathered and Gifted,” which we held the Sunday after Pentecost. There was a lot of energy in the parish hall that day! Those of you who participated gave us some pretty clear ideas of the things you are interested in and passionate about. It has taken time to work with all the information that we got from you...remember, your responses were anonymous! Know that we appreciated your energy and participation. It’s time to step out, pursue your interests, and follow your passions! Get ready!

I am grateful for the Vestry’s support of Gathered and Gifted. Thank you SO much!

I also want to thank that fearless group who kept taking “next steps”: Susan Bailey, Nan Behringer, Hugh Cook, Whit Hill, Shelley Hitt, Marta Ives, Mark Kelly, Merrie Need, Mary Ann Panarelli, Rod Pope, Marilyn Taylor, and Donna White. Thank you for having faith in the process!

I continued to provide counseling to a small group of individuals who were experiencing homeless. Two of them are now living in apartments. As your deacon, I have served at all but six Sunday services, all major services, i.e. Christmas, Holy Week and Easter, and preached four times.

Additional activities and responsibilities:

Outreach Activities:

- Attended Outreach Committee meetings.
- Serving on the Board of St. Clare’s Ministries
- Coordinated ingathering for St. Clare’s Ministries
- Provided hospitality at St. Clare’s Ministries once each month with a group from Good Shepherd
- Assisted in planning and executing St. Clare’s fundraiser
- Participated in the MLK Day Parade with other parishioners
- Participated in the NAMI Walk with a group of parishioners
- Attended Good Shepherd Advocacy Group meetings

Diocesan Activities:

- Member of the High Plains Executive Committee; attended bi-monthly meetings
- Member of HPEC Social Justice sub-committee
- Member of the Diaconal Council: serve as an advocate for the community of active, retired and unassigned deacons including diaconal postulants, and for their diaconal ministries; function as a resource for our Bishop and staff, for all clergy and their parishes, and for all baptized persons who are interested in diaconal ministry
- Assisted in planning and executing annual Deacons’ Retreat and Day with the Bishop
- Member of the Board of Examining Chaplains, serving as liaison to two diaconal postulants
- Attended annual Clergy Gathering, and Diocesan Convention

DEACON'S REPORT - continued

- Recently named Dean of Diaconal Formation for the diocese
- Served as Deacon of the Table at the Cathedral for confirmation and All Saints' Day service
- Co-facilitated Zoom Eucharistic Visitor training

Miscellaneous:

- Participated in the 9-week study of the book *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson, hosted by the Colorado Council of Churches.
- Participated in *Caste* "next steps" working group.
- Joined Arapahoe County HCC (Homeless Coordinating Committee) Technical Action Committee, providing specific expertise to develop programs and services and identify solutions.
- Engaging in Sacred Ground in the Diocese of CO - A film-based dialogue series on race and faith
- Completed Youth Mental Health First Aid Training
- Completed 1-day "Soul Shop" Faith-based Suicide Prevention Training



As your Senior Warden for 2022, this is a difficult report to write because there are so many Parishioners and Clergy at Good Shepherd to thank for making this a wonderful year for Good Shepherd Episcopal Church. From the moment Father Gary Brower stunned me by asking me to be his Senior Warden for 2022 until today, this has been a very good year for Good Shepherd, as we have come out of the COVID pandemic and have worked our way back to normal Church.

There are not many people who can say they served an Episcopal Church as a Senior Warden twice and it was 30 years between their terms. One of the best things we can say about 2022 is, from a financial standpoint, we have been above budget all year in actual income, and below budget all year in actual expenses. This has made life a lot easier for all of us.

I am going to highlight a lot of groups and activities in 2022, and I ask your forgiveness if I missed the group or activities you were involved in:

1. Our Rector – It has been my pleasure to work with Rev. Gary Brower this last year, with his constant encouragement, positive attitude and his amazing work in pastoral care and working with newcomers. This relationship has been very positive and hopefully good for Good Shepherd Episcopal Church.
2. Our Deacon – We have been blessed to have Rev. Nadine Pope join Good Shepherd as our Deacon. Her enthusiasm, energy, and delightful personality has had a very positive impact on Good Shepherd. Her work on the “Called 2 Transformation” program looking at our gifts and opportunities has had a positive influence on all our groups and organizations at Good Shepherd.
3. Building and Grounds – This group has worked for two years to move water away from the building because of significant foundational problems. The work is done, and we feel good about where we are. Special thanks to David McLaughry for heading up this wonderful group of devoted Parishioners and special thanks to Rene Tschetter for her time, talent, and dedication to making our grounds look wonderful.
4. Technology Task Force – This group of Parishioners has worked for two years to look at improving the sound system in the Sanctuary and consider live-streaming services in the Sanctuary. Phase I for improving sound will be completed in early 2023, and Phase II for live streaming will be considered in 2023.
5. Stewardship Program – This group has worked in a year-round Stewardship Program under the leadership of Ms. Anne McMahan and continues to achieve wonderful results.
6. Outreach Committee – This group under the leadership of Ms. Shelley Hitt has done wonderful work in Outreach in the community and with a very limited budget.
7. Music Program – Good Shepherd has always prided itself on having an excellent music program, and this has continued in 2022 under the leadership of Ms. Connie Branton. Connie has led the choir with several special events in 2022, and especially the performance of Mozart’s “Regina Caeli” in December, and the overall coordination of our highly successful Christmas Bazaar, with help from Marge Pegula and Marilyn Taylor. Our Bell Choir, The Black Sheep, and our Praise Ensemble have all been wonderful in our 2022 music program.
8. Men’s and Women’s Groups – These groups have continued in 2022. Our Men’s Group under the leadership of Mr. Pete Roden has continued to meet on a regular basis and supported several activities at Good Shepherd. The women of Good Shepherd have continued to meet in the Monday Book Club and the Tuesday Faith Club on a regular basis throughout the year.
9. Our Finance Committee led by Mr. Chris Hall this year has monitored our finances very effectively during 2022 and, as I mentioned earlier, we are in good financial shape.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – continued

10. Good Shepherd has continued in our Support of the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado and the High Plains Region. For the second year in a row, Good Shepherd has paid our mandatory 10% assessment to the Diocese, and has contributed 2% of our plate and pledge to the High Plains Region. Although this doesn't sound overly impressive, over the last 20 years these are the only two years we have paid our full assessment to the Diocese.
11. A special thank you to our Parish Administrator Ms. Kathy Hunter, who has responded to my every request in a cheerful and dedicated manner. She has also coordinated the use of our building with numerous individuals and organizations as we try to make our building a center of meetings and working for our community. These individuals and organizations do provide some additional income to Good Shepherd, but our primary focus is to make Good Shepherd a central meeting location for organizations and individuals in our community.

This year was very difficult, as we lost several Parishioners who passed away. I have become very good at being an Usher for funerals at Good Shepherd, and that is disappointing. A special thank you to all the Parishioners that have lost loved ones this year, for the contributions of their loved ones to the success of Good Shepherd over the years.

A final thank you to all the groups that make our Church services so enjoyable on Sunday morning. This includes the Altar Guild, the Ushers, the Greeters, the Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Readers (Lectors), Coffee Hour volunteers, and the Music program

I know I have missed several individuals and organizations that have made Good Shepherd run so smoothly this year. A heartfelt thank you to all individuals and organizations who serve our church.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Christina Blackburn



2022 has been an interesting year to be Junior Warden at Good Shepherd. I have met with our ministry leaders and had discussions on how each of the ministries changed to meet the current needs of the congregation. In addition to that, I have supported Karin and Father Gary with Vestry business, planning and visioning.

This has been the year to transition back into in person worship and activities. With this transition has come the use of hybrid meetings, streaming of the early Sunday service, and beginning the improvements to our sound system in the sanctuary. The Vestry met in person for our annual retreat, for one day and then for our mid-year retreat in July. I have served as chair for the Healing Prayers ministry and worked with reactivating Good Shepherd's chapter for The Order of the Daughters of the King. The chapter is still in discernment for new members. We also have three active DOK members joining the chapter. The discernment will wrap up next month. Serving as the "Peoples Warden" has been an honor.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF COLORADO



Good Shepherd made our mandatory 10% pledge to the Diocese for the second straight year in 2022. It is important to remind ourselves why we support the Episcopal Church of Colorado. It should be noted that Good Shepherd has a history of being one of the leading supporters of the Diocese of Colorado with time, talent and treasure. Currently we have parishioner Dianne Draper working in the Office of the Bishop and parishioner Larry Hitt serves as the Chancellor (Chief Lawyer) for the Episcopal Church of Colorado.

As many of you are aware, the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado has a mandatory assessment of 10% of Plate and Pledge income each year as the primary way to pay for their expenses. The 92 Episcopal Churches and Missions in Colorado currently average pledging a little over 9.0% of their Plate and Pledge income to the Diocese.

Why Support?

1. We are part of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America (ECUSA).
2. A Board of Directors or Standing Committee advises the Bishop of the Diocese (Rt. Rev. Kym Lucas) and has canonical responsibilities for the Diocese. The Diocese is divided into five Regions with a Missioner over each region. Our current acting Missioner is Rev. Brian Winter from Christ Church in Castle Rock. The High Plains Region Executive Committee has ten members and Jim Wolfe serves as Treasurer, and Shelley Hitt and Rev. Nadine Pope from Good Shepherd serve on the High Plains Regional Executive Committee. Each Region has one lay person and one Clergy person serving on the ten-person Standing Committee.
3. The Diocese of Colorado over the last three years has moved from 10% to 15% for the mandatory pledge of 15% to the National Church
 - a. They also pledge to Province VI — The Episcopal Church is divided into nine Provinces. Province VI includes Montana, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, and Colorado.
 - b. They support the Anglican Studies program of the Iliff School of Theology.
 - c. They support the Colorado Council of Churches.
 - d. They support the 34 Jubilee Ministries in Episcopal Churches in Colorado (Good Shepherd is one of the 34).
4. They support the Diocesan Convention held annually
 - a. Opportunity to discuss the direction and work of the Episcopal Church in Colorado
 - b. Seminars, Training and Exhibits – the 2023 Diocesan Convention will be held in person in Grand Junction the first week of October
5. Communications — Episcopalian - monthly/ Weekly Diocesan Digest
6. Commission on Ministry — Works with Postulants and Candidates for Priesthood, Diaconate, and Continuing Education for Clergy and Lay Leaders.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF COLORADO - continued

7. Youth — Coordinates the Quest and Genesis Retreats each year.
Coordinate Safeguarding God's Children program.
Coordinates the Episcopal Service Corp of Colorado
8. Congregational Development
 - a. Deployment of Priests and Deacons
 - b. Planting new Churches/ Support for existing Churches.
 - c. Offering classes at Cathedral Ridge – in 2022 they offered retreats for Musical Directors, Church Administrators, Youth and Young Adult leaders, Clergy, and Clergy and their spouses.
9. Cathedral Ridge Camp and Conference Center
 - a. Conference Center for Retreats
 - b. Camps over the Summer for all age children and the Colorado Leadership Institute for teens
10. Diocesan Institutions – Currently nine Diocesan Institutions are under the Office of the Bishop:
 - a. St. Bridget's Village – a 50-unit apartment complex in Windsor for senior citizens.
 - b. Colorado Episcopal Foundation – manages a \$7,000,000 Endowment of the Episcopal Church in Colorado, manages \$32,000,000 of investments for all Churches in the Episcopal Church of Colorado.
 - c. Colorado Episcopal Service Corps – brings young adults to Colorado for a year of service, spiritual formation and living in community.
 - d. St. Clare's Ministry – serves supper each Tuesday to 60-80 people.
 - e. Golden Community Commons – purchased of an Armory in Golden for use by businesses and the Golden community.
 - f. The 32nd Avenue Jubilee Center – Serves the Northwest Denver Community
 - g. St. Benedict Health & Healing Ministry – located at the Sister Carmen Community Center in Lafayette, it provides health services to an estimated 40,000 people in Boulder County.
 - h. Cathedral Ridge Camp and Conference Center – described above
 - i. St. Francis Center – provides a daytime shelter for the homeless with showers, storage space, meals, clothing, and a mailing address. They have built three 50-unit apartment facilities for the homeless in downtown Denver, completely paid for with national, state, and local funding.

Obviously, we have missed some of the responsibilities and services of the Office of the Bishop for the Episcopal Church in Colorado, but hopefully this will provide you some information on our connection with the Episcopal Church in Colorado and why we pay our assessment. Questions? Ask Jim Wolfe (303-791-2613) or jimwolfe05@comcast.net.



There are 24 churches in the High Plains Region for the Diocese of Colorado. The finances of the High Plains Region go directly to Grants to Churches, and for Outreach in the Region. The Episcopal Church of Colorado has suggested that each Church contribute 5% of their plate and pledge income to the Region (Good Shepherd currently contributes 2%). The Region coordinates our annual Confirmation, a luncheon for Church Administrators, and several Clericus meetings (gathering of all the ordained Clergy in the region) in addition to the regular meetings of the High Plains Executive Committee. Good Shepherd currently has three Good Shepherd members on the Executive Committee, Deacon Nadine Pope, Shelley Hitt, and Jim Wolfe. Please take the time to read through the Churches and Outreach that we are supporting, this should be rewarding and impressive to each member of Good Shepherd.

The High Plains Executive Committee has approved the following Church Grants and Outreach projects for 2023. The Region has an Administrator, that is paid, and all other members of the Executive Committee (10) donate their time, we estimate that for each dollar collected \$.90 goes directly to Grants, Outreach and Programs.

	2022 (\$)	2023 (\$)
	Proposed	Proposed
	Budget	Budget
Income (Estimated)	135,000	135,000
Expenses		
Paid Administrator	16,000	16,000
Programs (Convocation, Clericus, Special Programs, Confirmation, Admin. Luncheon)	10,000	10,000
Church Grants and Outreach		
1. Prince of Peace, Sterling	6,000	6,000
2. Colorado Episcopal Service Corps.	15,000	20,000
3. HAAT	10,000	10,000
4. St. Clare’s Ministries	8,000	9,000
5. Women’s Homeless Initiative (WHI)	12,000	12,000
6. Cathedral Ridge (Support for retreats)	8,000	8,400
7. Covenant Cupboard Food Pantry	5,000	5,000
8. Backpack Ministry (2023), Christ Church, Castle Rock		5,000
9. St. Peter’s and St. Mary’s		13,750
10. Holy Redeemer	20,000	
11. Intersession, Thornton	7,500	20,400
12. St. Elizabeth’s, Brighton	4,000	
13. Cathedral Ridge – Youth Scholarships/ Summer Camp	5,000	
14. Cathedral Ridge – Deacon’s Retreat	5,000	
15. Emergency Grant – St. Gregory’s (Water Damage)		5,000
16. St. Luke’s – Church Reimagined Program	3,000	
17. YES (Young Episcopalians in Service)		6,000
18. St. Martin-in-the Fields		6,000
19. Pastoral Support (For Pastoral Needs)	5,000	5,000
Subtotal Church Grants and Outreach	116,500	126,550
Total Expenses	142,500	152,550



I am now in my 10th year serving as your Parish Administrator, and it is still my joy to serve with and for this Parish, in a job that continues to feel like my calling. These last three years have certainly brought a lot of change in the way we function at Good Shepherd. This year saw several sad moments—losing our Business Manager, Charlotte Stasko, to cancer; and the passing of dear volunteer Sally VanWelden, were particularly difficult for me, among other personal losses of dear friends in 2022. I am hopeful that 2023 will be a happier and more productive year for everyone. I continue to be impressed by this Parish and its wonderful work. Thank you all for your continued support, and for the Christmas cards and gifts I received this year.

We have had a lot of transition in our staff the last year as well, and Fr. Gary Brower continues to lead us with both energy and patience, through these challenging years. We continue to work on projects at Good Shepherd, and the most significant current project is the new sound booth, constructed entirely by our very talented volunteers—Whit Hill, Curt Watson, Dave McLaughry, Pete Roden, and Ken White. The project continues to bring, with the goal of bringing better sound and livestreaming to the Sanctuary, hopefully in time for Easter Sunday. The hope is that Phase 2 will be completed in 2023, with livestreaming of services.

Through all of the COVID challenges, our Outreach Committee has continued to reach out with assistance to our neighborhood community, with food drives, school supplies, and the Christmas Angel Tree.

The community groups who use our building have returned full-time, including the Founders Home School, AA and SA 12-step groups, music teachers, and the monthly meetings of the Mount Rosa Chapter of the DAR, South Suburban Music Teachers, Alzheimer's Support Group, and the Columbine Genealogy and Historical Society. and a Chapter of AARP. All Good Shepherd ministry groups are back to meeting in person, but they are also happy to have the Zoom option when the weather is bad. Worship at 7:45 am on Sundays is meeting in the Chapel, but also via Zoom; followed by Faith Forum in person and via Zoom, and the 10:30 am Eucharist service in person in the Sanctuary.

Church maintenance tasks continued as always in 2022, including keeping track of the annual inspection of fire alarms, fire extinguishers, sprinkler system, kitchen hood, grease traps, backflow devices, AED device checks, and basic building safety; pest control, heating and air conditioning maintenance, trash and recycling pickup, communicating with our building cleaning crew, and overseeing building supplies and equipment. Since November, our new snow removal contractor has done a good job of keeping the parking lot safe and the sidewalks free of ice. I continue to order office supplies and oversee maintenance and supplies for the copier. We have been able to keep expenses below budget for 2022, which is always a good outcome.

I have a group of volunteers who are very willing to come when I need them, especially for church mailings. I hope to be more intentional next year about a plan for volunteers to help with things here in the office on a more regular schedule.

Getting ready for Sunday worship is a key piece of my work each week – creating the service bulletin, the readings and announcements, and the Prayers of the People, and coordinating the service with other staff members. I also send service reminders each week via email for our Altar Guild Teams, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Vestry Person of the Day, Ushers, Greeters, and Coffee Hour hosts.

I am now working with those in our community in need of assistance and contact us for help. We provide King Soopers gifts cards that can be used for food, prescriptions, and also fuel.

Communication is still such a key part of our ministry here at Good Shepherd. I encourage all of you to read your E-News each Thursday so that you are aware of all the things that are happening at Good Shepherd, as this weekly email is our best way to communicate with you and to stay connected. And, do not hesitate to call me if you have a question about anything going on here at Good Shepherd.

Also, if any of your contact information has changed (address, email address, phone numbers), please let the office know. You can email these changes directly to me at: khunter@gshep.org. You can also get information by going to our website, at: www.gshep.org. We continue to use many tools to inform the parish, advertise classes and events, invite new parishioners, and encourage participation at Good Shepherd. We continue to have many new visitors and new members who have joined the Parish and are participating in worship and programs.

I am thankful to all of our ministry leaders and staff members for their support and encouragement each year, with a special thank you to Senior Warden, Jim Wolfe, who works closely with me. And who has worked very hard this past year.

If you need to come by the church for any reason, be sure to call the office. We do still work from home at times, though I am here most days, and welcome calls, visits, and questions.

I wish you all a Happy and Blessed New Year in 2023!



The Building and Grounds Committee accomplished several major projects in 2022. This Committee is led by Coordinator David McLaughry and members include Rev. Gary Brower, Whit Hill, Dave Hill, Kathy Hunter, David Mathews, Marge Pegula, Renee Tschetter, Curt Watson, Ken White, and Jim Wolfe. The key projects completed in 2022 are listed below.

2021 Capital Building and Grounds Work. Approved by the Finance Committee and the Vestry.

	Actual Cost	Budget
1. Two New Furnaces and one AC unit	\$16,416	Capital
2. Heat Pump Motor	1,592	Capital
3. Four small cement sidewalk projects	6,422	Capital
4. Wireless microphones	<u>3,057</u>	Capital
Total	\$27,487	

Key projects for 2022

1. 2021/2022 – Anchor Engineering did a study of our building in early 2021 and concluded that we have problems with water against the building and causing foundational problems resulting in cracks in several walls. Over the last two years, we have completed five projects, totaling \$39,469, to move water away from the foundation. These projects include the new patio, a sidewalk along the west wall of the Church, replacing concrete on the northwest side of the Church, and replacing the sidewalk by the Chapel. Our intent is to wait at least one year and invite Anchor Engineering back to do a follow-up survey.
2. Everyone should know that we have 14 pieces of HVAC equipment in the Church. This includes six furnaces, four A/C units, three hot water heaters, and one heat pump. This equipment requires constant maintenance and replacement. In 2022 we replaced two furnaces, one A/C unit, and one heat pump motor.
3. We now have 13 surveillance cameras (inside and outside the building) and surveillance signs in place, with a master monitoring system for security.
4. We have signed a new contract for snow removal, from November through March, at a fixed cost, to reduce our cost of snow removal.
5. We have a special team of individuals that over the last two years have put a new WiFi system in place, put our surveillance cameras in place, and worked on the Technology Task Force for installing the Control Booth and sound system in the Sanctuary. These individuals include Whitney Hill, Ken White, David McLaughry, and Curt Watson.
6. We hold two special workdays at the church, one in the spring and one in the fall, to maintain our building (inside and out) in excellent condition, and our Men’s group coordinates this work. We also have a dedicated group of men and women that maintain the yard with cutting and trimming throughout the summer as volunteers and save us \$20,000 to \$30,000 in labor costs.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS – continued

7. Finally special recognition to David McLaughry for heading up the Building and Grounds Committee, and to Renee Tschetter for her continued work in the gardens and grounds to keep the outside of our building looking great.
8. We do have a wish list for your financial and volunteering consideration:
 1. A new electronic sign out front
 2. New members for our grass cutting team
 3. Solar panels on the roof (eliminating our electricity bill).\A children’s playground
 4. Volunteers for our spring and fall workdays

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Natalie Ryan



Communications at Good Shepherd in 2022 were defined by transitions. Kathy Hunter, Good Shepherd’s parish administrator, masterfully oversaw communications for the first half of the year (and has continued to be a major source of support and help as I settled in to Good Shepherd). One of the first projects I worked on upon starting was helping Anne McMahon with this year’s stewardship campaign. I was excited to produce my first materials for Good Shepherd, the stewardship newsletter, and the stewardship campaign video. I can safely say that Anne and I learned a lot

during this campaign and are excited to apply those lessons in the coming year.

Another (continuing) transition is occurring as we shift from the worst of Covid and lockdowns back to gathering and worshipping together. Deedee Atwood, our previous communications director, started this process and spearheaded the shift from more traditional church communications to utilizing digital tools to maintain connection throughout quarantines and lockdowns. In the interview process, Father Gary and I talked a lot about the need to maintain and expand the digital communications developed during the pandemic, while also utilizing more traditional forms of communication and the church campus as we have begun communing in the space again. As I enter into my first full year at Good Shepherd, I look forward to expanding how Good Shepherd utilizes both traditional communications and the digital tools that were imperative during the pandemic. Below are some of the highlights from communications from the last year.

- Use of Physical Space – One of the goals Father Gary and I set when I started was to use physical communications (posters, the Yodeck (the tv with the slide deck in the foyer), signage, etc.) to communicate upcoming events and liven up the church with more colors and eye-catching designs. The Yodeck has been a helpful part of this (thank you, Ken White, for introducing Yodeck to GShep and helping me get acquainted with it). In 2023, I plan to add a second screen and expand the material on the Yodecks to cover more events and have daily schedules with rundowns of events and use of the church space.
- Updating the Photo Library – Due to Covid and the difficulty of gathering together, we have very few pictures from 2020 or 2021. I have been trying to come to Good Shepherd once a month to take pictures at larger events. In 2022, I took pictures at the Parish Picnic, throughout the Stewardship campaign, Reformation Sunday, and the living nativity and greening of the church. If you would like to see Good Shepherd’s pictures you can find them under the resources tab on the website.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Treasurer



The Finance Committee assists the Treasurer in making recommendations to the Vestry on the best use of available funds to meet the current and future needs of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church. We meet monthly and review the financial statements and the balance sheet to assess the financial health of Good Shepherd.

Good Shepherd came into 2022 with a substantial surplus from 2021, and we were in good financial shape for 2022. We have been very fortunate that throughout 2022 our income has been above budget and our expenses have been under budget. We were able to complete several projects during the year and we ended the year with a balanced Operating Budget.

We are required by the Diocese of Colorado to conduct an annual audit of the books and records of Good Shepherd. We were able to use an accountant for this audit that had audited our records over the last several years, and we completed this audit in August and submitted the results to the Diocese. We will need to find a new person to do this annual audit in 2023 because our previous auditor has retired.

Thanks to the continuing support of the congregation, we were able to finish 2022 on a positive note. Thanks to the hard work of Anne McMahan and her Stewardship Committee, we can present a 2023 Budget that will allow Good Shepherd to accomplish our goals for 2023. And, with the carryover money from 2022, we will balance our budget and have some funds available for projects in 2023.

We would like to thank the members of the Finance Committee (Becky Moore, Greg Bell, Andy Folkerth, Elaine Gilley, Ken White, and Jim Wolfe) for their assistance in helping Good Shepherd through another successful financial year. We also appreciate the work of Chris Hall as our Financial Administrator in 2022 and his work in coordinating all our Financial Committee meetings. We also appreciate the guidance of Father Gary Brower, as he has assisted the Finance Committee this year by participating in most of the Finance Committee meetings.

GROCERY CARD PROGRAM

Kathy Hunter



The Community Rewards program through King Soopers continues at Good Shepherd. If you have not signed up for this program, we certainly encourage you to join. All purchases made at King Soopers, including groceries, gasoline, or prescriptions, are linked to your King SooperCard.

The good news is that all your regular purchases trigger an automatic donation back to Good Shepherd. The church receives a quarterly check, which is a percentage of all purchases linked to the church account. If you have not signed up online for this program, it is an easy task, at no cost to you, and an important way to fund donations back to Good Shepherd. Instructions for using this program are available in the Parish Hall. Just contact Kathy Hunter in the office, and she will email them to you. **This program is a WIN-WIN for everyone, so please join!**

We no longer have reloadable gift cards for Safeway, as they are changing their rewards program.

A budget note: The King Soopers Community Rewards Program, brings a good amount of money to our budget each year, and that number will grow as more parishioners sign up. This is a very simple way to help the church, and it does not cost us any extra money. If you have any questions about this program, contact Kathy Hunter at: khunter@gshep.org.

We also have Good Shepherd reusable shopping bags available in the Parish Hall, for a \$1.00 donation. They can easily replace the plastic bags that stores are now charging for, under the new laws.

Projects completed last year:

SPRING 2022

- Sprinkler system, mainline water supply turned on for the season by Brian Supala. All system stations and heads adjusted for proper and most efficient coverage.
- Seasonal lawn fertilization and weed control program with Fit Turf begins – a series of four applications
- Spring clean-up of gardens, lawn, parking lot islands, and perimeter

SUMMER 2022

- Maintaining, deadheading, and pruning of all flowers and shrubs in front garden and main entrance garden. Several new plantings added to both areas as well as some transplanting. Ongoing trimming, fertilizing, and pruning as necessary throughout the growing season.
- Added mulch to parking lot islands. Finally have a sufficient base now and should last a few years.
- Over-seeded front lawn bare area several times throughout the summer to get good thick grass growth. Finally filling in satisfactorily as of this autumn.
- Had sprinkler repairs done in parking lot island area and one by shed.
- Weekly lawn mowing done by the GS volunteer mowing crew. They are fabulous!
- Parking lot perimeter junipers trimmed and shaped. Thank you, Kip Travis.



FALL 2022

- Sprinkler system turned off and winterized. Lines blown out by Brian Supala.
- Fall clean-up with men's group and church volunteers was a great success both in tasks completed and attendance. Leaf raking, large shrub trimming, pine needle clean-up, gutters cleaned out, loose edging repaired, parking lot clean up, etc. So appreciative of everyone's hard work and willingness to get dirty! Thank you all so much!

WINTER 2022

- Had professional lawn service do a final mowing for continual blowing leaves and on-going pine needle clean up on December 8th. Everything looks neat and tidy for the winter months. Curb Appeal!
- Will arrange continued service for yard fertilization and weed control to begin Spring 2023.

GOALS for the 2023 growing season:

- No major projects planned at this time.
- Maintenance of gardens, lawn, islands, and sprinklers as necessary.



The year 2022 was a rejuvenation year for Good Shepherd's Legacy Society (GSLS).

The purpose of GSLS is to build an Endowment Fund from legacy contributions made by parishioners and other donors, either during their lifetime or through their Last Will and Testament. The Endowment Fund is administered through the Colorado Episcopal Diocese and currently stands at about \$65,000, with a goal of \$100,000 before proceeds become available for use by Vestry selected applications.

The five person GSLS Board of Officers, that was appointed or reappointed by the Vestry in December 2021, met throughout the year to prioritize and address a number of items. We had a good look at the church Bylaws that govern our activities. These items were listed and tracked in a To Do List that served as an outline for our meetings and is posted on the Bulletin Board in our Great Hall.

We addressed questions regarding the acceptance of donations and whether individual bequests were made for general annual budget purposes or for the GSLS Endowment Fund. Additionally, we solved a number of mostly minor inconsistencies in Article VII, and submitted a revised draft for review and approval to our Vestry in early December 2022. Proposed Bylaw changes can only occur with approval by parishioners during our annual Parish meeting. A stand-alone Addendum to the Bylaws is still under review. It pertains to refining the gift policies that clarify how legacy gifts received by Good Shepherd will either become donations to the operating budget or will become part of our GSLS Endowment Fund. We expect the Addendum document will be submitted to our Vestry for approval before Spring 2023. For any questions about GSLS please feel free to contact any of us.

Good Shepherd Legacy Society Officers 2022-2023

Kees Corssmit, Chair /cwcorsmit@gmail.com
 Keith Anderson /keith_jody98@q.com
 Andrew Folkerth / AAfolkerth/hollandhart.com
 Randy Hubbard/ randyhub22@gmail.com
 Amy McLaughry/ ADMcLaughry.yahoo.com



In 2021, a Task Force was formed to evaluate the need for improved speakers and improved sound in the Sanctuary. They were also tasked with looking at live-streaming services in the Sanctuary. This Task Force included Whitney Hill, Christina Blackburn, DeeDee Atwood, and Karin Elsen. After considerable work and investigation, this Task Force issued a report in the fall of 2021. The recommendation from this Task Force included Video Streaming, an improved sound system, a Control Booth, and a projection system, with an estimated cost of approximately \$64,000. After several meetings and discussions, the project was put on hold.

In early 2022, a new Technology Task Force (TTF) was formed, with several new people and including Whitney Hill from the 2021 Task Force. The work that the 2021 Task Force completed helped the new TTF get off to a good start. The Committee members are listed below. This new TTF met every two weeks to further develop a plan to improve the sound system in the Sanctuary, and add cameras for live-streaming services, weddings, funerals, and special events in the Sanctuary, with screens located in the front of the Sanctuary. The group eventually decided to separate the project into Phase I and Phase II. Phase I would construct the control booth and improve the overall sound in the Sanctuary, with new speakers controlled in the control booth. Phase II included adding cameras, live-streaming services, weddings, funerals, and special events.

The TTF took their recommendation to the Good Shepherd Vestry in June 2022 for Phase I of the project with project cost of \$45,000 and a recommendation for a Capital Project fund-raising campaign in July 2022. The recommendation was approved unanimously by the Vestry. The Capital Campaign raised \$53,785 from 68 Pledges. It is now estimated that Phase I will cost \$54,496 and be completed in April 2023. Phase II of the Project is estimated to cost \$21,086. Several Parishioners that pledged in Phase I have committed to pledge in Phase II, and they have pledged \$17,600. This means that we will need to raise about \$3,000 for Phase II of the project. The total project will cost approximately \$71,423.

As most of you know and can see, the Control Booth is completed, and the speakers and some control equipment will be installed over the next three months. The control booth was built at about one-half the normal cost because it was built by Good Shepherd volunteer Parishioners. We currently have a contract for the remainder of Phase I with Equalized Production. Phase II will go to the Vestry for approval in March or April, and be installed over the next several months, after Vestry approval. As mentioned above, a small Capital Campaign may be required.

Technology Task Force Members: Jim Wolfe, Chair; Sara Ball, Steve Clearly, Whitney Hill, Bruce Oxenbury, Curt Watson, and Ken White.

CELEBRATE GOD'S LOVE: Ministries that Foster Spiritual Growth

ACOLYTES

Mike and Ellen Blackburn



There are currently two 4-12th graders serving as acolytes for the 10:30 am service. These youth serve as crucifer and torch bearers in procession, receive the offering, and serve at the altar. We are proud and humbled to work with them and look forward to the upcoming 4th graders joining us this summer.

We would also like to thank the LEMs who assist with acolyte duties when our youth aren't available. It would be great for this ministry to continue for the youth; however, we may need to add adults to the rotation.

Please let us know if you have interest in becoming an acolyte. We are happy to offer training that fits your schedule.

ALTAR FLOWER MINISTRY

Lori DeLue



Using God's blooms to show our love and appreciation is a great gift. Throughout the year the flower team created arrangements for various celebrations and memories. This year, as in years past, the team includes Lori DeLue, Jody Anderson, and Sue Mackenzie. In addition, the altar guild helped set and arrange the Holy Week and Easter altar gardens with potted plants and flowers, and the Christmas Eve and Christmas day poinsettias.

If you want to remember or celebrate anyone or any occasion, please consider giving \$45 to beautify the altar, or you may bring your own arrangement.

This wonderful ministry blesses us in so many ways, won't you join us!

“The mission of the Altar Guild is to serve the Lord by reverently preparing the altar for worship and by maintaining the liturgical appointments of the church.”

2022 for the Altar Guild Angels has been a joyful year of coming back together and reestablishing new routines for safe post-COVID worship, as our services gradually returned to a new normal. We were able to have in-person services to celebrate both Easter and Christmas, which involved locating, cleaning, and setting up many long unused items from storage and relying on the collective memory, experience, ingenuity, and creative skills of our members, as well as their dedication, flexibility, and hard work.



We enjoyed gathering for traditional pre-Easter and pre-Christmas season Altar Guild brunches, partaking of each other’s great food, catching up since our last gathering, and sharing ideas and wisdom as we planned for the upcoming major services, and made minor rearrangements of our teams.

The many memorials and funerals held this past year provided a sad note to our AG service, but we were pleased to be able to assist and support the families and loved ones of those we lost as they mourned, as well as to help our parishioners say farewell to those we so fondly remember and miss.

Our major project for 2022 was to inventory and obtain a photographic record of all the Vestments and Altar Guild equipment and supplies, a full day’s work made easy by having many hands working together. In the process, we discovered a number of items we were not aware of, and it was almost like Christmas as we made each new discovery. Our goal for 2023 is to completely revise and update the instruction and guidance manual, with hopes and prayers that the most major and rapid changes are now, like COVID, not totally behind us, but a bit more stable for the near future.

Our membership continues to age and thin in numbers, and while we have recruited a few new members and a couple of new bread bakers, we are always looking for additional recruits to join us. Keith Anderson is currently our honorary gentleman member, thanks to Jody’s recruitment, and we are so very grateful for his willingness to be our feet, arms, and muscle in times of need. We would love to have some youth and teens join us as well; those in high school can fulfill community service hours and have a great time, while gaining an honorary grandmother through this once-a-month service to Good Shepherd.

CHOIR DIRECTOR / ORGANIST / MUSIC MINISTRY

Connie Branton



The choir of Good Shepherd is alive and well and concluded a successful year in 2022. The group welcomed some new singers to our ranks. We started off in January, but COVID again closed us down for a short time during the first few months of the year. We picked up where we left off after this hiatus and have continued to provide leadership for the congregation in singing the hymns and choral anthems. The choir also provided music at least one Sunday per month during the summer and was back in force for the fall

season in September. Several people also provided solos for the summer services.

A big achievement for the choir was the preparation and sharing of Mozart's "Regina Coeli," complete with four vocal soloists and a quartet of instrumentalists. This was given to the church worship service on the Second Sunday of Advent. Also that day, the church sponsored another All-Church Bazaar. We are happy to report that the Bazaar, under the leadership of Marilyn Taylor and Marge Pegula, raised over \$4,300 for the Outreach Ministries of Good Shepherd.

In mid-November Connie Branton took over the leadership of the Praise Ensemble (GS3). The ensemble has responded positively to revamping the group to lead the congregation in Songbook songs and more. This group has at least six reliable musicians who regularly rehearse on Wednesday evenings. We look forward to continuing this ministry in the blended worship services as well as providing occasional wholly contemporary services.

As pianist/organist, Connie continues to provide music for the congregations at both the 7:45 a.m. service and the 10:30 service. In addition, she plays for many extra worship experiences such as Ash Wednesday, Christmas Eve, and Holy Week, and also funeral services.

In November, Connie was appointed as Director of the Black Sheep Men's Choir. The group began rehearsals on three Sundays in January 2023, following the 10:30 am. services. We plan to sing for the Bishop's visit on Sunday, February 5. The group is re-inventing itself and hopefully recruiting several new male singers, which should add to the health and longevity of the music department of Good Shepherd.



EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS (EVs)

Eucharistic Visitors visit those members in hospitals, nursing homes, and member's homes, who cannot be with the congregation. In 2022, COVID still restricted some of our visits, but we seem to be emerging from it now. We went out to approximately 31 visits, and we brought the Eucharist to approximately 69 people. We also added two new members to our team, so, we now have five Eucharistic Visitors! Welcome to Duanne Namaksy and Nan Behringer! They are welcome additions to our team of myself, Jim Wolfe, and Karin Elsen. If anyone is interested in this ministry, we will arrange training and be glad to welcome you to our team. Hopefully, 2023 will continue to be an active year, as the need always exists! And, of course, if you know of anyone in need of our ministry, please let Fr. Gary, Kathy Hunter, or myself know.



Gregory Bell

HAND BELL CHOIR

Tricia Hartman



The handbell choir is now fully enjoying our new cabinets that Curt Watson and his helpers built for us in 2021. We received an anonymous gift of the 5th octave of bells this fall, which has enhanced our music tremendously. We ring monthly at the 10:30 am service from October through May (except for January). If you have ever thought about ringing bells, please contact me. We always need more ringers, especially now that we have more bells to ring. We practice Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in the chapel.

Please contact Tricia Hartman at 720-810-0850 or at hartmanpe@me.com to join us.

HEALING PRAYER TEAM

Christina Blackburn

Healing prayers is a quiet and gentle transformative process of inviting a loving God to be present in our lives. The Healing Prayer Ministry team was able restart their prayers with you during worship in March. We served multiple congregation members within the ministry, from March to January. This ministry welcomes new members, and we will provide training. Contact Christina Blackburn at 859-749-2722.



LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (LEMs) AND LECTORS

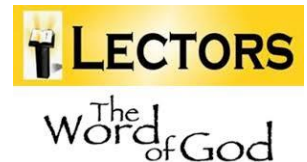
Ellen Blackburn



There are 15 active LEMs and Lectors at Good Shepherd. Eucharistic Ministers distribute wine at the 7:45 and 10:30 am services, in addition to helping distribute bread when needed. Lectors read the lessons, psalm, and prayers.

This has been another year of change and adaptation. The LEMs and Lectors have been very flexible and willing to zig and zag however they are needed. Our worship is greatly enriched by their presence and their voices. Thank you all!

If you are interested in joining this ministry, please let me know. I am happy to offer training that will fit your schedule.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT FOR 2022

“Building Relationships thru Christ, Church & Community”

Anne McMahon



Our Stewardship campaign, *Building Relationships thru Community & Service*, has been a success! Here are the highlights:

We have had \$476,193 pledged by 136 parish members.

95% towards our \$500,000 goal. A surplus carry-over of 2022 funds will allow us to fund our 2023 budget.

Snapshot:

- 139 replied to the campaign – 81% participation.
- 136 pledged/gifted – 80% participation
- 50 existing members increased their pledge
- 47 existing members stayed at last year’s level
- 17 members decreased their support
- 11 members said they could not pledge at this time
 - 6 members moved away
 - 8 members left Good Shepherd
- 12 members passed away
- 22 members did not reply

The campaign started earlier this year, in September, and that will continue. The purpose of this timeframe adjustment is to be able to end near Thanksgiving before the holidays begin – for the benefit of all.

We are a remarkably generous parish, even with all the uncertainty we are experiencing. Additional information:

- 26 members pledged more than \$5,000
- 17 members pledged more than \$7,500
- 10 pledges were for \$10,000 or more
- 15 new members pledged \$31,000**

Participation and Volunteers:

- 30 Prayer team members prayed a total of 1680 minutes (28 hours!)
 - 30 Ambassadors called, emailed, and texted
 - 1 Accounting manager
 - 1 communications manager
 - 1 Parish Administrator E-News copywriter
 - 1 Senior Warden – fundraising advisor
 - 8 Stewardship Committee members – powerhouses all
 - 2 social events: Ice Cream Social kick off party – lots of volunteers
 - Thanksgiving Soup Sunday wrap up party - lots of volunteers
- 72 total participants

Committee members: Nan Behringer, Mike Blackburn, Andy Folkerth, Lori DeLue, Joyce Manning, Dennis Phillips and Anne McMahon.

If you have any further questions, please contact Anne via email at: armcmahon@aol.com, or call her at 720-930-9901. She is happy to answer any questions.

USHERS

Chuck and Sue Kelley



It is an honor and privilege for us to be able to serve in this fulfilling ministry. As ushers, along with the greeters, we are among the first people to come in contact with our parishioners and visitors. We pass out the bulletins, help seat people, assist with the collection, and make sure everyone has an opportunity to take communion. We also direct our parish guests to various facilities in the church. At the end of the 10:30 am service, one usher and one greeter will collect any offering that has been put in the Offering Box and fill out the Cash Counter Form totaling the contents of the Offering Box, and then put it in a secure location. We

currently have about five volunteers for the 7:45 a.m. service and 13 for the 10:30 a.m. service. We are always looking for new members to join our ministry. It is a fun way to serve Good Shepherd and meet new people. If you decide to volunteer, we will always check on your availability and schedule you according to your needs. Chuck and Sue will either provide a training session for you during your first service or will pair you with another experienced usher. This year, alongside other ministries, our goal is to focus on the best approach to welcome visitors and newcomers. Whether our visitors come for just one day or join us for the long haul. Our wish is for them to have the best experience possible here at Good Shepherd. To those of you who have signed up this year to lighten the load, we thank you so much. And to all our long-time ushers who have been serving over the years, you are so appreciated. Many hands make light work.

GROW TOGETHER IN FAITH:
Ministries that Foster the Internal Growth of the Congregation

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

Sue LeFant

The mission of Children’s Ministry is to assist parents in making whole-hearted disciples for Christ by teaching Biblical principles and truths to be lived out and passed on to future generations.

Deuteronomy 6:5-9



An intricate part of our ongoing goal to reach our kids for Christ is to offer Sunday school every week, with the exception of our family service when there is a 5th Sunday, on Christmas Day and Easter Sunday, regardless of all other holidays or school breaks. Both the *Godly Play* program and *Living the Good News* are curriculums that are designed to help students continue moving forward on their spiritual journey. Our *Godly Play* classroom reaches children aged 3 years through 2nd grade. Susie Street, Kaitlyn Bridgers, Donna White, and Sue LeFant are privileged to be with your kids in the Godly Play

room. Our second Sunday school class is for our 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. The lessons taught are from *Living the Good News*, and Elaine Oxenbury is the leader in this class.

It has been exciting to have numerous families visit us downstairs. As we continue to see “COVID-land” in our rear-view mirror, we were able to resume offering many programs/events, including our Communion instruction class, Palm Sunday Liturgy, Easter Egg Hunt, All Church Picnic, monthly Family movie nights over the summer, Advent Liturgy, and Family services. Also included were programs headed up by Anna Branton that the kids participated in during worship on Easter, Reformation Sunday, and Christmas Eve.

The 4:00 pm Christmas Eve service was filled with families celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Anna Branton headed up the Children’s Christmas Pageant presented at the early service.

Maddie McGrath joined our children’s team when she became our new nursery caregiver. She is a wonderfully caring and sweet addition to our nurturing of our littlest ones. We have had very few infants/toddlers over this last year for her to care for, but we pray that this will change!

Our continuing goal is to offer programs that raise a generation of believers. We stress the truth that God is with us and guides us and, with God’s blessing, we are raising up a generation for Him!

We also want to hear from you if you have any events that you would like to propose. We are here for all the families!





You probably noticed a bit of clean up and reorganization of the Good Shepherd Library over the last few months. This long-needed project was initiated by two of our recent new parishioners, Melissa Besfer and Celeste Parmley, who both have library experience. They went through the entire collection, weeded out books that were damaged or outdated, and then reorganized in a way that will hopefully be easy for our parishioners. They also created a guide to

help members identify what topics are in which bookcases, and designed a new policy for borrowing books and returning them, which is posted in the library.

We are now ready to celebrate the reorganized Good Shepherd Library! We'll be holding a "Love Our Library" event after the 10:30 am service on Sunday, February 12. Plan to stop by, check out the new organization system of the collection, and maybe even borrow a book. Books are available on the honor system. Please return them to the book cart when you are done with them. If you have questions about the library, reach out to Celeste Parmley or Melissa Besfer. Hope to see you on February 12, and who knows, you might pick up a surprise or two at the event!

COFFEE HOUR

Liz Peel



2022 has seen the return to a regular Coffee Hour after dealing with COVID for the past two plus years. We have seen an increase in the number of parishioners who stay after services to socialize—what a wonderful sign of growth!

Our host/hostess crew has remained intact and dedicated this year: Thank you to the **Men's Group** for handling all early service set-up and hosting, to **Marilyn Taylor, Kathy Alfeld**, our **Senior Singles**, our **Youth Group, Elaine Farrell**, and **Liz Peel** who hostess and do clean-up for the second service. **Jennifer Spahr** continues as head of the kitchen and is a joy to work with—thank you, Jennifer!

As always, we would love to have even more people join our ministry! If you are interested or would like to find out more about Coffee Hour, **Jim Wolfe** is the contact person for first service. Thank you Jim, for all you do to keep us organized! And, **Liz Peel** is the contact person for second service. Ideally, we would love to have crews host every other month, or have a list of substitutes/alternates to fill in as needed. There is absolutely **NO** kitchen experience needed to join our ministry—we will show you the ropes and have you work with another team! Please do consider joining us—this is a great service opportunity for families!

If being a host is not for you, please do consider signing up to bring snacks/treats; the sheet can be found on the hallway bulletin board.

Thank you to everyone who has served in this ministry; your service is greatly appreciated!



Members: Rev. Gary Brower, Nan Behringer, Greg Bell, Rev. Sandy Boyd, Karin Elsen, Joyce Manning, Duanne Namaksy, Marcia Poirier (during 2022); Tom Price and Sandi Castro Price, Bev White.

Good Shepherd's Congregational Care Ministry (CCM) accomplished the following since July 2022:

- Shared experiences and ideas with care team peers at St. Michael's Episcopal in Colorado Springs.
- Updated training materials and began monthly spiritual companion training for parishioners who are interested in engaging in lay pastoral outreach and support. These gatherings are currently on hold.
- Began resource list of referrals and first-tier caregivers for the congregation.
- In 2022, Eucharistic Visitors took communion approximately 39 times to 69 parishioners who were homebound, ill, or otherwise could not physically attend the Sunday Eucharist celebration.
- Incorporated the Prayer Shawl Ministry into CCM to ensure completed shawls and lap rugs are blessed on healing Sundays and made available to the entire congregation.
- Continued our card writing ministry as a means of outreach to parishioners experiencing loss, illness, or separation.
- At the parish-wide Ministry Fair in September, CCM participated by staffing an informational table and engaging in conversations with a number of people. Thank you to Duanne, Bev, and Greg.
- In November, convened a very successful on-site wellness class, co-hosted by Outreach Ministries. Representatives of South Metro Fire and Sky Ridge Medical Center taught fall and accident prevention for our seniors and caregivers. Resources and handouts from this class can be found on the church's website under Congregational Care Ministry.
In January, CCM offered a tai chi demonstration as part of our wellness program.

In 2023, Congregational Care Ministry looks work with other ministries to publish a circular comprehensive prayer list for all members. We will again host South Metro Fire and other community resources for more classes on safety and other aging concerns.

To contact this ministry, please call the church or email congregationalcare@gshep.org.

GREETERS

Greeters are Good Shepherd's hospitality face to the community. They meet and greet fellow members and new visitors to make everyone feel welcome and a part of our worship community. Now that the church is open for both 7:45 and 10:30 am services, I am in desperate need of additional Greeters. When the church closed due to the COVID 19 virus, I had 16 volunteers, but I am now down to only nine volunteers. This small group is doing their best in performing their duties and services to make everyone feel welcome. I would greatly appreciate your consideration for serving as a Greeter. With a few more volunteers, it would only require your services once or twice a month, and would give you the opportunity to reacquire your friendship with fellow members and meet new participants. Please contact me if you have an interest or know of someone else who might have an interest. Please contact me at: joegavlick@hotmail.com.

Joe Gavlick





The Hospitality Ministry supports the celebration of milestone events held in our parish hall including weddings, funerals, baptisms, confirmations and other special events. Our group of dedicated volunteers sets up the parish hall, serves refreshments and cleans up after events in support of individual families and our parish as a whole.

We had a heavy workload this year covering 12 funerals and I would like to sincerely thank all who have volunteered to be part of this ministry and who have supported these events in 2022 – your service was so appreciated by all of the families that we served. It was such a pleasure to get to know one another and work together during the following events:

February

- Hospitality for the funeral of Tom Billings' son
- Hospitality for the funeral of Sally VanWelden

March

- Hospitality for the funeral of Reba Greathead

April

- Hospitality for the funeral of Matt Simcox
- Support for the soup and salad supper for Maundy Thursday
- Hospitality for the funeral of Jon Caples

May

- Hospitality for the funeral of Brad Nye

June

- Hospitality for the funeral of Richard Bayles

July

- Hospitality for the funeral of Rick Manning
- Hospitality for the funeral of Charlotte Stasko

September

- Hospitality for the funeral of Ken Lavoie

October

- Hospitality for the funeral of Charley Kirk

November

- Hospitality for the funeral of Jim Hungerford

We welcomed four new Marthas to our group this year, and if you would also enjoy being part of the Marthas, we would welcome you on our team. Events occur throughout the year, and each team member may participate in as few or as many events as they would like, depending on individual schedules. Please contact Jennifer Spahr at 303-807-8302 or jennifer_spahr@yahoo.com if you are interested in learning more.

HUNGRY FLOCK

Tricia Hartman



Hungry Flock is Good Shepherd's monthly "supper club." Everyone is welcome, including significant others who do not attend Good Shepherd. We meet the second Saturday of the month from October through May. We meet in small groups at a designated host's home. The host provides the main dish and wine for the meal. Guests bring, at the host's choice, an appetizer, salad, vegetable, or dessert. Everyone hosts once during the year either at a month of your choice or as a co-host in May, when we all gather at the church. Then, we all meet at one home in December for appetizers and desserts. To join us, please contact Tricia Hartman at 720-810-0850 or at hartmanpe@me.com, or Amy McLaughry at 303-907-7590 or at admclaughry@yahoo.com. New members are always welcome.

LIVING NATIVITY

Mary Ann Panarelli



The 2022 Living Nativity was held on Sunday, December 18, between services, both outside and inside the church. Thanks to the Men's Group for helping with the scenery, to Kathleen Alfeld for organizing the costumes, to Susan Bailey for organizing the volunteers, and to all cast members. Thanks also to Jim Ball and helpers for transporting over 700 pounds of food donated at the Nativity by members of the parish to Covenant Cupboard.



The Good Shepherd Men's Group completed our 37th year of meeting in 2022! Wow, that's a pretty remarkable accomplishment, and thanks out to all of the Men within the Men's Group who made it possible! I'm happy for and proud of the group as

throughout the year we had 24 meetings, taking pace twice a month on Saturday mornings. During the year, up to August 13th we were having a combination of in-person meetings for the first meeting of the month and Zoom meetings for the second meeting of the month due to COVID-19; thereafter, we switched to all in-person meetings. Currently we have approximately 35 members and average about 14-18 participants at our in-person meetings; with increased attendance at the Zoom meetings. During our in-person meetings, we provide either a full breakfast (1st meeting) or a lighter fare (2nd meeting), along with our prayers and featured program for the meeting. The Men's group is built on four principles: **fellowship, prayer, study, and service.**

Our group prays for our members, the Good Shepherd church family, our community, country and the world, any special requests, and the Episcopal Church. Through email and our group roster, we maintain the Prayer list and send prayer requests. We will lay hands on and pray for individuals and/or situations in our meetings as appropriate. We also provide the group a listing of historical and upcoming service events.

Our programs during any given year generally originate from the Serendipity Bible, Sunday scripture readings, special book reviews, and other current day issues/topics. During 2022, with participation from men within the group volunteering to cover the topics, our study programs came with a number of book reviews which included:

“An Altar in the World” by Barbara Brown Taylor

“The Episcopal Handbook” by Tobias Stanislas Haller BSG

This year's guest speakers included one of our Men's Group participants, Curt Watson, who provided us highlights of his and Melissa's pilgrimage trip – “Camino de Santiago” taken in 2022. We appreciated his willingness and effort in pulling this together and the sharing of those highlights/insights. All of our program topics have studies standing on their own, therefore allowing attendees to miss a session without losing the overall theme.

This past year, due to COVID-19, we unfortunately weren't able to host the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (February), nor the All Men's Retreat (generally occurring within the 1st quarter of the year). We're already planning on resuming both of these events to take place in 2023!

In service during 2022 we were directly involved in various Men's Ministries, providing assistance with on-going lawn care/maintenance/clean-up and major maintenance/building/technical IT-related improvement projects (special thanks specifically to Whit Hill, Ken White, David McLaughry, Curt Watson and Jim Wolfe for their lead roles in scheduling/coordinating these) taking place at various times during the year at GSC; hosting the GSC Annual Summer Picnic (with help and involvement from the Youth Group, the Sunday School Program and Grow Teams, thank you!); volunteering to assist with the GSC Christmas Nativity 2022 and the Annual Holiday Bazaar events; and now participating in co-hosting the coffee hour between services. The Men's Group also worked with St. Clare's Ministries (at St. Peter's and St. Mary's Church) feeding a meal to people in need. Special thanks to Deacon Nadine Pope, who led/assisted in keeping us informed and involved, along with several of our parishioners on the Outreach Team.

MEN'S GROUP - continued

A special thank you to Jim Wolfe for his on-going support, volunteering, guidance and continued oversight relating to our programs and varying facets of the Men's Group; to Whit Hill for his mentoring, program feedback/ideas and overall support; to Kip Travis for his valued contribution in creating new/refreshing events for our consideration; for all the men within our group who volunteer for the activities/events mentioned above including the set-up, service, program presentation and clean-up associated with our meetings; and finally thanks out to Jim Ball, Kip Travis, and John Michel for their continued assistance of calling and reminding our Men of upcoming meetings.

We're very proud of our activities and the contributions we make to and on behalf of Good Shepherd and we'll continue to do the same in 2023, when and where able, while building support within our team, other ministries, and parish.

I'm very fortunate, blessed and honored to have the opportunity of coordinating our meetings for this long-standing group of men and appreciate all the cooperation and support they've provided during this past year 2022! God's Peace and Guidance as we continue the journey!

PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Tricia Hartman



Prayer chain members have continued to be privileged to join with many of you in prayers for yourself, family members, friends, and our world during this past year. We deeply appreciate you allowing us to join you in your prayer needs. The prayer chain receives prayer requests from all, for any concerns. Requests can also be nonymous. We

appreciate updates, but we know that the Lord knows what we are praying about and primarily wants to hear from us. We welcome new members/pray-ers.

Please contact Tricia Hartman at 720-810-0850 or email her at: hartmanpe@me.com to join us, or to request prayers.

SENIOR SINGLES OF GOOD SHEPHERD

Connie Branton



Senior Singles of Good Shepherd continues to have a well-attended and vibrant fellowship. We meet monthly for potluck dinners and fun. Usually, the group meets at my home, but others sometimes share in the hosting, i.e., Tricia Hartman for our Epiphany White Elephant Gift Exchange Party.

Senior singles has a roster of some 35 people in Good Shepherd. Our dinner usually hosts up to 20, since the height of the pandemic. We do have at least a few people who attend our gatherings who are not members at Good Shepherd but enjoy the group, so they attend regularly.

Senior Singles hosts other outings to various venues for fun. These involve friends who want to go places but want to have others join them. Often the group goes out for a meal together and visits museums, wineries, shows, etc. In the past, pre-COVID we also took overnight trips together. We are hopeful that 2023 will see the reintroduction of these outings. In fact, a trip to Breckenridge to see snow sculptures is scheduled for January 30-31.

Senior Singles members help with several other ministries of the church. Our members are very involved in groups like Altar Guild, music groups, Marthas, Vestry, etc., etc. Many members were involved in promoting, staffing, and providing goods for the Church Bazaar in December which raised \$4,300 for Outreach to the less fortunate. Our members, Marilyn Taylor and Marge Pegula, were co-chairs for this big event.

Every second Sunday of the month Senior Singles is the clean-up crew for the second service coffee hour. Many of our members also provide treats for these and other Sundays.

Good Shepherd Senior Singles is a very friendly fellowship group that welcomes any and all who like dinners and fun outings together. Contact Connie Branton via email at cbmusik@comcast.net, or other members, for information.



YOUTH MINISTRY

Cole AllSmith



2022 has been a complicated year for youth ministry across the board, with many churches learning that traditional methods and understandings have not held up to the struggles of the pandemic. Good Shepherd's Youth Ministry proved no different. We confirmed one Youth, graduated four, and rediscovered the value of quality versus quantity when it comes to the relationships developed between Youth and God. As our ministry continues to develop and transform for the new realities of a post-COVID world (meaning a world after our initial experiences with COVID, as the pandemic has not ended) there are a great many opportunities available to our Youth and their friends at the congregational and diocesan level. We enter 2023 with many of these opportunities in front of us and confident that our Youth Ministry will be able to take the most advantage of them possible with the dedicated people and amazing youth here at Good Shepherd.

SERVE THE WORLD IN CHRIST'S NAME:

Ministries that Reach Outside the Congregation to Serve the Community

OUTREACH AND MISSION MINISTRIES

Shelley Hitt

Outreach Ministry serves locally and globally, reaching out in love through Christ to minister to a needy world through compassionate outreach that empowers, educates, uplifts and offers hope to people in need.



A vibrant outreach ministry has always been a hallmark of our congregation and 2022 was no exception. Current Outreach Committee members include Sherri Hesen, Liz Peel, Kip Travis, Marilyn Taylor, MaryAnn Panarelli, Randy Hubbard, Fr. Gary Brower, Rev. Nadine Pope, and me. Although this Committee is committed and very hard working, our goal is to be a catalyst to the entire congregation by providing a variety of opportunities to participate in our outreach ministries.

Some of the questions we asked ourselves this year are: does anyone outside of Good Shepherd know we exist... or care? How can we have an impact on those in need in our community, i.e., the City of Centennial and Arapahoe and Douglas County? How can we partner with other local organizations to identify community needs and have a greater impact? Many ideas were generated at the June Gifted and Gathered event.

We engaged in robust discussions and one result was contact with Walnut Hills Elementary School. This school is the closest to Good Shepherd and has the highest population of children unhoused or temporarily housed, primarily in hotels on Arapahoe Road, in the Cherry Creek School District. Based on our communication with the principal, social worker, and other school staff, we were made aware of the need to supply filled backpacks for these students, whether they arrive in August or later in the school year. The congregation was very generous, and we filled two backpacks for each grade, K through 5, with all needed supplies. In addition, instead of providing gifts at the holidays for these families, we supplied several hundred dollars' worth of Target gift cards so parents could buy the food, clothes and toys their children needed most. We also provided hats and gloves for students who come to school without these necessary items. Further, because we have several retired educators in our church, we have been able to supply volunteers to tutor and work in the school's unstaffed library. We look forward to furthering this partnership in 2023.

Good Shepherd continues its work with St. Clare's Ministry, with Rev. Nadine and Susan Hall serving on their Board. Monthly donations of clothes, especially cold weather clothing, are delivered, and a small but mighty group of volunteers serves a hot meal to St. Clare's guests on the third Tuesday of every month. In December, we provided a small gift to each guest as we served dinner. Sleeping bags and blankets are purchased as our funding allows. Your participation and questions about this ministry are always welcome.

Our support of Covenant Cupboard Food Pantry is long standing, with Jim Ball now serving on their Board, and Sherri Hesen on a committee looking at planning for the future of the Cupboard. A few hardy individuals volunteer on Fridays distributing food and we collected over 65 high quality gifts with

OUTREACH AND MISSION MINISTRIES - continued

our Angel Tree Project, given for children at the Cupboard this Christmas. Turkeys were in short supply and more expensive, so \$500.00 was donated to assist the Cupboard at Thanksgiving. Finally, the highly successful Living Nativity on December 18 collected over 700 lbs. of food that was delivered in December.

Great excitement was generated by our plan to participate in the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) fundraising walk on May 21 at Centennial Park. Mother Nature threw a wrench into our plans to have a large turnout as it was a cold snowy day, but a few brave individuals walked on our behalf and raised \$3,100.00 for a very worthy cause. We anticipate registering a team in 2023 as well. Please plan to join us.

Outreach has had a budget of \$3,000 annually and 2022 was no exception. Early in the year we purchased \$500.00 in gift cards, as suggested by the Diocese, for parishes in northern Colorado ministering to victims of the Marshall Fire. We donated \$500.00 to Ukrainian relief efforts. A \$500.00 donation was made to the catering group, Housed Working and Healthy, that supplied the delicious lunch at our Gifted and Gathered event in June.

Supplies were purchased to fill “manna bags” with necessary items, for members of the congregation to distribute to those asking for donations on street corners in the metro area. We are interested in feedback on the distribution of the first 50 bags, to determine if and when we should continue this effort.

Marilyn Taylor, one of our members, is actively involved with Giving Heart, a ministry to the unhoused and working poor, on South Broadway in Englewood, that provides meals, clothing, and other services. We support this ministry with funds, sleeping bags, and other essentials as resources permit.

Another ministry that received our support again this year (\$300.00) is the Homeless Awareness and Action Task Force (H.A.A.T.) that provides severe weather motel vouchers to vulnerable individuals in the south metro area.

2023 will offer many additional opportunities for outreach because of a very successful Christmas Bazaar. A special thanks to Marge Pegula and Marilyn Taylor for their leadership on this event, as well as Senior Singles and everyone who participated in and supported the bazaar. Our committee would welcome any suggestions you have for the use of the additional funds.

In all things, we seek to be the hands of Jesus in our community and the world. Thank you for all that you do and all that you are. We would love your ideas for outreach work and your participation as your time allows.

JAMAICA MEDICAL/DENTAL MISSION REPORT

Melissa Watson



The Jamaica Medical Dental Mission is canceled for 2023, due to an abundance of caution on the part of the Jamaican Ministry of Health concerning rural populations and the ongoing Covid pandemic. We anticipate resuming the Mission in February 2024, if not sooner, once the Ministry of Health establishes the policy and procedures for resumption of missions in rural areas.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Marcia Poirier and Kathy Hunter

Good Shepherd's Prayer Shawl Ministry slowed down in 2022, with fewer requests for shawls from outside the congregation.



The prayer shawls are stored in the wooden cabinet at the back of the Sanctuary. If you need a shawl for yourself, or for someone you know who needs comfort, please feel free to take one from the cabinet.

Thanks to Marcia Poirier, who started this ministry, with help from a few other parishioners. Please contact Marcia (720-880-8013) if you would like to join this ministry and provide shawls. It is nice to have a selection of sizes and colors, for both women and men, to offer to those requesting a shawl. So, if you are a knitter, please jump in to knit or crochet while watching television. Women request shawls most often, but we also keep more neutral-colored shawls that are appropriate for anyone.

We do have a supply of yarn at the church, and instructions are also available. If you would like to pick up yarn, please call the Parish office and make plans with Kathy Hunter. You may also use your own supply of yarn, of course, and this is a good way to use up leftover yarn from other projects.

The shawls are blessed by Fr. Gary Brower, usually during a worship service, and a note is sent with the prayer shawls, including a prayer and the name of the knitter. Kathy Hunter responds to the requests that come in, both from the church and online from other states. She packages the shawl(s) and mails them to those who make requests from other states. Many who receive them send a donation back to cover postage.

Parishioner Carol Andrews will be coordinating this ministry going forward, and she can be reached via email at lioness85285@att.net.



The mission of St. Clare's Ministry: To offer respite from the harsh realities of homelessness, poverty, and the separation we feel from God and each other. With God's help, we are an open, welcoming, and diverse community that provides physical and spiritual nourishment, clothing, and other support to our guests and volunteers in need.

In mid-March 2020 when COVID-19 hit, St. Clare's Ministries (SCM) reverted to its roots and took its ministry outside of the church building. SCM was declared an essential ministry and was able to continue to feed our guests. We prepared and handed out hot to-go meals every Tuesday from March 2020 through the first three months of 2022. *We never missed a meal.* We also handed out toiletries, clothes, sleeping bags and blankets outside of the church because the building was closed to all guests. Our church service was cancelled after mid-March 2020. We started evening prayer on the grass in front of the church in June 2021. Our regular volunteers who are over 65 years old were sidelined to keep them safe and healthy. St. Clare's operated with fewer younger volunteers and staff until the elders returned in April 2021. The same year, we obtained canopies and heaters to place on the grass in front of the church. With tables and chairs under the canopies, our guests were able to sit down and enjoy the hot meal and socialize.

April 2022: Moved back inside to serve meals with fewer tables and opened the clothing closet. Fewer tables provided a calmer atmosphere and helped to reduce trauma response.

June 2022: Compline prayer service started and was held on most Tuesday's evenings, led by volunteer clergy or lay leaders.

52 Tuesday nights were staffed by 130 volunteers who did so 650 times by contributing 2,071 volunteer hours to serve 4,375 meals.

Meal expense: \$8,544 for an average cost per meal of \$1.95.

The average cost per meal increases when the direct costs of putting on the meal are included. Inflation caused the cost of the meals to increase by 33% in 2022.

Average # of meals each Tuesday: 84.

Income: Individual donations: \$8,596
 Silent Auction/fundraiser: \$11,724
 Total receipts for 2022, including grants: \$70,871

Direct meal/other expenses for 2022: \$69,924.

In 2022 St. Clare's gave out 238 sleeping bags, 226 blankets, 68 tarps and 45 backpacks for a total of 577 items. For the winter of 2022-2023, St. Clare's has given out 94 sleeping bags, 136 blankets, 59 tarps and 46 backpacks though December 2022.

Good Shepherd currently has three directors on the St. Clare's Board:

Susan Hall, Jazz Krebs, Nadine Pope.

We thank our dedicated group of Good Shepherd "ministers" who serve our guests directly on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, and we thank everyone for your generous financial donations and donations of clothing and items for the Clothes Closet.



UTO, a ministry of The Episcopal Church, is entrusted to receive thank offerings to UTO and distribute 100% collected through grants. These grants support innovative mission and ministry throughout the Church and Anglican Communion, honoring the gifts and talents of those who directly benefit from the award.

UTO had over \$1 million to give this past year and made grants for both practical and inspired projects focusing on Creation Care. Below are a few examples and you can read *Episcopal News Service* for more gratitude-in-action stories:

- Providing low-flow toilets in response to water shortage realities in rural Montana within Province VI;
- Repairing our relationship with Creation by restoring Lakota horse culture in South Dakota within Province VI;
- Environmental reparations for lost indigenous land in North Dakota within Province VI;
- Gardening education and hands-on caring for Creation in Kansas alongside their Diocesan Missioner;
- Engaging motivated seniors in environmentalism in Florida;
- Rejuvenating rivers and creating environmental change makers among youth in South Africa; and
- Constructing wells in Tanzania to reduce the impact of climate change. The wells have almost eliminated cases of typhoid and other water-borne illnesses in a village there, a bonus effect of repairing nature.

When you join with others in gratitude, a practice that connects giving thanks for life's blessings and passing on the blessing by making a UTO offering, it's transformational for all. Thank you to those who support the Church's partnerships in the world and at home.

For information, contact Karin Elsen at KElsen@episcopalnetworks.org or visit unitedthankoffering.com.

