

**WELCOME TO**  
**THE CHURCH OF THE**  
**GOOD SHEPHERD**  
**P. O. BOX 32**  
**CASHIERS, NC 28717**

**828-743-2359**

[www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com](http://www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com)

**A GUIDE TO OUR PARISH LIFE**

**The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe, Rector**  
**The Rev. Toby Summerour, Associate Rector**  
**The Rev. Steve Hines, Adjunct Priest**

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# MISSION STATEMENT

*We acknowledge our church community's strengths and weaknesses, and are blessed with a beautiful and historic place in which to worship. We are committed to living and sharing the type of life that Christ commands: loving God, ourselves, and all of God's creation.*

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### E-mail addresses

The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe, Rector

[goodshepvirginia@frontier.com](mailto:goodshepvirginia@frontier.com)

The Rev. Toby Summerour, Associate Rector

[goodsheptoby@frontier.com](mailto:goodsheptoby@frontier.com)

Wendy DeNoon, Parish Administrator

[goodshepadmin@frontier.com](mailto:goodshepadmin@frontier.com)

Marti Senterfit, Bookkeeper

[goodshepmarti@frontier.com](mailto:goodshepmarti@frontier.com)

Fax – 828-743-9138

# WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Thank you for your interest in the life of Good Shepherd. Good Shepherd is a unique congregation consisting of young families with children as well as retired or semi-retired individuals from diverse backgrounds. This combination blends varieties of liturgical traditions and customs which enhance our worship services and enliven the programs of the church.

We hope that you will find our church to be warm and welcoming. This is a place where the love of Jesus Christ is proclaimed and lived through our fellowship, programs, and worship. It is also a congregation where askers of questions and seekers of truth are welcome.

This booklet will provide you with a brief overview of our life together. You will find information on the general activities of the church, various educational and worship opportunities, and ways in which you can express your own gifts in the midst of a lively Christian community.

Many people pass through our doors seasonally as well as on a year-round basis. For that reason, we try to make an extra effort in welcoming everyone. However, we may not answer some of your questions. Please feel free to call us with any particular needs you may have. May God's abiding peace be yours now and always.

Good Shepherd has much to offer and we feel that the Christian journey as it is experienced here is both meaningful and rewarding. We invite your participation.

# **THE WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

From November until the Sunday before Memorial Day, Sunday service times are:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Nursery is provided for the 10:30 a.m. service.

From the Sunday before Memorial Day in May, through October, Sunday service times are:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Nursery is provided for the 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services.

In September and October:

5:30 p.m. Informal Sunday service with Eucharist, followed by supper and fellowship

Each Thursday throughout the year:

12:00 noon Holy Eucharist, Rite II, healing service, followed by a light lunch. Everyone is welcome.

## **SUMMER CHAPEL**

In June of 1998, Good Shepherd of Cashiers and Incarnation of Highlands, joined together to offer an unusual outreach ministry known as the Summer Chapel. The service begins on the Sunday before Memorial Day at 11:00 a.m. Each week people tap their feet to the gospel music and partake of Holy Eucharist. The Summer Chapel affords another opportunity to worship God during the busy summer season. Summer Chapel ends on the Sunday before Labor Day.

# **PASTORAL SERVICES**

## **BAPTISM**

Holy Baptism is especially appropriate on Pentecost Sunday, All Saints Sunday, the Feast of Our Lord's Baptism, and the first Sunday after Epiphany. However, except during Lent, we will schedule baptisms according to schedules of the family and the Rector. Please call the church office to schedule baptisms.

## **CONFIRMATION**

Confirmation is scheduled in accordance with the annual visit of the Bishop. Adults should be baptized and are expected to attend Inquirers Classes. Youth Confirmation classes are for seventh grade and older. Please call the church office for more information about Confirmation.

## **FUNERALS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES**

The Rector is prepared to assist in scheduling and arranging funerals and memorial services. Please consult with the Rector before making definite plans. A funeral or a memorial service is possible on any day of the week.

## **WEDDINGS**

Good Shepherd receives many requests for weddings. Please contact the Rector prior to making any plans.

## **PASTORAL CARE**

Any of the priests on staff are available for pastoral care. In addition to pastoral conversations, should you desire to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation of a Penitent (also known as Confession), contact one of our priests to make arrangements.

## **IN CASE OF ILLNESS, HOSPITALIZATION, OR DEATH**

Please call the church office, 828-743-2359, if someone in your family is ill or must enter the hospital for treatment.

When there is a critical illness or impending death, a family member or close friend should call the Rector at 828-743-2359. If it is after hours, additional instructions are available on the Rector's voicemail. If desired, Last Rites may be administered. In the event of sudden death, please contact the church as soon as possible.

## **PRAYER REQUEST POLICY**

Names for the prayer list should be submitted to the church office by phone or in person. Please obtain permission from the person before submitting the name. The name will remain on the list for one month. For an additional month, please contact the office again.

When a death has occurred, please call the church office to ensure that the deceased will be included in prayers for the departed at the next scheduled worship service.

Prayer request cards are placed in the pews in the church and may be filled out and placed in the alms basin during services.

# **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

## **ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES**

Weekly Adult Education classes are scheduled on Sundays from October through May. A five week series is offered on Wednesdays during Lent. Classes are taught by a priest or a lay person. On Thursdays a Men's Bible study as well as an open study group are taught by the Associate Rector. Other study groups are scheduled throughout the year.

## **YOUTH EDUCATION CLASSES**

The curriculum for our youth is designed to develop knowledge of Holy Scripture, both the Old and New Testaments, to give an understanding of our Hebrew roots and the development of Christianity. The overall purpose of this program is to help our youth develop faith in God as an integral part of life.

## **LAY MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

For additional information about any of the following programs, please contact the church office.

### **ALTAR GUILD**

The Altar Guild is comprised of both full-time residents and summer residents. The guild works very closely with the priests. The guild makes time during the year for luncheons, cleaning days, and instructional days to exchange ideas and to improve the guild. The guild strives to make the worship services the focal point of their ministry to the parish and to the glory of God.

### **AUDIO/VISUAL RECORDING**

Each Sunday the sermon is recorded and placed on a CD or cassette for our tape ministry. Baptisms, weddings, and other special events may be recorded on a DVD. We also record many of the lectures given in Hines Hall.

## **COFFEE HOUR HOSTS**

From November through May, following the 10:30 a.m. service, worshippers gather in Hines Hall to enjoy fellowship, coffee, and refreshments. Parishioners serve as hosts for this important aspect of parish life.

## **CURSILLO**

Cursillo is a three-day retreat that focuses on spiritual renewal and Christian education. The Church of the Good Shepherd has many members who are actively involved in Cursillo.

## **THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

Four women instituted the Good Shepherd Chapter of Daughters of the King in 1997. It has grown considerably over time. The Daughters of the King participate in parish life through arranging transportation as well as providing food and flowers for those in need. The Daughters of the King pray daily for parishioners who request their names be added to the confidential prayer list.

## **FLOWER GUILD**

The Flower Guild is responsible for the flowers that grace our altar during Sunday services. Memorials for special events are welcomed and encouraged. The guild takes full advantage of the glorious natural flowers and greenery that our unique environment provides.

## **GREETERS**

In the summer, greeters are responsible for welcoming worshippers and assisting in making visitors feel comfortable during the Sunday services.

## **HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

Throughout the year, many events occur in Hines Hall which afford opportunities for fun, food, and fellowship. In addition, there are receptions held on special occasions. Volunteers are essential to assure success.

## **LANDSCAPE VOLUNTEERS**

Our beautiful grounds require many hands and hours of maintenance. Be it weeding, planting, or raking leaves, volunteering with this committee is a good way to exercise and enjoy the fellowship of other parishioners.

## **LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY**

Lay Eucharist Ministers (LEM's) receive training from the Rector. They are licensed by the Bishop to take Holy Communion to church members who are home bound or otherwise unable to attend Sunday services.

## **LIBRARY**

The church library is available for study, research, and pleasure. Located in Hines Hall, it is a self-service library maintained by volunteers. The collection is mainly religious, but also has fiction and biography as well as non-fiction of a secular and timely nature.

## **NEWCOMERS COMMITTEE**

We want all newcomers to our church to feel very welcome. After newcomers fill out a Visitor Information Form and place it in the alms basin, they will receive a call from someone on the newcomers committee. The committee member will assist in connecting new people to others within the church as well as answer questions about programs and activities.

## **OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are essential in welcoming people, answering the telephone, and assisting in preparations for the weekly worship services. If you are interested in getting to know people, this is a great way to do so!

## **TEACHING**

For those interested in teaching, either adult education classes or youth education classes, please contact the Associate Rector.

## **USHERS/LECTORS**

Lay people serve on a rotating basis as ushers or lectors for each of our Sunday services. The church provides training for these positions. A schedule is prepared monthly and mailed to participants.

## **OUTREACH**

Good Shepherd's Outreach program receives tremendous financial and "hands-on" support from parishioners all year long. The program offers financial support as well as many hours of service to organizations and individuals in our community and beyond. For information about any agency we support, or if you are interested in being on the Outreach Committee, please contact the church office.

## **ANNUAL AUCTION AND BAZAAR**

The time and talents of our entire congregation along with support from the community have ensured the great success of our Annual Auction and Bazaar. The Auction is held on a Friday night, followed by the Bazaar on Saturday morning. Many bargains are available as well as breakfast and lunch.

Net profits from both the Auction and the Bazaar are our chief funding sources for all our outreach activities. In addition, "bazaar season" brings our summer and year-round residents together to renew friendships and build community as everyone works together.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

"All things come from thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee." (1 Chronicles 29:14) God invites us to be stewards of all creation in celebrating life as a trust to be managed on God's behalf. Good Shepherd offers each of us abundant opportunities to give our time, our talents, and our abilities as well as our financial resources to the glory of God. Sharing our gifts draws us into a closer relationship with God and each other. Our annual Stewardship drive is conducted from June through August each year, at which time we also compile an inventory of the talents and interests which parishioners want to share with Good Shepherd and the community.

# GLOSSARY OF EPISCOPAL WORDS

**Acolyte:** a server or lay assistant to the priest.

**Alb:** a long white robe worn by the clergy during worship services.

**Bishop:** the individual elected by the clergy and laity of the Diocese to serve as their administrative and spiritual leader. The Bishop is consecrated by the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

**Canons:** the laws of the Episcopal Church.

**Cassock:** the long garment worn by clergy, assistants and choir members.

**Celebrant:** the priest who celebrates the Holy Eucharist.

**Chalice:** the cup from which communion wine is served.

**Chalice Bearer:** the person licensed by the Bishop to administer the chalice during worship services.

**Chancel:** the east end of Church, raised above the nave, where the Holy Table stands.

**Chasuble:** the chief Eucharistic vestment with a color which corresponds to the liturgical season.

**Crucifer:** the one who carries the cross.

**Diocese:** A geographical area that serves as the primary unit of organization in the Episcopal Church. Each diocese is overseen by a bishop and a legislative body – a convention, council, or synod of the diocese.

**Eucharist:** a synonym for Holy Communion meaning “thanksgiving.”

**Lay Eucharistic Minister:** the person licensed by the Bishop to serve consecrated bread and wine to homebound and hospitalized members.

**Lectern:** the place from which the Ministry of the Word is carried out, which includes the Scripture Lessons and the Sermon.

**Lector:** the one who reads the lessons during the service.

**Liturgical Colors:** colors assigned to vestments and altar hangings corresponding to special seasons within the life of the Church: *blue* for Advent and Lent, *white* for Christmas, Easter, All Saints and other principle Feast Days and weddings, *red* for Pentecost and days when we remember martyrs, *green* for Epiphany and the long “ordinary season” after Pentecost.

**Nave:** the place in which the congregation worships.

**Ordination:** the conferring of Holy Orders by a Bishop. The orders are Bishop, Priest, and Deacon.

**Paschal Candle:** a candle lighted on Easter Eve which burns until Ascension Day. It is also burned at funerals as a reminder of the hope of the resurrection that is promised to all Christians through the Easter event.

**Vestry:** a body of laypersons elected by the congregation to assist in the ongoing affairs of the parish. At Good Shepherd, vestry members serve a three year term and are elected at the annual parish meeting.