

OCTOBER 2021

Shepherd's Voice



The monthly parish newsletter of
GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

WHAT WE BELIEVE...

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down
from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the
Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance
with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver
of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son
who with the Father and the Son is wor-
shiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the for-
giveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

FROM THE PASTOR'S STUDY

RECOVERY AND RENEWAL

As we enter October, we are in the midst of recovery from a hurricane named Ida. In our immediate area, many have sustained significant damage and in areas not too distant from us, the damage is catastrophic.

In the days immediately following Hurricane Ida, Good Shepherd Church immediately began serving as a hub of aid to our community. On Saturday, September 4, we began what would become nearly two weeks of hot meals distribution in our parking lot. Over the course of that time, we distributed an estimated 5,250 meals and countless amounts of other items including cleaning supplies, blankets, quilts, bedding, and Bibles.

I want to thank each and every person who made this possible, beginning with Fr. Jim Tomkins who launched and led this effort even before I was able to return from being evacuated. Other volunteers included not only members of Good Shepherd Church, but members of FaithPointe Anglican on the North Shore and Holy Cross Anglican in Baton Rouge, including: Daphne Anderson, Margaret Aucoin, Mel Aucoin, Bob Brockway, Gabby Chatelain, Rinda Coleman, Reva Cook, Gerry Coryell, Joe Edwards, Kelly Frilot, Joan Frilot, Martha "MJ" Garren, Renee Graf, Donna Hulsey, Sarah Noel, Don Peters, Pam Peters, David Planche, Danae Segari, Patrick Stonaker, Karen Strom, Allyson Tomkins, and Jacque Walker.

Around Mid-September, our efforts at feeding our local community wrapped up and we moved into serving our surrounding community by providing relief supplies.

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As of this writing, we estimate that in conjunction with our sister congregation Trinity Anglican in Lafayette, have managed to deliver 1848 flood buckets, 3500 new quilts, 9000 health kits, 3000 school kits, 3000 Bibles to areas hardest hit by Hurricane Ida, including Norco, Dulac, Lockport, Laplace, and Luling.

On September 24 we took delivery on two deep freezers at Good Shepherd Church via funds available from the Diocese and the Anglican Relief and Development Fund. On Tuesday, September 28 we received approximately 500 pounds of chicken to fill those two deep freezers. What will we do with that much chicken? Great question! On Saturday, October 16 we plan to team up with Trinity Anglican (Lafayette), Holy Cross Anglican (Baton Rouge), and members from our diocese traveling in from Texas to cook up the chicken at Sacred Heart Church in Norco in order to feed the people of that area. If you would like to volunteer to be a part of that day—whether to cook or distribute meals, or both—please let myself or Fr. Jim know.

As we heard, probably all too often after Hurricane Katrina, recovery from a devastating hurricane is a marathon, not a sprint. As such, our efforts to be the hands and feet of the Body of Christ will continue until our neighbors in need are fully recovered and restored. I honestly do not know what that will look like as the needs are rapidly changing as we move forward in time. But please know, there will be plenty of chances for folks to be involved in bring aid and relief to our brothers and sisters in the River Parishes.

One final point of hurricane recovery I can tell you about is this: On Saturday, October 9 at 10:30 AM, Good Shepherd Church will hold our annual Blessing of the Animals in the parking lot of the church. You may ask yourself what that has to do with hurricane recovery. Well, one of the things we are beginning to hear from the River Parishes is that even as stores begin to reopen, their hours and supplies are limited. Especially limited is pet food. So, we're asking that folks consider bringing in unopened pet food (cans are best) to church between now and October 9, and with them to the pet blessing on October 9. We will then arrange to have those donated goods transported to areas in need.

Until next month, let your light shine!

Fr. Randall Graf+



LECTORS WANTED

If feel the calling to become a lector at either the 8:30 or 10:00 mass, please get in touch with Mrs. Kelly Frilot. You can either speak to her at one of the services or email/text/call her at Kelegf@yahoo.com 504-338-8890. The readings can always be sent ahead of time for practice.

NOTES FROM RINDA

Last week while we were on vacation I was sitting by the pool and my thoughts turned toward Christmas. It's an occupational hazard for church musicians! I'm like everyone else when I see Christmas decorations in September or October. I complain that we're rushing things, and Christmas is too materialistic, but the fact remains that, for the choir, preparations must begin early enough for the results to be satisfactory. I am convinced that this applies to many aspects of our lives. Don't get me wrong, I'm in favor of spontaneity and leaving myself open to the Spirit's leading. But there's an old Baptist hymn "Give of Your Best to the Master" which encourages us to be the best followers that we can. And that brings me back to preparation. Prayer, Bible study, and research will be necessary and that takes time. So, yes, I've already started preparing for Christmas! Hopefully the preparation will pay off.

On another note, thank you to all of you who have purchased prayer books and hymnals. We are almost to our goal. Remember that you can purchase a set in honor or memory of someone. My first set that I purchased was in memory of my Hymnology professor who nurtured my love of hymns. Another thought--how about purchasing a set to the glory of God? Who better to honor with our worship?

Rinda Coleman, GSC Music Director



Saturday, October 9

10:30 AM in church parking

PET FOOD DRIVE FOR HURRICANE

Please consider bringing a donation of unopened pet food with you. We are collecting pet food for owners in areas hit hardest by Hurricane Ida.

TRUNK OR TREAT—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30

On **Saturday evening, October 30**, Good Shepherd Church will host **Trunk or Treat** in our parking lot. We are in need of people who wish to **decorate their vehicles** for this occasion and also in need of other volunteers to **greet visitors, face paint, operate the popcorn machine, serve as ambassadors** from the church, and more.

Even if you cannot be with us that evening, please **consider bringing in a bag of Halloween candy** to church for us to share with kids who will be coming to the event.

If you can volunteer in any capacity for this fun event, please see Joe & Patty Deibel or Mel & Margaret Aucoin.

Trunk or Treat will run from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM.



GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN NORTH AMERICA

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Father Randall M. Graf, Priest & Rector

WORSHIP SERVICES

Holy Eucharist

8:30 AM & 10:00 AM every Sunday

Service of Midday Prayer

12:15 PM Tuesday & Wednesday (online only)

Service of Compline

9:00 PM Friday (online only)

