

THE Shepherd's Fold

July 28, 2024

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

POGO REVISITED

“The world is going to hell in a handbasket!” I first heard that phrase as a kid listening to the grownups talking about the state of the world from their perspective as people of the depression and the insanity of the Second World War. As a youngster growing up and enjoying the wonders of farm life, I naively thought at least my world was great. As I grew older and became educated not only in academics but also in the “school of hard knocks” my perspective broadened. I concluded that the world seems to have always been in a state of going to hell in a handbasket. To get a clear sense of why the world seems to be in this perpetual state of unrest, let me introduce you to an old friend of mine, Pogo.

Pogo is a possum and his animal friends are a creation of Walt Kelly who started the Pogo comic strip in 1942. Pogo retired in 1972, but still lives on. The comic strip took place in the Georgia Okefenokee Swamp. Kelly used Pogo to comment on the human condition. The most famous, and my personal favorite Pogo quote, is “We have met the enemy, and he is us.”

Pogo first made that observation on an anti-pollution poster for Earth Day. The cartoon depicts Pogo and Porkypine walking through the swamp, which is littered with old tin cans and broken glass, discarded worn out tires and old bath tubs. Porkypine says, “The beauty of the forest primeval gets me in the heart.” Pogo comments, as he sidesteps broken bottles, “It gets me in the feet Porkypine.” Porkypine agrees and says, “It *is* hard walking on this stuff.” Pogo in eleven famous words goes to the heart of the matter, “Yep. Son, we have met the enemy, and he is us!”

Yes, *us*! From the very beginning the entire history of humanity is the story of the *us* trying our best to go to hell in a handbasket. The human condition is that we tend to be our own worst enemy by our selfishness and willfulness. Somewhere along the way we forgot that we are not the originals, but the images of God, and our responsibility is to use the original (God) as the pattern for our lives. We are given life to serve God’s purposes, not our own.

If we could put God’s purpose first, then there would be no need for hell or handbaskets. It’s up to us. This is our time in history to make a difference.



COGS UPDATE!

Our next COGS outreach opportunity will be on **August 17th** from 10:00am until 12:00pm with the Turn Back the Block ministry. This ministry is revitalizing Harrisburg one block at a time and through volunteers as well as donations is creating affordable home ownership opportunities where abandoned homes and vacant lots once stood. Please e-mail Lynn Tyson **ltyson517@gmail.com** or call/text at **706-833-7415** to volunteer. Children are welcome to come if they come with and are supervised by parents. What a great opportunity to spread Good Shepherd's mission in the community. More to come on T-Shirts!

WEDNESDAYS AT GOOD SHEPHERD (WAGS)

We are gearing up for a wonderful season of WAGS this fall. If you would like to join a cooking team please email **maryashtonmills@gmail.com** or **blake.leverett@gmail.com**. Joining a cooking team is an excellent way to get involved! We are currently seeking new teams to round out the schedule.



Efm

Are you interested in the Education for Ministry program? More than a Bible study, EfM takes a fresh look at life events in the light of church tradition and 21st century culture. Participants study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere.

The Church of the Good Shepherd offers an EFM group on Thursdays at 6:30 pm. and will begin in late August. Everyone is welcome and we encourage those from all parishes to join us! You can sign up now!! For more information, contact Tom Smyth, **tom.smyth@icloud.com**. Details about the program are located at **<https://theology.sewanee.edu/education-for-ministry/>**.

EXPERIENCE CURSILLO AT HONEY CREEK

Cursillo #129. Want to experience a deeper dive into what following Jesus is like for those of us in the Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement? An upcoming retreat at Honey Creek will offer you a chance to reflect on the life of faith with other Episcopalians from Central and South Georgia. Cursillo (pronounced 'kur-see-yo') begins **Thursday, September 19th** and ends the following Sunday evening on **September 22nd**. During those three days the participants engage in listening to talks given by priests and lay people, and small table discussions, while worshipping and playing together. The next Cursillo, #129, will be held at Honey Creek.

Senior Recital
MARY BRYSON WRIGHT

AUGUST 11 2024
3 O'CLOCK
CHURCH OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD
IN THE PARISH HALL
2230 WALTON WAY
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

FROM THE STUDIO OF
Patti Myers
ACCOMPANIMENT BY
James Nord
WITH
Bonnie Wright
Christina Vaughn

The poster features a light blue background with a decorative graphic of red musical notes and a red line. The text is arranged in a clear, readable layout, with the event title and performer name at the top, the date and time in the middle, and the location at the bottom. The names of the studio and accompanist are listed in a smaller font at the bottom.



Fall Kickoff and Backpack Blessing

We will bless backpacks at the 10 am service, **August 18**, as we collect school supplies for Monte Sano Elementary. After the 10 am service, we will gather in the Parish Hall for a lunch of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. On the church lawn, we will have snow cones and games for all ages!



Save **3** Lives with **1** Donation! **BLOOD DRIVE**

Church of the
977 Good Shepherd

**CHURCH OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

9:00 AM - 12:30 PM



ALL DONORS WILL RECEIVE THE LIMITED-EDITION COOLER TOTE AFTER DONATING!



SKIP THE LINE!
SCAN OUR QUICK PASS TO
ANSWER SCREENING
QUESTIONS THE MORNING
OF THE DRIVE.
PHOTO ID REQUIRED.



**Shepard Community
Blood Center**



@shepardblood

undie Meeting a practical need in our community **SUNDAY**



Most of us would not consider underwear to be luxury items, but when you are financially challenged and are faced with the choice of buying underwear or food, this is exactly what it becomes.

Sunday August 11th

We are collecting women's, men's and children's underwear for families in need. All sizes of new underwear, boxers, briefs, T-shirts, and training pants will be collected for distribution by volunteers at the Bylesby Center in Augusta.

Servers of the Shepherd

Sunday, July 28, 2024

8:00 AM

Celebrant.....Bunny Simon Williams
Preacher.....Joe Bowden
Organist.....Wayne Lord
Lay Readers.....Lynn Tyson, Bobbie Ingenito

6:00 PM

Celebrant & Preacher.....Sonia Sullivan Clifton
Organist.....Nick Lowery
Lay Readers.....Mitzi McCoy, Anne Floyd

10:00 AM

Celebrant.....Bunny Simon Williams
Preacher.....Joe Bowden
Organist & Choirmasters.....Jim Nord
Lay Readers.....David Lentz, Fred Palmer
Verger.....Choppy Woodward
Ushers.....Jonathan Adams, Fred Palmer

All Services

Altar Guild.....Team II
Vestry Person of the Day.....Greg Haltiner

MOMS, DADS, AND FRIENDS

You have a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in the spiritual lives of our young children by assisting in an atrium each Sunday morning from 10:00-11:00. We are blessed with dedicated catechists who have completed the Level I Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) formation course and who take responsibility for presentations each week. However, we are in need of men and women who will assist the catechist and the children during this hour. Assistants have nothing to prepare, and you do not have to teach.

We invite you to learn more about CGS by attending an orientation meeting Saturday, August 3rd from 9:30-11:30 am in the conference room. CGS is a unique children's formation program that provides an environment for children age three to eight to "fall in love with God."

Speak with catechists or assistants, or give Jinny a call if you have any questions. We hope you will give prayerful consideration to becoming a part of this ministry.

***Catechists:** Lucy Roth, Katrina Selby, Alyson Getchell, Linda Wier, Mary Margaret Adams, Renee Austin, Lydia Bliven Smyth, Ashley Pritchett, Katie Tracy, and Nancy Thompson.

***Assistants:** Laura Irwin and Pam Wynn

