

JULY 2021

# TIDINGS

The Church of the Good Shepherd  
Cashiers, North Carolina



## One year as curate

On June 20, I was very honored to receive a "thank you" during our worship services, recognizing that I have served at Good Shepherd for one year. I tell you from the bottom of my heart that it has been my pleasure. I believe it goes without saying that this past year has been unique. During this unique year, I have learned so much from so many at Good Shepherd. And thanks to the leadership of Fr. Rob, we were able to maintain a consistent worship life together, be there for each other, and even experience a bit of fellowship.

In May of 2020, I graduated from The School of Theology at The University of the South with a Master of Divinity. My wife, Mary Catherine, and I packed up. We headed to Little Rock, Arkansas, so that I could be ordained a Transitional Deacon at Trinity Cathedral by The Rt. Rev. Larry Benefield Bishop of Arkansas. We immediately headed to Cashiers, and I began serving as Curate at Good Shepherd on June 15. Fr. Rob wasted no time in incorporating me into the work of the parish. As I look back on my schedule from that time, I see that I attended a vestry meeting, a finance committee meeting, adult formation classes, among other things. So, immediately my learning began.

At this time in the life of Good Shepherd, we were worshipping at the Village Green. And once again, Fr. Rob put me right to the test as I preached to the congregation for the first time that first Sunday. Of course, I was nervous, but I am very thankful for his insistence. One of the greatest gifts that Fr. Rob has given me is his sharing of the pulpit, and I believe I have genuinely grown there, with much more growing yet to come.

Life during the pandemic produced challenges for us all. The church was no exception. As a new seminary graduate, I thought I knew what all sorts of worship styles looked like, but I quickly figured out that was not the case. Good Shepherd was very creative with how we worshiped. And thanks be to God for that. Due to that creativity and the excellent weather that summer life on the plateau provides, we were able to maintain worshipping together and to receive the blessed sacrament of Holy Communion. I know that I was not the only one to be thankful for that.

Throughout the summer of 2020, we continued to worship outside at the Village Green, Chattooga Club, Cashiers Historical Society, and drive-through communion in the Good Shepherd parking lot. I was so thankful to be able to meet some people during this time. Winter came, and it was finally time for me to be ordained to the priesthood. Due to the pandemic, it was a small occasion, but joyful nonetheless. Some colleagues, friends, and parishioners were able to join, and Bishop Neil Alexander came to ordain me on December 12, 2020. It was a day that I will never forget. Thanks to Irv Welling, I have a photo booklet to mark the occasion; please stop by my office if you want to see some photos from the day.

Finally, masks have come off, and we can worship and come together in more familiar ways. I finally feel like I can get to know you all better and you to know me. Again, it has been my pleasure to be here with you, and I look forward to more time together. Thanks be to God!

The Rev. Murdock Jones+



# July Birthdays

- 1 ANNEMARIE HALBACK
- 2 GEORGE ELLIOTT
- 3 WENDY DOWDEN
- 3 NEELY YOUNG
- 6 TOM TREICHEL
- 7 AMANDA PETERKIN
- 9 MARGARET MUSSLEMAN
- 10 DAVID JONES
- 10 DICK CURRENCE
- 10 WILLIAM CRAWFORD
- 10 MILES RUSS
- 11 GINGER DEMPSEY
- 11 CARL FOWLER
- 11 JOHN HERRING
- 14 FRED RYLEE
- 16 DAVE BRYANT
- 16 MARY LANE JOHNSON
- 17 LISE WESTON
- 17 BROOKE MACKINNON
- 19 ELIZABETH MCKEE
- 19 CHRISTOPHER DYER
- 20 PHYLLIS AMDUR
- 20 RUSTY MILLER
- 21 LIZ COLE
- 21 RICH MCCONNELL
- 24 FRANK ROBLES
- 25 CHARLES SHROPSHIRE
- 26 KATHLEEN RIVERS
- 26 JIM WEIR
- 26 JACK SHARRETT
- 29 JUDY GRAY
- 30 BECKY BYARD
- 31 AMY THOMPSON

Welcome!

- RAY & PATTY MAGARO

## BISHOP JOSÉ VISITS! JUNE 13, 2021



Baptized: Sharon Vanvick

Confirmed: Sandi Bessette, Bob & Marsha Goodman, Linda Hubbard, and Sharon Vanvick.

Received: Parker & Caroline Anderson, Kathryn Dean, Cathy Foster, Miles Russ, Scott & Susan Timbert, Brad Vanvick, and John Warren.

Reaffirmed: Carolyn Franz, Doreen Hastings, Evans Hubbard, and Ruth Russ.

We were pleased to welcome Bishop José McLoughlin to Good Shepherd. Bishop José preached at all 3 services, baptized, confirmed, and received new members into the church, and met with the Vestry!

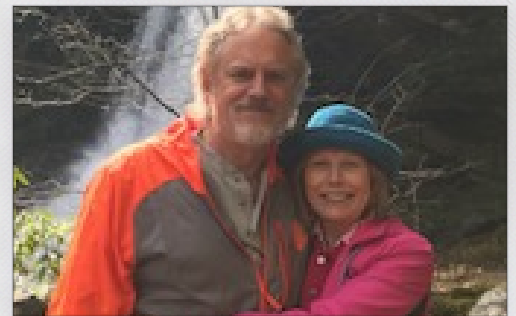


## NEW FACES AT GOOD SHEPHERD!



Ray & Patty Magaro

We are so pleased that even during this pandemic we have continued to open our doors to our community...and look who has come in!



Brad & Sharon Vanvick



Jerry & Kathy Carter

Have you seen these new faces at Good Shepherd or around town? Be sure to introduce yourself!



## Family & Youth Event a success!

We had a great family & youth event on Big Sheepcliff on Saturday, June 12th. More youth activities to come! So happy to have these young families involved in the life of the church!



## Stewardship 2022 Campaign underway

Pledge Cards and Time & Talent cards have been mailed! Cards are also available online and at the church. We thank you for your generosity and careful consideration as you commit to being part of our mission to reflect God's love through faith in action.

July

## Anniversaries

7/3 MARK & JUDY KING WILLIAMS  
7/4 BARON & SUE HOLMES  
7/7 JACK & BROMLEY SHARRETT  
7/8 MAXCY & SYLVIA BOINEAU  
7/10 ROBERT & HELEN FORTSON  
7/11 H.A. & KAY MOORE  
7/17 JIM & CATHY FOSTER  
7/19 LAMAR & LIZ COLE  
7/20 SANDY & CAROL BISHOP  
7/23 CARL & BEVERLY FOWLER  
7/24 BOB & BARBARA COLLIE  
7/25 BILL PUMP & DEWEES HART  
7/25 HENRY & CARY KING  
7/28 PHIL & LOIS WRANGLE  
7/28 ROBERT & MARY LANE JOHNSON  
7/29 BILL & DAPHNE HOWARD  
7/31 JOE & GINNY FOWLER  
7/31 DARRIN & KATHRYN DEAN

HAPPY  
*Anniversary*  
DAY

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY IS MISSING PLEASE CONTACT ELLEN AT 743-2359 OR [GOODSHEPADMIN@FRONTIER.COM](mailto:GOODSHEPADMIN@FRONTIER.COM)

## Deaths

- MAY 10 - LELLA BROMBERG
- JUNE 5 - HERBERT PLAUCHÉ



# Spotlight on our Partners in Outreach



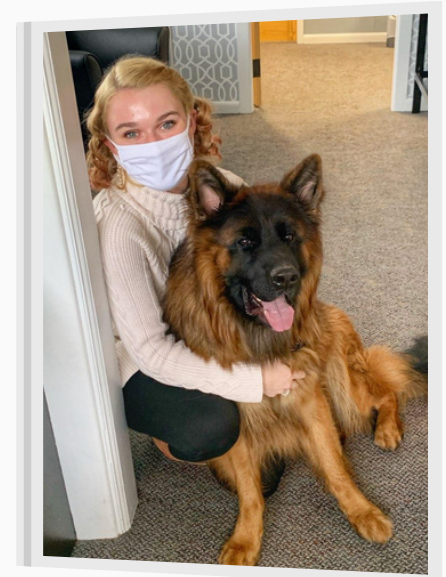
Your support of Good Shepherd's Outreach program through the years has allowed us to truly make a difference in the lives of those in our community. "How?", you might ask. Just read the stories below to see how you are making a difference and allowing your generosity to reflect God's love in action.

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## Center for Domestic Peace

Center for Domestic Peace is the primary domestic violence services provider for Jackson County, NC. Like many domestic violence agencies, we offer crisis intervention work and outreach events. Additionally, we have been making progress on two new programs that we are excited to share.

The first new program is a socially isolated outreach program that aims to connect individuals in more rural locations that may otherwise have difficulty accessing our resources. We have started by building relationships with fire departments, religious organizations, businesses, and other agencies more convenient to rural citizens throughout Jackson County. By doing this, we have been able to increase the availability of information and materials regarding our services and resources. The response from the community thus far has been welcoming and delightful. We look forward to continuing our expansion into additional areas. This program is possible because of support from the Evergreen Foundation and Church of the Good Shepherd.



Our second newest program is a therapeutic canine service that utilizes specially trained dogs to provide comfort and support to clients who may be experiencing reflexive trauma responses, experiencing difficulty in court or being in proximity to their abuser. As of right now, our program operates with our German Shepherd friend Atlas! Atlas finished his training in December 2020 and has already worked with ten of our clients multiple times. Seeing the positive impact he has made gives us hope for expanding and increasing the number of service dogs we have to offer. This program was initially sponsored by Great Smokies Health Foundation and we are currently seeking funding for its continuation.

Center for Domestic Peace is steadfast in our mission to end interpersonal violence in Jackson County. We are incredibly grateful to all the organizations that make our mission a possibility.



# International Friendship Center



Through a special grant from The Good Shepherd Outreach Grant committee (via our Barn ministry), we are pleased to have Karla Magaña of the International Friendship Center serving as a social worker in Cashiers two days per week. She will be out in the community much of that time at places like Fishes and Loaves and our local schools, and she will keep some office hours at Good Shepherd. Please read Karla's introduction below and see what a success story -- and God story -- her education and vocation are.

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My educational background began at Blue Ridge Early College (BREC) where I had the opportunity to enroll in college courses at no cost. BREC also offered a 13th year which allowed me to graduate with an Associate degree from Southwestern Community College in 2017. My journey continued at Western Carolina University (WCU) where I graduated in 2019 with a Bachelor of Social Work. I decided to enroll in graduate school with the goal to obtain further knowledge in the school social work field. After numerous projects, research papers and a global pandemic, I graduated with a Master of Social Work in May 2021 from WCU. The journey was not easy, and this accomplishment is dedicated to the support received from my family, community members, sponsors, and mentors.

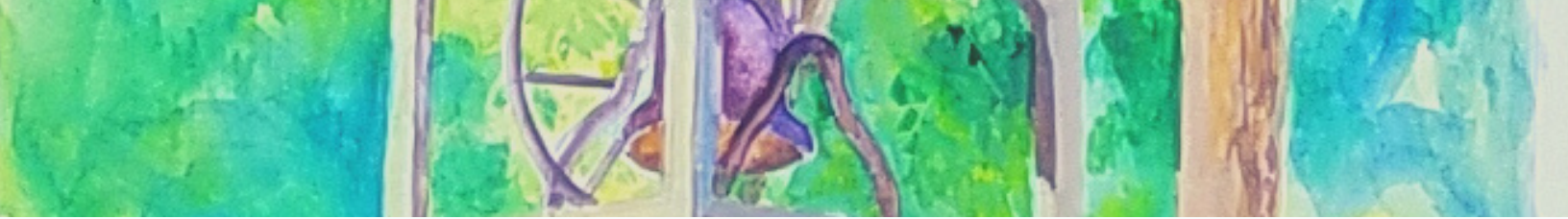
Throughout this process, the Good Shepherd and its educational ministry played an enormous role in the achievement of my master's degree. The uncertainty to afford upcoming school expenses during the pandemic encouraged me to seek the support of this ministry. After the application and interview process concluded, I was awarded with the Conkle-Rowe Scholarship. One of the major benefits of this scholarship was the opportunity to complete my master's degree without student debt. This scholarship also granted me the honor to be the first graduate in my family with a master's degree.

The Good Shepherd community has not only supported my education but has served my family through the adult ELL classes. My parents and my grandfather attended the program for a whole year. The program provided a safe learning environment to make mistakes and gain the confidence to practice their skills. The teachers, the childcare and the kitchen volunteers all demonstrated their commitment to this mission.

The Church of the Good Shepherd and its ministry is an example of the dedication and genuine interest to serve and support others in our community. Throughout the years, I have been blessed to meet several people from the community who have been there to guide and support me and my family. This spirit of neighbors helping neighbors and community empowerment has motivated me to practice as a social worker in both Cashiers and Highlands. My goal is to serve through the ethical standards mandated as a social worker and to address the challenges affecting the community. Through this approach, I also seek to challenge social injustice, promote equity and equality, and provide any resources that families need to meet their basic needs.

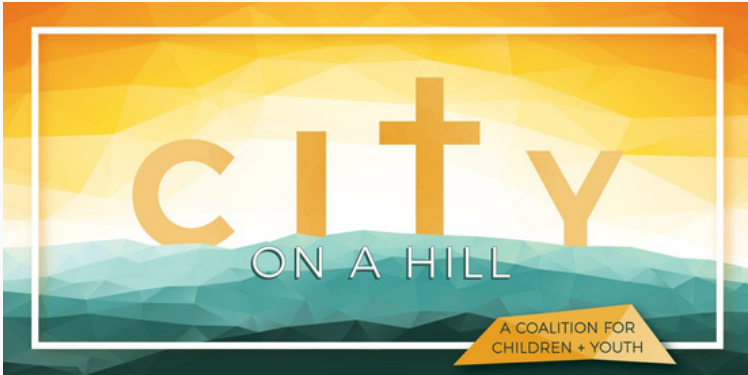
I am grateful to have been raised in a community that has given me so much. Because of the support and the resources received I now can serve others through the IFC with two days a week in Cashiers. Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community with the same compassion and empathy I have received throughout the years. I look forward to meeting you!





## City on a Hill

City on a Hill is a coalition of local churches whose mission is to bring God’s grace and love to the children and families in our community. The group was founded by Betty Morris (Cashiers Methodist Church) and Misty Berry (The Hampton Preschool) several years ago. Currently there are 7 local churches participating; Cashiers Methodist, Good Shepherd, Grace Community, Glenville Wesleyan, Saint Jude, Christ Church of the Valley and Community Bible Church. Debbie Lassiter and Ellen Albright are the Good Shepherd representatives.



Up until last year, the sole focus of the group has been to implement their “Backpack Project” which involved the coordination of a donation drive to provide school supplies to children/families needing assistance with fulfilling the back to school supplies request. This program is being offered again this year and is currently being organized for supply distribution in July.

For the last two years, the Cashiers Methodist Church had been helping with the Good Shepherd Angel Tree project and in 2020, the City on the Hill group decided to take over the coordination of the project. Since the Angel Tree mission had been continuing to grow over the years, Good Shepherd welcomed the group participation. 245 children were served in the 2020 Angel Tree project!

Coordination of both these major outreach projects is huge and ever evolving to better serve our local families. City on the Hill is gaining momentum in its positive impact in the community. The group just recently created a video about their mission that all the churches have shared with their parishioners.



## Backpack Project

Thank you to all those who have adopted a backpack and filled it with school supplies and clothing for a child! If you are still looking for your items, please remember to have your backpack to the church no later than Sunday, July 4.

We will need volunteers to help sort and transport the backpacks. The parents will be picking up the backpacks from the Village Green July 21-23 and volunteers will be needed to help with that endeavor.

Please contact Debbie Lassiter at [deb.lassiter11@gmail.com](mailto:deb.lassiter11@gmail.com) or Ellen Albright at [goodshepadmin@frontier.com](mailto:goodshepadmin@frontier.com) if you would like to volunteer!



# Pat Rowe celebrates 93rd birthday by thanking scholarship donors

Pat Rowe told Rob Wood that all she wanted for her 93rd birthday was to thank the many people who had made donations to the Conkle-Rowe Scholarship Endowment from which she and her committee have been able to send 91 Cashiers students to college over the past 20 years.

Rev. Rob Wood asked the Scholarship Committee and the Endowment Board to grant her wish and so they did on Tuesday, June 8, when more than 50 people gathered in a local home to celebrate Pat and her tireless effort on behalf of Cashiers area students.





The Reverend Robert B. Wood, Rector  
rwood.gs@gmail.com  
The Reverend C. Murdock Jones, Curate  
The Reverend Toby Summerour, Adjunct Priest

Church of the Good Shepherd  
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Irv Welling, Interim Treasurer; Ellen Albright, Clerk

**Vestry:**

Janis Cox	Lea Thompson
Sandra Swartzfager	Peg Kirchner
Jim Recktenwald	Lenny Blevins
Laura Lankford	Doreen Hastings
Lynn Jones	Mark Quick

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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goodshepadmin@frontier.com  
Christy Banks, Finance & Accounts Manager  
Dr. Lyn Ellen Burkett, Organist and Choir Master  
Donna Patton, Nursery & Office Assistant  
Skip Ryan, Bazaar Barn Manager

Church Phone: (828)743-2359

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

## Dedication of Columbarium, Memorial & Meditation Gardens set for Sunday, July 11 after the 11 am service!



ALPHA

I am  
the Alpha and  
the Omega,  
the first and  
the last,  
the beginning  
and the end.

Revelation 22:13



OMEGA

These symbols in the Memorial Garden reflect  
the historic stained glass behind the altar.

Thanks to artisans Pat & Sally Taylor for creating and installing them!