

THE Shepherd's Fold

May 12, 2024

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

GOD WITH US

“Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us...”
(Collect for the 7th Sunday of Easter)

Comfortless is a state that is all too familiar for us in the last few years. A pandemic the likes of which had not been seen in over a century. A land war in Europe the likes of which has not been seen since World War II. Horrific terror attacks that shocked the most jaded of consciences. The violent deaths of tens of thousands of innocents. The polarization of American society. Here at Good Shepherd, we have had the retirements of a long serving rector and long serving headmaster. Today we are dealing with the stresses of the search for a new rector. It is not a comfortable time.

Thursday, May 9, was Ascension Day, the day we remember the resurrected Jesus departing this earth. The disciples had been through the ringer: enthusiastically giving up everything to follow Jesus, watching in horror his crucifixion, rejoicing in his resurrection, and now watching him leave. In one sense, they must have felt abandoned: they had just gotten Jesus back from the dead, and now he is leaving. Yet Scripture tells us that they “returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.” (Luke 24:53) The disciples had faith such that they knew that Jesus would not leave them abandoned, but would be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

There is no question that we live in disconcerting times in the world, in our country, and even in our parish, but we must never lose faith. God did not abandon the disciples upon Jesus' departure but sent the Holy Spirit to them at Pentecost. God will not abandon us today. Our job is to keep the faith and let the Holy Spirit strengthen us for God's mission in our world.



COGS AT THE BYLLESBY CENTER

Thanks for your support of our COGS ministries this year. The next COGS outreach will be at the Byllesby Center for Outreach Ministry (formerly Christ Episcopal Church), 1904 Greene Street, to host an End of the School Year Family Festival on **May 18th** from 10:30-11:30am before the Christ Community Meal that day. Volunteers should plan to arrive at 9:30am for set up. If you can volunteer, please let Lynn Tyson know by calling or texting **706-833-7415** or e-mailing **ltyson517@gmail.com**.

START THE PARTY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Good Shepherd Episcopal and Woodlawn United Methodist are excited to present VBS for children age 4 years through fifth grade.

We are quickly approaching our limit, so please be sure to register as soon as possible. Space is limited to 100 participants. Remember, There will be **no on-site registration, June 3rd**.

Rising 4th & 5th graders will participate in community service activities. Rising 6th-12th graders are eligible to apply for Crew Leader positions. Crew Leader registration is on the same link: **bit.ly/vbsgs**.

Adult volunteers are needed, please contact Jinny Bradshaw or Mary Grace Wynn for more information.

Date: June 3 - June 7, 2024.

Time: 9:30 am - 12:00 noon.

Place: Church of the Good Shepherd.

Eligible Participants: Rising Pre-K and Rising 5th Graders.

Register Here: **bit.ly/vbsgs**.

BACK TO THE BIBLE

For the monthly readings pick up a bookmark or navigate to our B2B page: goodshepherd-augusta.org/b2b.

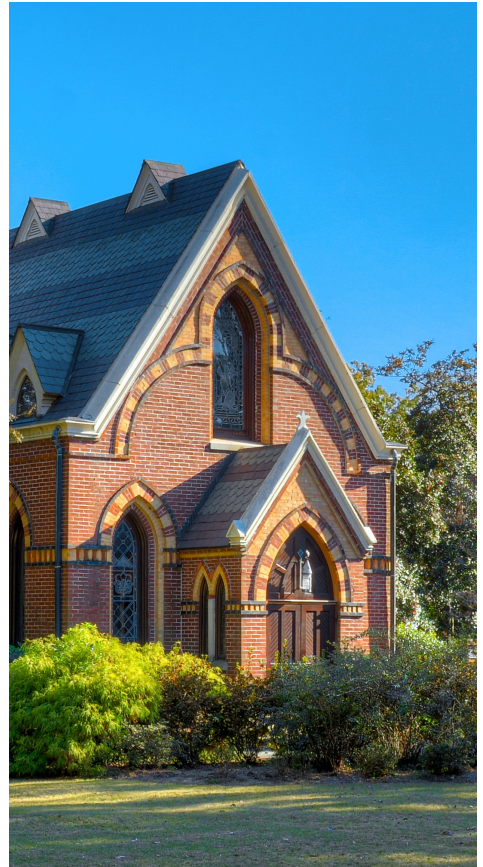


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KANUGA

Good Shepherd Parish Retreat,
September 20-22, 2024.
Registration coming soon!





Parish PICNIC

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Our parish picnic is Pentecost Sunday, **May 19th**, after the 10 am service in the Parish Hall. WifeSaver Chicken, cookies, and drinks are provided, and games for kids will be on the lawn. Plan to bring a dish and join in the fun!



Church of the Good Shepherd

Student Recognition Sunday



Save the Date
SUNDAY, MAY 12TH



Please join us on May 12th at the 9am service for Student Recognition Sunday. We will celebrate and pray for our High School Graduates, rising 9th graders, and the St. Gregory Choir.

There will be a reception to follow in the Parish Hall with refreshments, a photo slideshow, and gifts for all graduates. Friends and family are encouraged to attend.

Church of the Good Shepherd

2230 WALTON WAY
AUGUSTA, GA. 30904

QUESTIONS?

MGWYNN@GOODSHEPHERD-AUGUSTA.ORG

Servers of the Shepherd

Sunday, May 12, 2024

8:00 am

Celebrant.....Bunny Simon Williams
PreacherTed Clarkson
Organist Wayne Lord
Lay ReaderBobbie Ingenito, Jennie Haynes

9:00 am

Celebrant..... Joe Bowden
PreacherTed Clarkson
Organist & ChoirmasterJim Nord
Lay ReadersKatie Tracy, Bob Nesbit
UshersTrey Hargrove, Jonathan Adams
Vergers..... Robin Bailie
Acolytes.....Crawford McDougal, Julian Barrett,
Catherine Barrett, Bo Cates

11:15 am

Celebrant.....Bunny Simon Williams
PreacherTed Clarkson
OrganistJim Nord
Lay ReadersAndrew Austin, Yvonne Harrison
Ushers Matt Tracy, Peter Martinez
Vergers.....Lydia Smyth
Acolytes.....Spencer Weston, Annie Weston,
Stella Chew, Hub Wier

6:00 pm

Preacher & Celebrant.....Ted Clarkson
OrganistNick Lowery
Lay ReadersJim Price, Faith Moore

All Services

Altar Guild Team II
Breakfast Ministry Team IV
Vestry Person of the Day Paul Trotter

YOUTH NEWS

Head to the Shell Newsletter for details & to sign-up for up coming events.

For any questions, email Mary Grace Wynn at mgwynn@goodshepherd-augusta.org.

YOUTH GROUP: Our second to last Youth Group is this Sunday, May 12th. We will enjoy an outing to Dairy Queen followed by lawn games at EDS! Our final Youth Group gathering for this school year is next Sunday, **May 19th**. We hope everyone can make it for both! Youth Group schedule is as follows:

5:00 - 6:00 pm: Rite-13: Meet in Youth Lounge (Come dressed for Lawn Games)

6:00 - 6:30 pm: Rite-13 & J2A: Gather for Dinner in Small Parish Hall

6:30 - 7:30 pm: J2A: Meet in Youth Lounge

STUDENT RECOGNITION SUNDAY: The Student Recognition Service is this Sunday, **May 12th**, at the 9am church service. Thank you to everyone for helping make this a special day to honor and pray for our High School Seniors, rising 9th-graders, St. Gregory Choir, and Children's Ministry. We hope you can join us for a reception with refreshments, gifts, and a slideshow after the 9am service.

VBS CREW LEADER SIGN-UP: Rising 6th-12th graders are eligible to apply for Crew Leader positions for Vacation Bible School. Crew training will be on the afternoon of **June 2nd** and we will finish with a Pool Party Friday afternoon, **June 7th!** Head to The Shell Newsletter to apply.