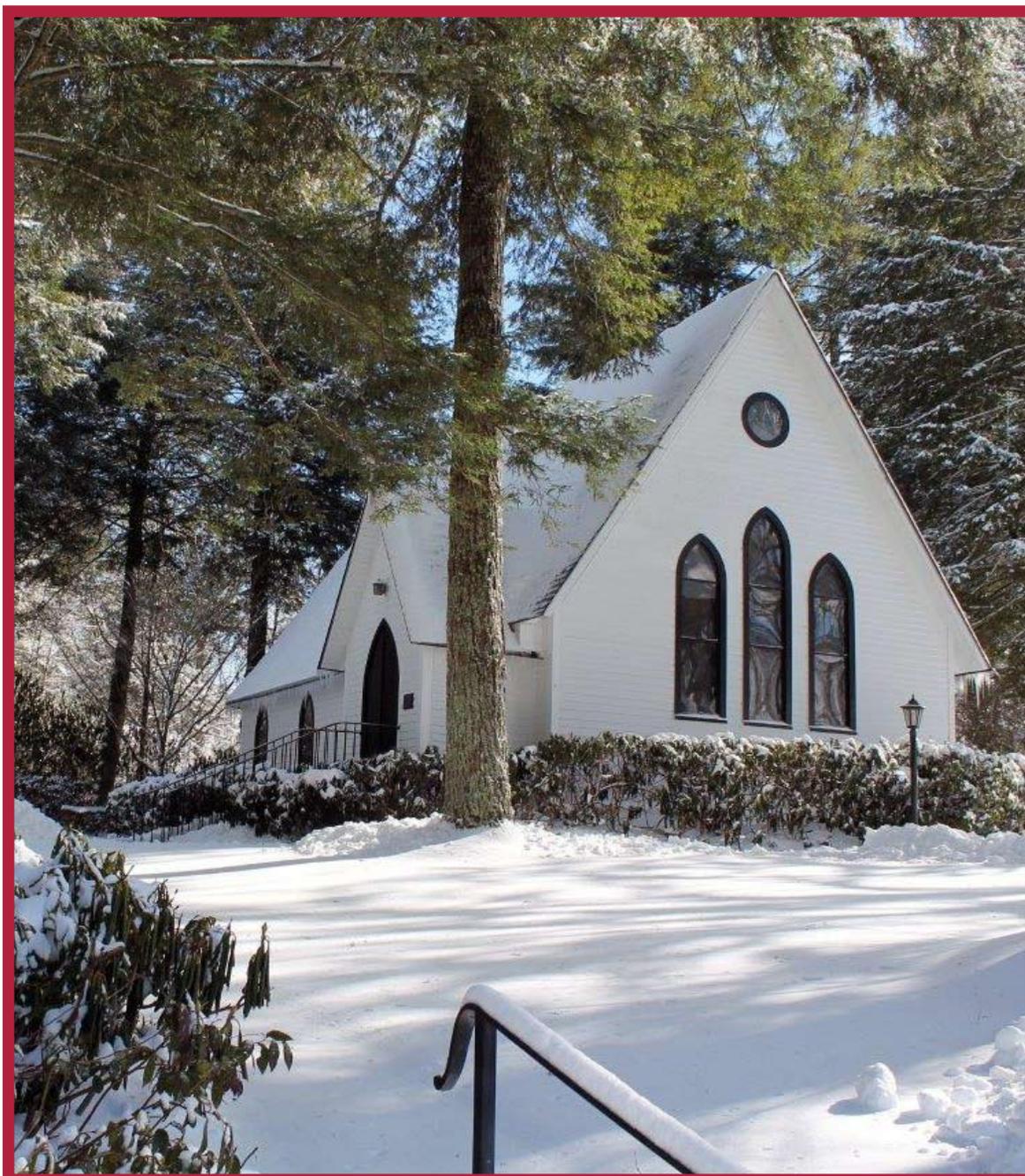


# *2016 Annual Parish Report*



**The Church of the Good Shepherd  
Cashiers, North Carolina**

*Lord Jesus Christ, make this a temple of your presence and a house of prayer. Be always near us when we seek you in this place. Draw us to you, when we come alone and when we come with others, to find comfort and wisdom, to be supported and strengthened, to rejoice and give thanks. May it be here, Lord Christ, that we are made one with you and with one another, so that our lives are sustained and sanctified for your service. Amen.*



**The Church of the Good Shepherd  
Annual Report  
Table of Contents**

Opening Prayer .....	Page 2
Organizational Chart .....	Page 4
Good Shepherd Transitions/Parish Stats .....	Page 5
Rector's Report.....	Page 6
Senior Warden's Report .....	Page 7
Junior Warden's Report.....	Page 8
2016 Financials.....	Page 9
Stewardship and 2017 Budget.....	Page 10
Discernment.....	Page 11
Endowment Fund.....	Pages 12-13
<b>Commission Reports:</b>	
Parish Life.....	Page 14
DOK and Youth.....	Page 15
Outreach Committee .....	Pages 16-18
Auction.....	Page 18
Bazaar.....	Page 19
Altar Guild, Landscape and Grounds/Music Ministry.....	Page 20
English Language Learners and Serving God, Loving Others, and Making a Joyful Noise.....	Page 21
Summer Chapel.....	Page 22
Parish Administrator/Diocesan Conv./Vestry Election.....	Page 23
Closing Prayer .....	Page 24

# 2016 Organizational Chart

**Rector: The Rev. Robert Wood**  
**Adjunct Priest: The Rev. Steve Hines**  
**Interim Rector January & February 2016: The Rev. Doug Remer**

## Vestry

## Staff

**Senior Warden: Bill Canby**  
**Junior Warden: David Jones**  
**Treasurer: Alice Stanly**  
**Clerk: Judy King Williams**  
**John Bissell, Ralph Greene, Doreen Hastings,**  
**Peter Keck, John Kirts, Linda Pridgen, Madge**  
**Ramey, Sharon Stricker, Carroll Summerour,**  
**Tom Treichel**

**Parish Administrator:**  
**Wendy DeNoon**  
**Bookkeeper:**  
**Cyndie Royce**  
**Housekeeping:**  
**Pam Allison**  
**Building and Grounds:**  
**Andrew Allison**  
**Organist/Choirmaster:**  
**Dr. Jack Jones**

<p><b>Education Commission:</b> Rector</p> <p>Adult Ed: <u>David Jones</u></p> <p>Youth/Family Activities: <u>Elisabeth Hoffman (non-vestry)</u></p>	<p><b>Administrative Commission:</b> Rector Senior Warden Junior Warden</p> <p>Stewardship: <u>Ralph Greene,</u> <u>Chair</u> <u>Bill Canby</u> <u>John Kirts</u> <u>Sharon Stricker</u></p> <p>Endowment: <u>Malinda Allen (non-vestry)</u></p>	<p><b>Property Commission:</b> Junior Warden</p> <p>Building/Grounds: <u>Peter Keck</u></p> <p>Hines Hall: <u>Doreen Hastings</u></p> <p>Landscape: <u>Madge Ramey</u> <u>Tom Treichel</u></p>	<p><b>Pastoral Care Commission:</b> Rector</p> <p>DOK: <u>Laura Flaherty</u></p>
<p><b>Finance Committee</b></p> <p>Treasurer: <u>Alice Stanly</u></p> <p><u>Patsy Bender</u> <u>Frank Bromberg</u> <u>Bill Canby</u> <u>Ralph Green</u> <u>Burke McKinney</u> <u>Ed Pearson</u> <u>Irv Welling</u></p>	<p><b>Parish Life Commission:</b> Senior Warden</p> <p>Events: <u>Doreen Hastings</u> <u>Linda Pridgen</u> <u>Carroll Summerour</u></p> <p>Coffee Hour: <u>Doreen Hastings</u></p>	<p><b>Outreach:</b> Senior Warden</p> <p><u>Janie Crews-Chair (non-vestry)</u> <u>Madge Ramey</u> <u>Carroll Summerour</u></p> <p>Auction/Bazaar: <u>Doreen Hastings</u> <u>Tom Treichel</u></p> <p>Scholarships: <u>Ann Hoyerman</u> <u>Nancy Pankey</u> <u>Pat Rowe</u> <u>Toby Summerour</u></p>	<p><b>Worship Commission:</b> Rector</p> <p>Altar Guild Flower Guild Choir Ushers Lectors Acolytes Chalice Bearers Lay Eucharistic Ministers CD Ministry</p>

**GOOD SHEPHERD TRANSITIONS  
2016**

BAPTIZED

Carl John Moore – 12/18/2016

CONFIRMATIONS/RECEIVED

Elaine Barnett – 5/29/2016

Jan Crocker – 5/29/2016

Wendy and Tom Dowden – 5/29/2016

Kathie McCall – 5/29/2016

Suzie Sinclair – 5/29/2016

Bob and Cheryl Starkey – 5/29/2016

Eleanor and Irv Welling – 5/29/2016

Cathy and Bud Woods – 5/29/2016

WEDDINGS

Mike Monsier and Virginia Plauche – 10/15/2016

TRANSFERS IN

Elaine Barnett – 3/2/2016

Linda Wood – 3/13/2016

JoAnn Elizabeth Foshee – 3/13/2016

Sue and Baron Holmes – 4/12/2016

Gordon and Jeanie Coleman – 8/25/2016

TRANSFERS OUT

Sissy and Kenn Terry – 1/2016

DEATHS

Juliet Calvin – 2/15/16

Dolly Buck – 3/12/16

Ron Cox – 3/15/16

Suzi Bell – 3/23/16

Maggie Patterson – 4/2/2016

K. Reid Berglund – 4/8/2016

Joyce Foster – 6/2/2016

Anina McSweeney – 6/7/2016

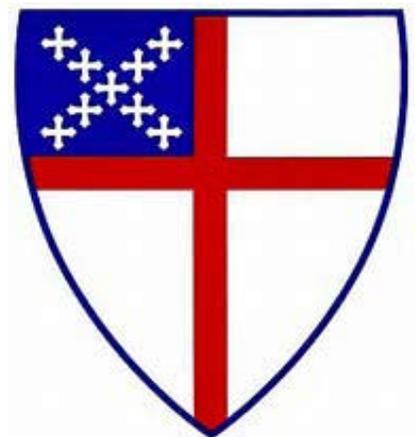
Dr. Charles Bauknight – 6/2016

Albert Norman – 7/13/2016

Thomas Bender – 8/24/2016

Ann Croft – 9/13/2016

Lane Cook – 10/11/2016



**Parish Statistics:**

Avg. Sunday Attendance: 172

Total Active Members: 581

Total Sunday Eucharists: 127

Total Weekday Eucharists: 69

Total Private Eucharists: 46

Total Morning Prayer: 42

Mariages: 2

Burials: 11



## RECTOR'S REPORT

My 2016 began with my first trip to the Holy Land, and on that first night, the message came from Bob Starkey of my call to Good Shepherd as rector. What a convergence of joy and thanksgiving! Needless to say, from that moment until the December's end, 2016 was quite a year for me and Linda and our family—and for our new Good Shepherd family. Thank you for welcoming, embracing, and engaging us in your life—and for holding on during the changes that come before and after a new rector arrives.

Other special dates include March 13 as my first Sunday with you as rector—just two weeks before Easter. My official installation and Celebration of New Ministry brought us together at church and diocese on May 28, which was also Bishop Porter Taylor's last visit to us before his retirement. Participating in the bishop's election which brought us Jose McLoughlin was also a rare treat. These times of worship are and will remain the center of who we are as disciples who follow our Shepherd, Jesus Christ. I can't say thank you enough to all who serve in our worship ministries, who worked with me faithfully and flexibly in this first year.

During that Spring, I was encouraged (and remain so!) with the response to new Men's and Women's Bible Studies, a new lectionary Bible study, and a Thursday Morning prayer service. Such classes provide great opportunities to learn about God and build fellowship. Other fellowship in Cashiers comes around food. Linda and I are thankful to the many who opened their homes and clubs to us for suppers or lunches. And need I mention the golf!?! How nice to have the Rod and Staff golf scrambles. So appropriate for a church named Good Shepherd!

In early summer, the vestry and I had our first retreat at CCSV, during which we worked and prayed for some 2016 goals, namely Expanding Outreach and breathing new life into children's ministry. Obviously and thankfully, the Holy Spirit liked those efforts, which bore more fruit than we could ask or imagine in English Language Learners (ELL) and with SLAM, our children and family nights led by Judy Gray and Janis Cox.

Summer would not be summer without our wonderful summer associates rejoining the cause—and without the Auction and Bazaar! My first one showed me how committed people are on many levels to helping those in our community—which is the bottom line of the 12-month's of labor and planning (and fun) that goes into our Outreach. Meeting those outreach partners in the course of the grant determination process showed me how Cashiers and Good Shepherd pour out their hearts in love. Replenishing the energy, faith, and love that goes into these efforts is something we must do...and stay ahead of as needs increase.

Speaking of outreach, I also got connected with Jackson Country Neighbor's in Need. And let me tell you: we have need in this county and in our area—from shelter, to food, to health care. In addition to the \$146,000 we gave in grants, I was able, on your behalf through my discretionary funds, to share \$8,000+ with many households. You need to know how special it is for me to serve in this way, and how wonderful it is to receive gifts for my discretionary fund! 2017 has already seen many requests and gifts, more than \$12,000 worth.

We care and it shows. As many of you recall, 2016 was also a year with too many illnesses and deaths for the Good Shepherd family. Standing with each other, supporting the sick, the grieving, and their families is 'what we do' and we shared that love in faith. From the steady DOK, to those who work to make memorial receptions warm, to those who are here when the church doors open, or when someone is in the hospital in Asheville or in town—I thank you!

Of course, I thank the vestry and staff for the many, many way they work together, often behind the scenes. Especially, in this year of transition to a new rector, I thank you for your support, your helping me to learn the ropes, and for your faithfulness. Wardens Bill Canby and David Jones were great guides to me and great assets to Good Shepherd.

Lastly, I thank my wife and companion in joy, Linda, for pulling up deep roots in Atlanta in transitioning to Cashiers. Her support of me comes in more ways than I can count and remember. We gladly and thankfully have a home with you now, and her finding a home at the Blue Ridge Free Dental Clinic is icing on the cake. By founding the clinic years ago, Good Shepherd set in motion a great ministry and possibilities that you did not know even existed. So it is with all our ministries, planting seeds and seeing how God provides the growth. May we plant together for years to come.

**Rob+**

## SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

As I write this report, it is inauguration day for our 45th president. It is clearly a time of transition that we hope will go well for all Americans. We at Good Shepherd have had our own year of transition with the arrival of our new rector Reverend Rob Wood and wife Linda. By virtually any measurement, it has been a very successful transitional year. I hope you'll agree that Rob and Linda have entered our lives very gracefully and smoothly with much enthusiasm. My many meetings and interactions with Rob have always been positive even on occasions when we have had to have difficult discussions. Our attendance has picked up so much that parking has become an issue again. We have added a number of new members and visitors continue to come worship with us. So, from my perspective we are off to a great start and I look forward to a long and blessed ministry!

As you will hear from others, our church continues to be very strong financially with funds reserved for most any upcoming contingency or emergency. We were blessed this past year with a bequest from Doug Smith that will augment our capital and outreach needs. Operationally, our pledge offerings were down during our interim year as expected yet we were able to operate "in the black" in spite of it. Pledges have bounced back nicely in 2016 and I look for further improvement in 2017.

Our annual auction and bazaar gave us funds to use again in our outreach ministry that when coupled with other funds means we can continue to support those agencies that do good work for those people who need them. Outreach was extended this year with the addition of a program to help our Hispanic friends learn our native language so as to assist them in their everyday lives. More from others on this topic.

I was honored to serve alongside a knowledgeable and committed vestry and want to thank them very much for their diligence and support. I also thank Linda Pridgen, Madge Ramey, and especially David Jones who served as Junior Warden. Each of these folks concluded their vestry service in 2016. I am excited about the new vestry and its leadership, Doreen Hastings and David Young, Senior and Junior Wardens respectively.

Lastly, I want to thank all of our parishioners who serve our church so well through the committee work they do. They are too numerous to name which is a good thing yet it would be great to add more to the list! So, let's continue to search our hearts for activities for which we can volunteer.

Bill Canby



## JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Junior Warden this past year. We accomplished a good deal with more yet to finish. Below I have listed a few of the tasks that occurred:

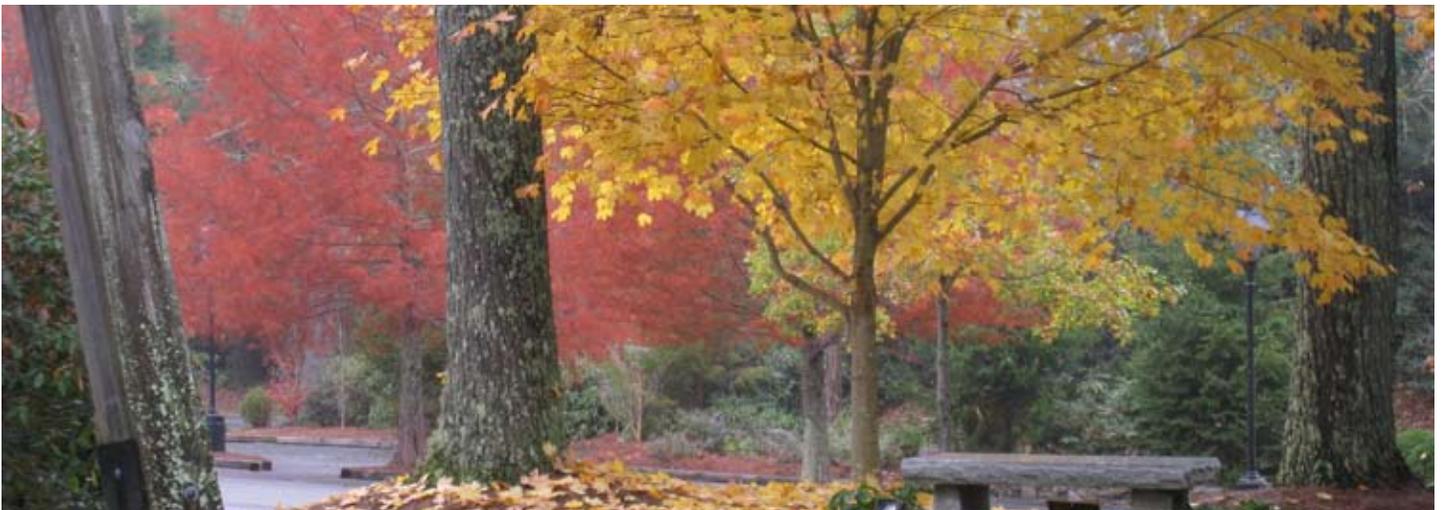
- Found the “missing dishwasher that was hiding in the kitchen”
- Had the ceiling in Hines Hall repainted in order to remove the stains
- Placed door stops on the entry to Hines Hall
- Installed new exterior lighting to the church
- Replaced light switches to church
- Repainted the back ramp to church
- Resealed parking lot
- Touched up scratches of wooden trim in church
- Elevated the altar
- Replaced coffee maker
- Replace missing roof shingles on church
- Improved interior lighting within church

I am excited about this year's new Junior Warden, David Young. He will do an outstanding job for Good Shepherd. Some of the projects reviewed last year that will be addressed in 2017 are:

- New carpet for Hines Hall
- New water heater
- New walkway behind church
- Tree work by an approved arborist
- New kitchen equipment

Please give David Young your support, as we continue to make improvements to our beloved facilities.

David E. Jones



**CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
OPERATING FUND BUDGET SUMMARY**

As of December 2016

Category	Month Actual	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget	Over/(Under) YTD Budget	Total Budget	Notes
<b>Operating Income</b>						
Pledge & Plate Income	66,110	513,880	545,000	(31,120)	545,000	Pledge income down
Other Income	0	1,120	1,500	(380)	1,500	Building Use Fees - (Under) Budget
<b>TOTAL OPER INCOME</b>	<b>66,110</b>	<b>515,000</b>	<b>546,500</b>	<b>(31,500)</b>	<b>546,500</b>	Oper. Inc. \$(31,500) under bud
<b>Operating Expenses</b>						
Personnel	24,245	250,566	246,540	(4,026)	246,540	Over budget: Rector Health Ins Rector Travel, Bookkeeper
Worship/Christian Form.	1,426	27,474	28,750	1,276	28,750	Over Budget: Altar Guild, Supply Organist, Flowers
Parish Life & Family Act.	825	10,516	9,750	(766)	9,750	Over Budget: Parish Life
Building & Grounds	9,893	91,619	115,336	23,717	115,336	Over Budget: Bldg. Maint., Sal Budget: Printing, Copier, Techn
Administrative Outreach from Gen.	9,668	108,675	112,760	4,085	112,760	Office Exp, Vestry Exp., Endowment
Fund	0	21,367	21,083	(284)	21,083	Over Budget: Int. Rector Discre
<b>TOTAL OPER EXPENSES</b>	<b>46,057</b>	<b>510,216</b>	<b>534,219</b>	<b>24,003</b>	<b>534,219</b>	<b>Oper. Expense: \$22,599.00 under budget</b>
<b>Operating Cash Flow</b>	<b>20,054</b>	<b>4,784</b>	<b>12,281</b>	<b>(7,497)</b>	<b>12,281</b>	

**2016 Year End Balances**

1) Checking Account balance as of 12/31/16	\$ 136,452.31
2) General Fund Summary:	
Outreach Fund	\$ 129,123.35
Building Maintenance Fund	\$ 93,928.25
Scholarship Fund	\$ 110,362.44
Memorial Fund	\$ 76,443.54
Cemetery Fund	\$ 91,247.13
Other Accumulated Funds	\$ 675,716.71
Total General Fund balance as of 12/31/16:	\$ 1,176,821.42
3) Total Endowment Funds as of 12/31/2016 (see pages 12 & 13 for details)	\$1,452,072.00

## STEWARDSHIP

The committee began the 2017 annual stewardship campaign with communication to parishioners in early June, following several organizational meetings earlier in the year. Emphasis of the campaign was on increasing the number of both financial and time/talent pledges received.

Members of the committee were active in providing articles for the monthly issues of Tidings. Stewardship letters were mailed and updates were provided to the parish. The telephone contact phase followed up with individuals who had not responded.

As of the date of this report 204 financial pledges (a 10% increase over the previous year) totaling \$438,853 for 2017 have been received. We have also received over 125 time/talent pledge cards. For all this we are truly thankful.

If you haven't pledged for 2017, it's never too late and would be beneficial in our operational planning process.

Many thanks to the dedicated committee members: John Bissell, Bill Canby, John Kirts and Sharon Stricker. Thanks also to our parish administrator, Wendy DeNoon, for her dedicated assistance.

Ralph Greene

### Operating Fund Budget Summary through April 30, 2017

Category	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual Budget
Operat. Income Pledge & Plate	199,246	231,998	550,000
Other Income	500	360	51,500
<b>TOTAL Oper.Inc.</b>	<b>199,746</b>	<b>232,358</b>	<b>601,500</b>
<b>Operat. Expenses</b>			
Personnel	97,370	97,386	315,900
Worship & Christian Form.	11,428	4,266	34,285
Parish Life & Family Activit.	3,500	4,189	10,500
Building & Grounds	37,626	43,769	92,385
Administrative	41,061	39,730	108,450
Outreach & General Fund	22,000	21,000	44,120
<b>Total Oper.Exp.</b>	<b>212,985</b>	<b>210,340</b>	<b>605,640</b>
<b>Operating Cash Flow</b>	<b>-13,239</b>	<b>38,983</b>	<b>-4,140</b>

## DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE

The 2015-2016 Good Shepherd Discernment Committee was chartered by Vestry in March, 2015. The following members were called to serve beginning with our first meeting April 1:

Bob Starkey, Chairperson	Burke McKinney, Co-Chair	Toby Summerour, Consultant
Wendy Dowden	Nora Jones	Barbara Pleasants
Rody Sherrill	Suzie Sinclair	Sharon Stricker, Spiritual Guide
Tom Treichel	Dick Williams	Judy King Williams, Secretary

It was clear from the start that each member was wholly committed to accomplishing our goal of finding and recommending a candidate to become the next Rector for our Church.

The committee quickly realized that the Holy Spirit was guiding us and we were open to that guidance throughout our endeavor.

We quickly established a workplan with goals and milestones resulting in a timeline to accomplish our objective by December 2015-January 2016. Assignments we made and the work began.

During the spring and summer, we engaged the entire parish through a “Parish Survey” and “Holy Conversation’s” resulting in a “Parish Profile”. The Profile became part of a national posting for interested candidates in the Office of Transitional Ministry (OTM).

By late summer/early fall we had over 35 applications for review, assessment and prescreening phone calls. When the initial prescreening was completed, a reduced field of candidates participated in group “Skype” calls. A further reduction in candidates enabled us to make site visits between October and November to those who we felt were highly suitable for a visit to Cashiers and Good Shepherd.

In December and January, we hosted finalist candidates (and spouses) who came to Cashiers, met with the Discernment Committee, formally and socially, and toured the area.

In early January after final deliberation the Discernment Committee unanimously selected Father Rob as our recommended choice to Vestry.

After a call to Rob (who at that time was visiting Jerusalem) and his commitment that if called he would come, I called Senior Warden, Bill Canby, and turned over the remaining steps in the process to secure Rob as our new Rector.

Many have asked, as the committee did at the start, why does it take so long to find a new rector. This short summation of the process hopefully conveys the hard work, deep commitment, shared fellowship and abiding faith that brought us to our conclusion.

We were honored to serve, learned much, had fun and thank Vestry and the congregation for its support throughout.

Respectfully  
Bob Starkey, Chairperson

## ENDOWMENT FUNDS

**Our Mission:** The Endowment Funds at Church of the Good Shepherd exist solely to empower the ministry and mission of the Church by providing funds that will allow the Church to move forward with strength and faithfulness well into the future. Endowment funds grow through bequests in wills; designations on beneficiary forms for assets such as IRA's; and memorial gifts. Endowment funds make possible both capital and outreach projects beyond those that would be possible depending only on our annual operating budget.

**The Endowment Fund Board:** The Endowment Fund Board operates according to the Policies and Guidelines approved by the Vestry. The Board is required to meet at least twice a year and must include at least five members of the Parish in good standing, plus the Rector and Senior Warden as ex-officio members.

During 2016, the Board hosted an annual reception to honor those individuals who have included Good Shepherd as part of their estate plans or who have made current gifts and are, therefore, eligible members of *Society of 1878*, our legacy society. The Board has also meets annually with Tom Reynolds of Reynolds Investment Management in Greenville, South Carolina.

At its most recent meeting, members of the Board adopted exciting plans for 2017, including hosting a workshop; joining a national organization of endowment boards at other Episcopal churches; improving the ways we communicate with members of the Parish; and encouraging membership in our *Society of 1878*.

**Our Funds:** Presently, Good Shepherd has three, named endowment funds that have specific, restricted purposes. Those are: **The Second Century Endowment Fund, The Shepherd Endowment Fund, and The Hines Hall Endowment Fund.** The Vestry, in consultation with the Endowment Fund Board, is charged with the effective management and wise use of these funds, consistent with their stated purposes and established policies.

We also have a **General Endowment Fund** that allows for more flexibility. The Vestry is empowered to allocate these funds as needs, consistent with the mission of Endowment Funds and stated policies, arise. The balance in the General Endowment Fund as of December 31, 2016 is \$14,989.



**The Second Century Endowment Fund:** The Second Century Endowment Fund was established in September of 1995 on the 100th anniversary of the Church, "Celebrating Our Past-Preparing For Our Future." The restricted Fund's purpose is to care for the historic properties by providing funds to cover non-recurring items of repair and maintenance in excess of \$5,000 and for the acquisition of capital assets costing more than \$10,000.

Funds have recently been allocated by the Vestry for the following: the purchase of a Rodgers Organ to be installed in the sanctuary of the Church; the replacement of the stone walkway leading to the Church door; the replacement of the wooden bell tower; the repair by re-leading of the stained glass windows; and the painting of the Church building. The current balance in the Fund as of December 31, 2016 is \$950,697.

## ENDOWMENT FUNDS (continued)

**The Shepherd Endowment Fund** was established by agreement in January of 1999 between the Vestry and Walter Alford, a generous former Parishioner. The restricted purpose of the Fund is to meet human and community needs in the Cashiers and surrounding areas. Although funds may be used for important outreach efforts, the Shepherd Fund reflects the Donor's wishes by focusing primarily on post-secondary education.

There are usually thirteen to fifteen recipients of post-secondary scholarship funds each year. The largest award was \$3,000 per year of eligible study. Funds also are used to acquire computers for students who do not have the resources to purchase them. The balance in the Fund as of December 31, 2016 is \$410,582.



**The Hines Hall Endowment Fund** is the newest restricted Endowment Fund and was announced as a challenge to Parishioners in 2013. An anonymous member of the Parish pledged \$100,000 if we were able to raise a million dollars in new planned gifts. Parishioners met that challenge by including Church of the Good Shepherd in their wills, and today this important Fund exists to allow the Church to faithfully manage the non-historic property and buildings, primarily Hines Hall, for which the Fund is named.

Hines Hall is not only the location of all administrative offices, it is also the place where much of Parish life takes place, whether coffee hours, annual meetings, educational programs, special receptions, or the Annual Silent and Live Auctions. Hines Hall is an essential part of the life of the Church, and this Fund is designed to protect this asset for future generations. The balance in the Fund as of December 31, 2016 is \$75,804.

**Board Members:** Current members of the Endowment Fund Board are: Malinda Allen, Bill Canby, Ginger Dempsey, Tom Dowden, Vic Galef, Ed Pearson, and Toby Summerour. Fr. Rob Wood and Senior Warden Doreen Hastings serve as ex-officio members.

**A Final Note:** The Endowment Board lost one of its most valued members when Dick Williams died on January 23, 2017. Dick was an original force behind the creation of endowment funds at Good Shepherd. We will sorely miss his wise counsel, steady vision, and unflinching support.

Malinda Allen  
Endowment Fund Board Chair

## PARISH LIFE REPORT

Parish Life began in 2016 with Shrove Tuesday on February 9th. Red beans and rice, bread, salad, and King Cakes were served for dinner. Carroll Summerour provided Mardi Gras decorations and music. About 40 people attended.

The following Wednesday and subsequent Wednesdays during Lent, evening prayer was followed by light supper consisting of soup, salad, and pick-up desserts. Supper was provided by the Youth of the Church, the Vestry, the DoK, the Altar Guild, and the Men of the Church.

Our new rector, Rob Wood, joined us on Sunday, March 13th and a small reception was held following the 10:30 service. A week later, Good Shepherd provided the community lunch on the Monday of Holy Week, March 21st. The lunch consisted of beef vegetable soup, salad, saltines, and cookies. Approximately 80 people from the community attended. On Wednesday, March 23rd we had a Seder Supper which was catered by Holly Roberts of Kitchen Carry Away and Catering in Highlands. Dinner consisted of leg of lamb, scalloped potatoes, and green beans. Parishioners provided tomato aspic, rolls, and pound cake with blueberries and strawberries. Carroll Summerour baked two loaves of communion bread. About 50 people attended.

The Parish Picnic was held on Sunday, May 22nd at the Zachary-Tolbert House. Fried chicken was ordered from Ingles. Doreen Hastings made the arrangements with the Zachary-Tolbert House. Linda Pridgen ordered the tent and chairs. Parishioners provided salads, vegetables, and desserts. Attendance was excellent with over 100 people there. The Lost Chords provided the music.



The following week was the installation celebration and reception for our new rector, Rob Wood. High Hampton catered the reception and provided hot and cold passed hors d'oeuvres. Parishioners provided pick-up desserts. Matt Long was hired to bartend and Jayne Field and Tammy Woods from St. Philip's in Brevard were hired to help in the kitchen since Pam and Andrew were out of town.

Two history nights were held on August 15th and September 20th. Parish Life provided wine and cheese.



Informal Eucharist and Gospel Music services were held on Sunday evenings during September and October. Supper prepared by various parishioners followed and attendance varied between 35-55 people.

The annual meeting was held on October 4th- business at 5:30 p.m. followed by appetizers and dinner. The dinner was catered and parishioners provided appetizers and desserts.

The tree trimming party was held on Sunday, December 18th following the 10:30 service. David Young was Santa Claus and parishioners provided snacks.

Doreen Hastings, Linda Pridgen, & Carroll Summerour

## DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

The DOK is a Christian order of women and girls who have taken vows to uphold the two Rules of the Order, the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. There are International DOK chapters in 21 counties, in addition to the 1,000+ chapters in the United States.



The Good Shepherd DOK chapter was chartered in 1997 with 5 Daughters. Currently the chapter has 33 Daughters, including 2 new Daughters this year. Our monthly chapter meetings are a time of food and fellowship, and the typical meeting agenda includes discussion of prayer requests, chapter business and a short program. In the past year our programs have included presentations by representatives from various local agencies who receive support from the auction and bazaar profits.

As part of our Rule of Service our chapter has participated in parish life by hosting memorial receptions, coordinating a meals ministry for the home-bound, providing lunch following the weekly Thursday Healing Service, sending cards, and other duties deemed necessary for the spiritual up-building of the parish. As part of our Rule of Prayer we pray daily for our clergy and the spiritual growth of our parish.

If you are interested in becoming a Daughter or learning more about the Order, please call Laura Flaherty [828-577-7819] or ask any other Daughter for information.

Laura Flaherty

## YOUTH

Soon after Father Rob arrived in 2016, he laid the groundwork for a Youth Summit to discuss Sunday school, youth activities and attracting more youth to CoGS. He then invited a group of parishioners to join the dialogue at Church. Some great leadership and ideas are emerging from those meetings.

Judy Gray and Janis Cox (our “dynamic youth duo”) offered to resume a K-5 Sunday school class using the “Alleluia, Amen: Teaching Rite II” curriculum. Class began in early September to be consistent with the regular school year; and the time has been changed to 9:15am so that kids could attend the 10:30am service with their families. Activities that have evolved from those classes include lighting the Advent candles, being a lector, children’s choir singing at two services, keeping our bulletin boards decorated and intergenerational events with our adults (see S.L.A.M. report!)

At this time, there are no older youth available for classes at CoGS.

Father Rob’s Youth Summit Committee has also discussed such ideas as child care for a “mother’s night out” as well as programming for adults to come to CoGS with child care offered on site. Judy and Janis are already heading up child care for up to 25 kids during Monday night ELL classes (see Outreach report!)

Sharon Stricker

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

The Outreach Committee received 31 grant applications this year and made recommendations to the Vestry to allocate \$147,250 to 31 non-profit agencies. This amount included \$11,000 to assist in the funding of \$29,600 for 15 college students. These funds were allocated from proceeds from the 2015 Auction and Bazaar and from the General Fund of our church. The Outreach Committee met throughout the spring to consider the requests. The Committee also heard several agency presentations and made visits to other agencies who had requested funds. The following is a list of grant recipients funded:

1. AWAKE coordinates and advocates services for abused children in Jackson County. They received \$2,000 for operational expenses.
2. Big Brothers and Big Sisters provides children facing adversity with one-to-one mentoring relationships with adult leaders in the community. They received \$3,500 for special needs and activities
3. Blue Ridge School received \$2,500 for on-site programs for K-6 students.
4. Blue Ridge Mountains Health Project (Dental Clinic) received \$10,000 for partial funding of dental assistants and patient services.
5. Cashiers Cares is a Christmas time event that supports the community offering a free lunch following the Christmas parade, a visit and picture with Santa, and the opportunity for non-profits to provide information and receive donations. They received \$1,000 to fund basic expenses.
6. Cashiers-Glenville Volunteer Fire Department received \$4,000 to purchase a battery powered fan for a fire truck.
7. Cashiers Valley Community Council manages the Community Center (where our Bazaar is held), the pool and ball fields, and the property on which Fishes and Loaves, the Cashiers Thrift Shop, and the Hampton School are located. The Council received \$7,500 for funding of two new heaters for the building.
8. Cashiers Valley Preschool received \$4,000 to assist with fire retardant/noise reduction carpeting for the walls of the indoor playground and to assist with parking lot resurfacing.
9. Clean Slate provides transitional housing and case management for homeless women. They received \$3,000 pay for labor and installation of an HVAC unit for the second floor of their house.
10. Community Care Clinic of Highlands-Cashiers (Free medical clinic) received \$4,000 for operational expenses.
11. Community Table (Sylva) provides nutritious meals to those in need preparing 27,891 meals on site and distributing 13,298 boxes of groceries in 2015. They received \$5,500 for food and supplies.
12. Eckerd Living Center is a nursing home where we have a birthday ministry for elderly residents who have no family to remember this occasion. They received \$750.
13. Fishes and Loaves provides free food for needy families in our area. In 2015 they provided 2,293 households with 3,269 boxes of food in addition to 301 holiday boxes. They received \$10,000 for food.
14. Four Seasons Compassion for Life (Hospice) provides palliative care for Western North Carolina patients nearing the end of life. Their forecasted number of patients for 2016 is 428. They received \$5,000 for general operating support.
15. Glenville-Cashiers Rescue Squad received \$6,500 toward the purchase of 10 new sets of Turnout Gear used during vehicle extraction and other activities.
16. Good Samaritan Clinic provides low cost primary care, nursing case management, and medication assistance to Jackson County residents. They received \$6,000 to help with low cost medications and case management.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**(continued)**

17. Hampton Preschool and Early Learning Center provides child care and after school care for 35 currently enrolled children. The school received \$3,500 to assist with tuition and supplies for needy families.
18. The Haven of Transylvania County is the only homeless shelter in Macon, Jackson, and Transylvania counties. The shelter provides temporary housing, counseling, and support services for the homeless. They received \$2,500 for general operating expenses.
19. Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust protects land and natural resources through conservation, stewardship and education. They received \$500 to help fund their Nature Education programs for local school children and community groups.
20. Hospice House Foundation of WNC is endeavoring to bring a hospice inpatient facility to Franklin, NC to serve Jackson and surrounding counties. They received \$5,000 toward funding.
21. International Friendship Center operates the Food Pantry in Highlands and provides help to immigrants in the areas of immigration issues, interpretation, transportation, legal assistance, auto registration and insurance, ESL, and other educational classes. They received \$4,500 toward operating expenses.
22. Jackson County Council on Aging operates five days per week providing area seniors with a spacious site on Frank Allen Road for meals, craft classes, physical activities, outings, and educational opportunities. They also provide hot meals to homebound seniors. They received \$5,000 for supplies and instructors for classes.
23. Jackson Neighbors in Need assists elderly residents of Jackson County with winterizing of homes, cold weather shelter, and heating assistance. They received \$5,000 for help in these areas.
24. Literacy Council of Cashiers received \$2,000 to help fund a book giveaway for targeted students K-8 at Summit Charter School and at Blue Ridge School.
25. Ministry of Hope received \$8,000 to help fund the salaries of one full-time and one part-time chaplain at the Swannanoa Correctional Facility for Women. These chaplains provide mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual assistance to women during their incarceration and as they transition back into society.
26. Shelter Available for Family Emergency (SAFE) operates a shelter for victims of domestic or sexual violence in addition to providing counseling, court advocacy, hospital support and connections to community resources. Additionally they provide educational programs for 6th and 9th graders in the Transylvania County public schools and hope to expand into Jackson County schools. They received \$6,000 to support victims.
27. Summit Charter School (K-8th grade) received \$6,000 to help purchase of 30 ASUS All-in-One PC's.
28. United Christian Ministries of Jackson County received \$8,000 for its crisis ministry of "serving Christ by being a voice for and a help to people with urgent physical, economic, social or spiritual needs so that they might become 'whole' persons in Body, soul, and spirit." The agency helps people with rental assistance, utility bills, food, household needs, crisis transportation, and toiletries.
29. Village Conservancy/McKinney Meadow is a 2.11 acre space on Hwy. 107 South established to preserve the scenic beauty of the area and inform local school children about environmental restoration. They received \$1,000 toward their invasive species eradication project.
30. The Village Green is a 12.5 acre park in the heart of Cashiers with walking paths, a children's playground, rustic pavilions, and two multi-use event venues utilized 365 days a year by the community. They received \$2,500 toward materials and labor for the construction of a community labyrinth.

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT (continued)

Additionally our Committee funded Sarah Hall, music teacher at Blue Ridge School \$1,500 for the Blue Ridge Music Program and establishment of the Jackson County Junior Appalachian Musicians at Blue Ridge.

We invite any who are interested to participate in the Outreach Committee for the spring of 2017. I want to thank this year's members for their time and prayerful discernment in coming to consensus to make difficult decisions for the betterment of our community. I think we all become more Christ-like in serving others.

Janie Crews, Chair

### AUCTION NEWS

On Friday evening, July 8th, the doors of Hines Hall opened on the 2016 Live and Silent Auctions. It was a lovely summer evening, and volunteer greeters were on hand to welcome all guests. Copies of the Live Auction Brochure were available at the check-in table. An admission cost of \$5 per person was collected from all guests. Those who wished to also have a bidding paddle were assigned a number and given their paddle. The registration process was run like a well-oiled machine by Cathy Woods and her team of volunteers.

The Silent Auction started at 4:00pm. Will and Christie Wardowski and Gail Keck had spent months collecting a dazzling array of items, and Gail Keck oversaw their effective and eye-catching display. Art works were hung in gallery fashion along the walls of the halls, thanks to the assistance of Judy Henson and Butch Woodward. This allowed for less congestion in the rooms.



A reception was held for guests. Nancy Pearson and her team provided delicious food which got rave reviews. A tent was set up on the deck, and hosted a lively beverage area.

The Live Auction began at 6pm, and Auctioneer Bob Howard directed the bidding. All items were sold. This year a number of large items were put on display in Hines Hall for viewing prior to Auction day. A "cash call" resulted in a number of generous donations. All financial matters were skillfully handled by Vic Galef and Pat Rowe and their team. We were generously supported by a corporate sponsor of the reception, Hennessy Motors. Doreen Hastings, along with the countless other ways she helped, is to be thanked for acquiring this new source of funding for the Live Auction. And now, the result of all our efforts can be used to meet the needs of so many of our neighbors.

Sarah Nelson and Doreen Hastings

## BAZAAR NEWS

This year's annual Bazaar fulfilled its goals in fine form.

- It raised a net total of \$48,227.26 for non-profits in our community serving those in need.
- Hundreds of volunteers both within and outside our parish worked together to produce this event. Quite a few new volunteers in our parish met new friends and became deeper involved in our parish life.
- On the day of the Bazaar, local folks were able to purchase needed goods that they might not otherwise be able to afford. Goodwill of Asheville picked up what was left over, after our local Thrift Store first took from the unsold goods.
- We showed our love of God and neighbor throughout this year's Bazaar.

Thanks and congratulations to all!

Eleanor Welling



## THE ALTAR GUILD REPORT

The Altar Guild is one of the primary ministries of the church - serving God, our priest and the congregation. Now that Rob is our priest, we are learning new ways to help in our Altar Guild duties. Being on the Altar guild is a wonderful way of contributing your time and talents to the service of the church and a great way to learn more about the liturgy. We are fortunate to have added five new members this year and are always happy to welcome new members. One of the unique aspects of serving on the Altar Guild is the fact that everyone is willing to help other teams when they are shorthanded; this can be very comforting to the team captains.

Wendy Dowden and Doreen Hastings

## LANDSCAPE AND GROUNDS

Discussion with 2 certified arborists indicate that the majority of our hemlocks are in good health. And we have beautiful oaks, which should have selective trimming to those limbs overhanging Hines Hall and to those trees touching the church. Several dead hemlocks surrounding the cemetery are earmarked for removal.

Health maintenance programs were proposed for many trees and under consideration is: soil evaluation, fertilization and cabling of several hemlocks. Other recommendations include removal of dead wood from trees above parking lot and injectable and or spray treatment to help suppress wooly adelgid and hemlock scale from all featured hemlocks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Keck

## MUSIC MINISTRY

2016 has been an exciting year, not only welcoming our new Rector Rob Wood, but to also to welcome in the past several months, a number of additional choir members. New members have included: Soprano Section Leader, Zoe Manolas, a talented Musical Theatre major from Western Carolina University; Altos Allison Mautz, Helen Kammer, and Janet Presley; Tenor Bill Newbold; and Bass Section Leader Bill Presley.

Every Sunday our talented choir members join their voices to help lead and support the hymns and bring musical inspiration to our services. When all choir members are in town, our choir membership numbers twenty members.

It is a blessing that the Music Department has two fine instruments: the Yamaha electric keyboard and the four manual Rodgers organ to lead our service music.

It is my prayer as Organist-Choirmaster that the music I choose for Preludes, Anthems, and Postludes continue to support the liturgy of the service and inspire the congregation in their worship.

Dr. Jack W. Jones  
Organist-Choirmaster

## English Language Learners (ELL)

As part of Outreach, Church of the Good Shepherd began offering ELL (English Language Learners) classes on November 14, 2016 to build bridges and make connections in our community. Grant money and volunteers from Good Shepherd, Cashiers United Methodist Church, and Southwestern Community College have made this new ministry possible. An average of 40 students attend every Monday night. Free child care and dinner are provided, and El Manzanillo Restaurant gives us a 10% discount on the food! Teachers from Southwestern Community College and volunteers in the Cashiers area provide instruction, and volunteers from Cashiers United Methodist Church and Good Shepherd cook and provide child care. In total we have 52 people serving in this ministry. At our last Monday class of 2016, we had a Christmas celebration, and Good Shepherd awarded gas and Ingles gift cards for those who had attended four out of the five sessions. We ended the evening by singing Christmas carols in Spanish and English. Cashiers United Methodist Church purchased Spanish-English dictionaries as presents for the students. Classes will continue in 2017 until the end of April. Kay Wolf, our lead instructor from Southwestern, said in all of the ELL classes that she has taught, these students are learning the fastest. If anyone would like to be a part of this ministry, please contact Carroll Summerour or Eleanor Welling.

Carroll Summerour & Eleanor Welling



## SLAM (Serving God, Loving Others, and Making a Joyful Noise)

SLAM was created in an effort to bring children and adults together in fellowship. There were two events in 2016 which averaged 35 in attendance. A fun night of activities and light dinner was enjoyed by all.

Judy Gray and Janis Cox



## WHITESIDE COVE SUMMER CHAPEL

I don't know what the day was like 19 years ago on that first Sunday of the Summer Chapel, but on its anniversary last Memorial Day weekend, the Son was shining, God was present and the Holy Spirit was all around!

Many of you know that the Summer Chapel was founded as a joint ministry of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cashiers and the Church of the Incarnation in Highlands. It was founded as an answer to a welcome problem-overcrowding in the two churches in the summer "season," a good problem that has only gotten worse (or better) over time. Led by The Rev. Jim Theus, the Summer Chapel responded to this by developing a unique style of worship blending Episcopal liturgy, old time hymnody accompanied by the beautiful Summer Chapel band led by Mark Lassiter, and an informal setting in a one-room schoolhouse modified to accommodate a congregation that sometimes numbers 400.



Jim retired at the end of the 2015 season, his 18th year. But on the opening of our 19th year, we were happy to celebrate our own "memorial" by welcoming Jim back for the dedication of a sculpture honoring him and his ministry. You may see pictures of some of the highlights of this wonderful day on our website at [www.thesummerchapel.org](http://www.thesummerchapel.org) backed up by some of the band's music that day.

The website also has some pictures from one of the baptisms we celebrated last summer. We were blessed to receive a baptismal font crafted by Frank Vickery of The Bascom and donated to the Summer Chapel in honor of his long-time assistant Judy Fields, also a long-time parishioner and supporter of Good Shepherd.

Work progressed throughout the summer on the improvements to the old schoolhouse building being made by the Barak Norton Heritage Association to bring the building into compliance with provisions of the ADA. We expect these improvements to be completed by the opening of this season which will enable us to increase the seating inside the schoolhouse back to 70 as opposed to the limit of 40 imposed by the Fire Marshall during the last several years.

While the Summer Chapel is now a "free-standing" ministry and no longer a ministry of the Church of the Good Shepherd, we will always be part of the same family and we look forward to welcoming Rob when he comes to preach for us this summer. We also look forward to welcoming you, whether you come as a Summer Chapel "regular" or as a Summer Chapel "occasional." You are always welcome at His table at our place.

Toby Summerour

## PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

The Parish Administrator maintains a warm, welcoming, orderly atmosphere for parishioners and others who call or visit the church. Reporting to the Rector, the Parish Administrator is responsible and accountable for day-to-day coordination and implementation of administrative and business-related functions of our church. Responsible for smooth, efficient operations and overall management of the parish office including coordinating, directing and executing all non-ministerial, non-finance parish operations, responding to all telephone and in-person inquiries/visits with courtesy and tact. Working closely with all church staff, volunteers, Treasurer, Wardens and Vestry provides support services for all church operations.

### **2016 Special Initiatives**

- Discernment Committee: Created parish profile, survey and needed communication per request from members.
- New WebPage: created pages, forms, and input all information including pictures, and current data.
- Pictorial directory: Collected pictures and updated current information for distribution in early fall.
- Updated Outlook with current emails for mass mailing.

Wendy DeNoon

### **Special Diocesan Convention to Elect a Bishop**

Trinity Church, Asheville, North Carolina

June 25, 2016, 10 am

Good Shepherd Delegates: The Rev. Rob Wood, Sandra Swartzfager, Janie Crews

### **Diocesan Convention**

#### **Kanuga Conference Center**

November 11-13, 2016

Attendees: John Bissell, Bill Canby, Doreen Hastings,  
Ray Siminski, Ruth Siminski, Carroll Summerour

### **Vestry Election Results for 2016**

Kathy Guyton, Irv Welling, Christie Wardowski, David Young

*God our rock and refuge: keep us safe in your care  
and strengthen us with your grace,  
that we may pray to you faithfully  
and love one another boldly,  
following the example of Jesus,  
who with you and the  
Holy Spirit lives for ever and ever. Amen.*