



JULY 2022

# TIDINGS

The Church of the Good Shepherd  
Cashiers, North Carolina

## SABBATICAL FOR PRIEST AND PARISH

**What is a sabbatical?** The word sabbatical has its roots in the Biblical concept of Sabbath (“to rest” or “to cease”). Sabbath keeping is setting aside time that God consecrates and makes holy. According to the 4th Commandment, Sabbath is for all.

The prophet Isaiah talks about rest and renewal this way: “For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, ‘in returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be your strength’” (Isaiah 30:15). Our own namesake Psalm 23 describes rest too: “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.”

By extension, a clergy sabbatical is a time designated is a time of restoration of soul and body, a break from routines of regular ministry. Instead, clergy take times of rest, study, exploration, reflection and prayer. Times of sabbatical give clergy the opportunity to shape themselves as better shepherds and leaders for the church and give rise to a deeper reliance on the Holy Spirit in life. The intent of the sabbatical is for the priest to return to the congregation refreshed and renewed, ready to move forward into the next season of life together.

While a sabbatical is a full leave from ministerial duties, it is different than vacation.

Recognizing the spiritual and practical need for sabbaticals, the Diocese of Western North Carolina prescribes sabbatical time for its full-time clergy a minimum of every five years. This provision must be part of the agreement between a priest in this Diocese and the parish he serves. Accordingly, Fr. Rob's letter of agreement with Good Shepherd calls for such sabbatical time.

Other advantages of a sabbatical:

- It creates time for physical, emotional, and spiritual health.
- Giving time and energy back to family.
- It gives staff, vestry, and parish opportunities to lead and gain experience.
- It creates space for priest and parish to establish healthy patterns for the future.

### How can I best support Rob and our church throughout this sabbatical time?

- *First*, remember the Church is the Body of Christ. It is about people, not person. We are the church and membership of any congregation goes far deeper than the leadership of a single person.
- *Second*, lean in, not out. The church is a body that needs all of its parts doing what they do best: Reflecting God's love through our faith in action. Our church needs you and we hope you ‘lean in’ and find new ways to call this place home.
- *Finally*, pray for Rob and Linda. Pray for their journey through sabbatical and for Rob's leadership to be renewed so that the church may benefit from what God is doing in them. They will be praying for us too.

### Dates and Activities

Fr. Rob will be on sabbatical from August 17 – November 10, 2022. His last Sunday before the Sabbatical is August 14, when we will prayerfully send Linda and him forth. His first Sunday back will be November 13, when we will prayerfully welcome them back and have a reception following the 11 am service. During his time away, Fr. Rob will visit (with Linda) holy and historical Christian sites in Italy. Stateside, he will spend time with family and also focus on ‘loving our neighbors’ and connections between discipleship, mission, and racial reconciliation.

### Can we contact Fr. Rob during the sabbatical?

No, the sabbatical is a time for Fr. Rob to have a complete break from his ministerial duties and thus, he will not be available to the congregation during this time. Our professional staff, lay leadership and many dedicated volunteers are prepared to deal with all the usual matters of congregational life, including emergencies. Alison and Ellen will inform Fr. Rob about emergencies.

### Will we hear from Fr. Rob during his sabbatical?

Yes. Every three weeks, Rob will send a hello, a picture or two, and a brief update, and it will be made into an eblast for the parish.

### Our Sabbatical Clergy

The Rev. Alison Schultz continues with her full-time ministry, and our adjunct clergy will be called upon as needed for help with pastoral care and worship, as will members of the vestry and other parish leaders.

(continued on page 2)

# TRANSITIONS & STATS

(continued from cover)

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

1 ANNEMARIE HELBACK  
2 GEORGE ELLIOTT  
3 WENDY DOWDEN  
3 NEELY YOUNG  
6 TOM TREICHEL  
6 LINDA MADDOX  
7 AMANDA PETERKIN  
7 THERESA COOPER  
7 NED PENDARVIS  
9 MARGARET MUSSLEMAN  
9 MARCIA STIBBS  
10 DAVID JONES  
10 WILLIAM CRAWFORD  
10 MILES RUSS  
11 GINGER DEMPSEY  
11 CARL FOWLER  
11 JOHN HERRING  
14 FRED RYLEE  
14 MAGGIE CANNON  
16 DAVE BRYANT  
16 MARY JOHNSON  
17 LISE WESTON  
17 BROOKE MACKINNON  
19 ELIZABETH MCKEE  
19 CHRISTOPHER DYER  
19 BUFF ADAMS  
20 RUSTY MILLER  
21 LIZ COLE  
21 RICHARD 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

### Church Operations

Duties related to the day-to-day operations of the church will be apportioned between, Ellen Albright, Alison Schultz, Laura Lankford, Peter Keck and others.

### Sabbatical Itinerary - August 17 until November 10, 2022

August 17 – September 4

Visit with family, unwind, read, prepare for the trip to Italy.

September 5 to October 5 (with Linda)

Visit Assisi and learn about St Francis and St. Claire (one week)

Hike through Tuscany (4 days)

Visit holy sites in Siena and Florence (one week)

Visit holy sites Rome: the Vatican, St. Peter's, the Sistine Chapel, the catacombs (4 days)

Visit the Amalfi Coast (5 days)

Note: part of this time is preparing for a parish pilgrimage—hopefully in the Fall of 2023

October 6 – November 9

Stateside visits to explore reconciliation, justice, and to understand the past:

Absalom Jones Center, Atlanta; Legacy Museum, Montgomery, Alabama; National Memorial of Peace and Justice, Montgomery, AL; Different places along the Trail of Tears; Museum of the Cherokee, Walhalla, SC; Museum of the Cherokee Indian, Cherokee, NC; Town Creek Indian Mound, Mt. Gilead, NC; Museum of the American Indian, Pembroke, NC; Fernbank Museum, Atlanta, GA; Indian Springs State Park, Jackson, GA; Rock Eagle, Georgia; Etowah Mounds, Cartersville; Columbus Museum, Columbus, GA; Chieftains Trail, Canton, GA

Lastly, from Rob and Linda, THANK YOU! Having a sabbatical is greatly appreciated. We look forward to our time of renewal and to rejoining Good Shepherd refreshed.

### A sabbatical for the parish? What does that even mean?

It's true Rob+ will be away. We will be here and what will we be doing? We will engage in a bit of renewal ourselves, a time of discernment. This really means a time for being a bit more intentional about our life together. Because who we are and what we do will continue as it does when Rob is with us. This is the joy of renewal periods -- they are purposely and gloriously superfluous. In refusing to serve the immediate, we might open space for the deep and expansive. Sabbatical time is not designed as congregational strategy sessions about worship, church growth, financial matters, etc. Just as, while on sabbatical, Rob+ steps away from the day-to-day demands of ministry and leadership in order to focus deeply on spiritual growth and renewal, so too the renewal period can be a time for our parish to indulge in the blessed luxury of asking questions about joy and meaning.

The truth is sabbaticals can have two emphases -- greater congregational leadership and deeper time for exploring questions of what gives our parish life -- and these are not opposed. The former can draw out the latter, and vice versa. Increased leadership and increased reflection go hand in hand. During this time of renewal, we will draw on and enhance these twin goods: encouraging leadership among congregation members while also creating space for reflection as we marvel together at the goodness of God. It's an exciting time.

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

3 MARK & JUDY WILLIAMS  
4 BARON & SUE HOLMES  
7 JACK & BROMLEY SHARRETT  
10 ROBERT & HELEN FORTSON  
11 H.A. & KAY MOORE  
17 JIM & CATHY FOSTER  
19 LAMAR & LIZ COLE

20 SANDY & CAROL BISHOP  
23 CARL & BEVERLY FOWLER  
24 BOB & BARBARA COLLIE  
25 BILL PUMP & ANNE HART  
25 HENRY & CARY KING  
27 JOE & JEANNE TRAVIS  
28 ROBERT & MARY LANE JOHNSON

28 PHIL & LOIS WRANGLE  
31 JOE & GINNY FOWLER  
31 DARRIN & KATHRYN DEAN

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY IS MISSING PLEASE CONTACT ELLEN AT 828-743-2359 OR GOODSHEPADMIN@FRONTIER.COM



## VACATION BIBLE SURPRISE JULY 25 -29 2022

### The Parable of the Sower

*'Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. 6And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. 7Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. 8Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.' 9And he said, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!'*

July 25 – 29 The Church of the Good Shepherd celebrates God's creation with **ReNew VBS**.

**ReNew** is a 5-day curriculum empowering kids in grades PreK to Grade 5 to **grow in faith, have fun, and change the world**.

Each day, 8.30 am – 1pm, they explore Jesus' Parable of the Sower in three age-appropriate activity centers. Each center is geared to help us learn to care for God's creation. ReNew is environmentally-focused program and we are excited for kids from our parish and community to experience the change kids can make today!

Invite your neighbors and family. We hope everyone who wants to come will join us. Registration forms are on our website!

*Have some time to give? Consider volunteering for the whole week or maybe a morning or two. Please look over the list of supplies. We are trying to use as many repurposed/ recycled items as possible. All donations are welcomed! Drop them by during parish office hours.*

Much thanks to our very talented and dedicated ReNew advisory committee: Lawson Kelly, Judy Gray, Debbie Lassiter, Lynn Jones, Melanie Jones, Becky Greene, Kathryn Dean, Kate Gholson, Laura Lankford.

Questions: Alison+ aschultz.gs@gmail.com Volunteer Becky Greene becky61716@outlook.com

Supplies: Judy Gray judygray@dnet.net

### SUPPLY LIST

- Felt squares- 10"x10" and 10 x 8
- Masking tape
- Large unlined index cards,
- Clothespins
- 2' x 4' pegboard,
- Twine
- Wire (& cutters)
- Post-it Notes
- Old Greeting Cards
- Construction Paper
- Markers
- Crayons
- Glue
- Packets of flower seeds
- Packets of Wildflower seeds
- Bird seed
- Straw Hats
- Old White/Light Colored Socks for puppets
- Gardening Magazines/ Seed catalogs
- Large Shirts (for paint smocks)
- Transparent Tape
- Envelopes
- Poster Boards
- Pipe Cleaners
- Roll of Mural paper
- Empty Cereal boxes
- Empty Milk Jugs
- Googly eyes
- Yarn
- Felt squares
- Newspaper precut into 10"x 5" strips
- Biodegradable seed starter pots
- Scissors
- Cleanup Supplies
- Disinfectant wipes
- Paper towel
- Large piece of cardboard/ cardboard boxes
- Pizza Garden seeds: tomato, pepper, basil, oregano, onion
- Roll of paper for mural (something to secure to a wall)
- 5-10 kid friendly packaged foods (cereals, fruit snacks, chips, etc.)
- Berry Baskets
- Hand sanitizer
- Potting Soil
- Watering Cans
- Shoe Boxes
- Paper Grocery Bags
- Small planters





## CONFIRMATION

On Sunday June 12 the parish welcomed The Right Reverend + Jay Magnus and his wife Carolyn. The Bishop was here on Trinity Sunday to confirm, receive and reaffirm. We were delighted to present seven youth for confirmation; Townsend and Samuel Dyer, Sydney Sinclair, Catelyn and Henry Couch, Wylie Hoffman and Rainier Finley. Nancy and Bill Duncan, John Cannon were also presented for confirmation, Maggie Cannon for reception and Sharon and John Cranwell and Nell Hines for reaffirmation. We also were so excited to baptize Derrin Dean.

The Bishop invited all those who are to be baptized, confirmed, received or reaffirmed to gather around the baptismal font. He remarked to the congregation the theological importance connecting the laying on hands with the promises made at baptism. Following the laying on of hands, using the holy water from the font, the Bishop asperged the congregation, reminding us that we are indeed sealed by the Holy Spirit in baptism and anointed as Christ's own forever. A reception followed the liturgy in Hines Hall. Welcome and congratulations to all our confirmands and their families.





# FINANCE UPDATE

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY AS OF 5/31/2022

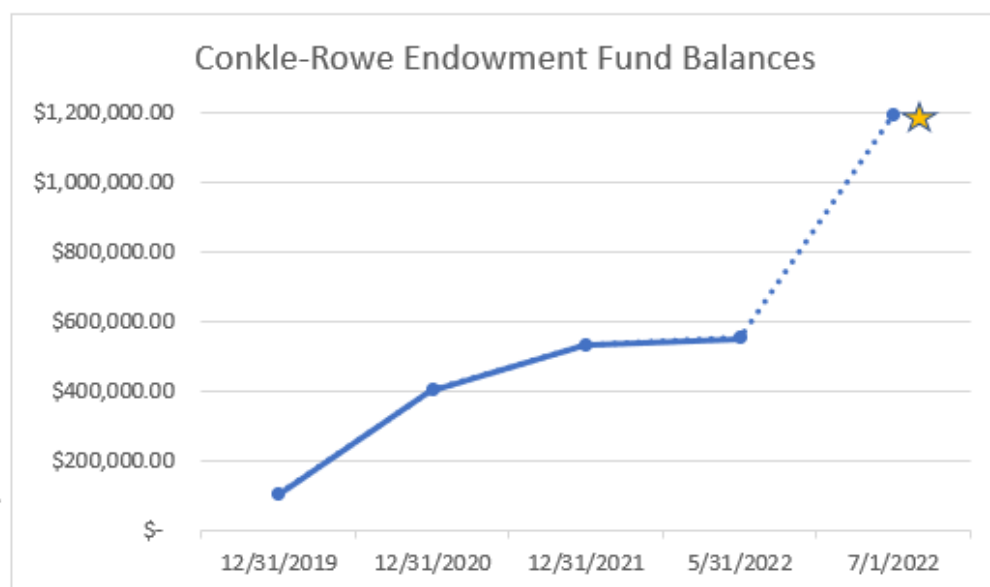
ACCOUNTS	YTD ACTUAL	YTD BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET 2021
<b>Revenues</b>			
UNRESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS	415,872.37	364,500.00	793,000
RESTRICTED CONTRIBUTIONS	21,073.35	21,433.35	52,000
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>436,945.72</b>	<b>385,933.35</b>	<b>845,000</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
PERSONNEL	189,334.97	192,717.90	474,677
WORSHIP/CHRISTIAN FORMATION	10,284.28	12,457.20	33,025
PARISH LIFE & FAMILY ACTIVITIES	6,621.32	6,250.00	15,000
BUILDING & GROUNDS	47,747.92	52,277.05	133,462
ADMINISTRATIVE	59,769.18	61,202.55	144,716
OUTREACH FROM GENERAL FUND	43,000.00	44,120.00	44,120
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>356,757.67</b>	<b>369,024.70</b>	<b>845,000</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>80,188.05</b>	<b>16,908.65</b>	<b>0</b>

	AS OF 1/1/2022	AS OF 5/31/2022
General Fund Cash Account	\$480,609	\$341,411
General Fund Schwab Account	\$1,111,893	\$853,065
Outreach Fund Cash Account	\$315,965	\$370,919
Outreach Award Commitment	\$259,407	\$259,407
The Hines Hall Fund	\$203,249	\$185,220
The Shepherd Fund	\$554,267	\$504,024
The Second Century Fund	\$1,018,952	\$920,918
Conkle Rowe Scholarship Fund	\$536,517	\$554,868



### June 2022 Additions

\$550,000 Williams House Sale  
 \$60,000 Hubbard Family  
 \$30,000 Mahoney Foundation





## REFLECTION UPON "LOVE DIVINE"

On Sunday July 10th, we will sing Charles Wesley's "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" to the tune of HYFRYDOL for our closing hymn.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788) was a prolific hymn writer of the 18th century. Coming from a musical family, he left a lasting legacy of congregational song. His hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling," would rise to become one of the most popular and consistently vocalized Christian songs.

Writing hymn texts that are solidly based on the Scriptures gives them an appeal across denominational lines. It is estimated that during his lifetime, Wesley penned more than 9,000 poems of a spiritual nature, 6,000 of which are hymns. His writings were passionate and well-crafted, conveying the true essence of Christian teaching.

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" was first published in a collection of hymns entitled Hymns for those that Seek, and those that Have, Redemption in the Blood of Christ (1747). The incipit (opening line) was a play on the opening line of John Dryden's (1631-1700) poem "Fairest Isle, All Isles Excelling" set to music by Henry Purcell (1659-1695) in the generation before Wesley was born.

The tunes BEECHER or HYFRYDOL typically accompany the text in most hymnals. The hymn is written around a progression of thoughts: (1) our prayers for the Holy Spirit, (2) praying for the return of our Lord through the second coming, and (3) prayers for the finalization of his new creation.

There is no better way of describing the culmination of adhering to the biblical teachings of Christ, than in stanza four of this hymn. Wesley's phrase, "changed from glory into glory" is almost a direct quotation from 2 Corinthians 3:18 (KJV). Wesley describes that day in heaven when "we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise."

~ Adapted from [www.umcdiscipleship.org](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org)

## PRAYERS FOR OUR COUNTRY

The Book of Common Prayer is a wonderful source of prayers and inspiration for us. Below is a selection of prayers for our nation and the world. Please join us in praying as we celebrate the anniversary of our country's independence!

BCP 816: *For Peace Among the Nations*

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

BCP 820: *For our Country*

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 824: *For Schools and Colleges*

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 827: *For the Conservation of Natural Resources*

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us fellow workers in your creation: Give us wisdom and reverence so to use the resources of nature, that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 828: *For the Future of the Human Race*

O God our heavenly Father, you have blessed us and given us dominion over all the earth: Increase our reverence before the mystery of life; and give us new insight into your purposes for the human race, and new wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP 242: *Independence Day Collect*

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

BCP 821: *For Sound Government*

O Lord our Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth. Lord, keep this nation under your care. To the President and members of the Cabinet, to Governors of States, Mayors of Cities, and to all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties. Give grace to your servants, O Lord.



# SPIRITUALITY CORNER

For many years The Church of the Good Shepherd has enjoyed and been enriched by the preaching of guests coming to enjoy the beauty and splendor of western North Carolina. Deans of cathedrals, bishops, and even the presiding bishop. Here are some excerpts from a sermon delivered by the Rt. Rev John Hines on Luke 4:16-21. The sermon, entitled Hines of Hogs, is a call to remember God's call to us, our freedom and a reflection of his roots. Presiding Bishop Hines, as the son of Seneca's only doctor, had a remarkable childhood that, as he tells it, is pretty indicative of the times. We pick up the sermon about 1/3 of the way in ...

...We had the standard brands of Protestant churches in Seneca. The Baptist Church across the street from our home, the Episcopal Church, diagonally across, the Presbyterian Church, three blocks away, and the Methodist church on the other side of the Southern Railroad tracks. All of them, except for the Episcopalians, whose services were sporadic, it being a tiny mission, were puritanically correct in their sabbath observance – 2 services each Sunday plus Sunday School and Wednesday Prayer Meeting – morally antiseptic and jealous of their own ecclesiastical turf.

Further away, out of the mainstream, on the unlighted, poorly drained, oft times impassable muddy streets, were the Negro churches and the Seneca Institute, an elementary school to which black children went for schooling when they could. Looking back upon my hometown, I marvel that, in that tiny reflection of Southern culture where religion was centrally central, that is, the institutional manifestations of it, the churches in that town exerted little, if any, positive influence upon the quality of life that pervaded that community. ...

... Later, it dawned on me that the authentic priesthood being exercised in the religious economy of the town lay within the medical profession in which my father exercised a ministry of integrity and humane concern, utterly selflessly for more than 50 years.

...he was the unshakeable center to which all could repair in fair weather and foul and which they trusted without reservation and finally closing their eyelids in death....In terms of authentic ministry my father was the town's prophet, although he would be the first to disown any such status.

As Seneca's chief medical officer my father had been through more than one crisis deriving directly from the threat to the health of an entire community, the hog pens and their proximity to houses were a time bomb ticking relentlessly away so he approached the town fathers in solemn assembly and told them that the hog pens would have to be removed outside of the town's municipal boundaries. The town fathers were polite, if stunned. They heard him out and, as is sometimes the case with political entities, did not do anything. After a period of quiet he returned to the town council and said either the hogs go or I go. That was serious for he was the town's only health officer. They had to make a decision, so reluctantly they set a date for the vote and the day before the vote the town newspaper came out with the headlines It's Hines or hogs! and would you believe it but when the vote was taken it was a tie. Three of the town Councilman voted for Hines and three voted for hogs and the mayor broke the tie he voted for hogs. Well it appeared that a pioneer had lost. A prophet had been rejected but not for long. The epidemic my father foresaw came and the mayor's only daughter contracted the disease and died. Soon after her funeral the hog pens were removed from the town. ...

The Gospel stands in the cause of freedom for every child, woman, and man. In this God-created universe it's preferential option rests with the poor, the oppressed, the bruised, the captive, those yearning to breathe free, the rejects of this world in humanity and scorn this priority concerns. This preferential option, is not just an inference casually suggested. The great biblical story of God and humankind demands that we, people of faith, participate in this concern for the liberation of all. Every major and minor prophet in biblical history says this. For only the liberation of all can authenticate and guarantee the liberation of any single one of us. Responsible freedom, the freedom with which Christ sets us free, is the seamless garment in this world of inescapable interdependency. It's redeeming alchemy is totally effective for any one of us only when it is uncoerced. Achievement for all of us at the heart of this great mystery of Christian freedom is the open secret of God's self-revelation: for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son. Their lack of love seduces and ultimately destroys them with the illusion of freedom which is to do what I want. They tragically spurn the reality of freedom which is to want what God wants. Saint Augustine's famous oxymoron is still absolutely reliable: love God, and do what you will. For Christians, that is freedom indeed.

The Reverend Robert B. Wood, Rector  
rwood.gs@gmail.com  
The Reverend Alison Schultz, Assistant Rector  
The Reverend Toby Summerour, Adjunct Priest  
The Reverend Steve Hines, Adjunct Priest

Church of the Good Shepherd  
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Vestry Officers:

Laura Lankford, Senior Warden      Peter Keck, Junior Warden  
Irv Welling, Treasurer              Ellen Albright, Clerk

Vestry:

Peg Kirchner                      Lenny Blevins  
Doreen Hastings              Lynn Jones  
Mark Quick                      Vic Brandt  
Ruth Russ                      Kate Gholston

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Staff:

Ellen Albright, Parish Administrator  
goodshepadmin@frontier.com  
Christy Banks, Finance & Accounts Manager  
Dr. Lyn Ellen Burkett, Organist & Choir Master  
Donna Patton, Nursery & Office Assistant  
Skip Ryan, Bazaar Barn Manager  
Cari Sanders, Communications Director

Church Phone: (828)743-2359

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



The 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church will meet July 8 - 11, 2022 at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland. Originally scheduled for July of 2021, the 80th General Convention was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and later shortened from 10 legislative days to four and modifications to the number of attendees and legislative process.

More information at: [www.generalconvention.org](http://www.generalconvention.org)