

The Shepherd's Flock

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A Message from the Senior Warden



Dana Delano

As we journey together through the seasons of Advent, Christmastide and Epiphany, we should pause, look to this new year ahead in our church life and count our blessings for the faith community we call The Church of Good Shepherd.

We are now planning for some changes in our congregation. Rev. Leslie Nesin has given us notice that she will retire in May, 2011. She has been wonderful to us here at the Church of the Good Shepherd. She has traveled twice a week from Howland to Houlton, many times up the back road of U.S. Route 2. Her ministry has been inspirational for parishioners of all ages.

Vestry deemed long ago that visitations to our active, shut-ins, and nursing home members were vitally important to the life of our church and Rev. Leslie has done just that for us. She has certainly represented our Church in the Houlton community and the Diocese with much grace and honor. We will enjoy celebrating with Rev. Leslie for the remaining months before her retirement.

We are now talking with the Diocese concerning a replacement for Leslie. The Vestry met with Vicki Wiederkehr, Canon for Ministry and Deployment, on January 7 to discuss the needs of the Church of Good Shepherd and the process of calling a new priest to our community. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please do not hesitate to talk to a vestry member. We value all of our members' opinions.

We are pleased to announce that Rev. Jessie Drysdale has agreed to continue as our Deacon until our new priest is called and settled in. This will help to make the transition easier for all of us. We are so blessed to have Jessie and her many talents. Thank you Jessie for your wonderful ministry to each of us as you Serve the Lord.

I have also agreed to stay on as Senior Warden as we move forward, plan for our future and implement decisions for our church community. I appreciate the opportunity to work with the Diocese of Maine and our Vestry to ensure a smooth transition and to welcome a new priest to our historic church.

As we prepare to do this work together, let us be mindful of His purpose to spread the Word of God to all the people. Let us continue to experience the joy and love of God through His Son as we plan and move forward in 2011. Dana

A Message from Leslie+



The Rev. Leslie Nesin

John 10: 14-16
 " I am the good shepherd;
 I know my sheep and my sheep know me— just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

Does it seem like Christmas just zooms by? As one who preaches, I'd much rather go on about Mary and Elizabeth and Joseph during Advent, rather than John the Baptist. And then on the first Sunday after Christmas this church hears about the flight into Egypt and the slaughter of the innocents. That, however, is sort of how the world works. Though many good things/times do happen, there is always something else that merits our attention, some trouble or need in the world around us. If we do not pay attention to those things, we are not in fact honoring our role as the hands and feet of that holy child. As Vesta+ said in her sermon on Dec 12, rather than welcoming a cuddly baby and then saying, "Now grow up and save us," we need instead to say, "How shall we do this together?" It is to this service to the world that we are called.

Leslie+



The Rev. Dr. Vesta Kowalski

When the song of the Angels is stilled,
 When the star in the sky is gone,
 When the Kings and Princes are home,
 When the shepherds are back with their flock,
 The work of Christmas begins:
 To find the lost,
 To heal the broken,
 To feed the hungry,
 To release the prisoner,
 To rebuild the nations,
 To bring peace among brothers,
 To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman

Thanks be to God for our time with Lilli.





The Rev. Jessie Drysdale

From the Deacon's Bench



Dear Friends,
We begin to celebrate the season of Epiphany of January 6th, the 12th day of Christmas. The word

“epiphany” comes from the Greek, meaning “appearance.” Webster’s Dictionary says Epiphany is “a Christmas festival held on January 6 to celebrate the manifestation of the divine nature of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi.

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”.....Ah, the Magi, the Three Kings! In early Christian writings they were referred to as “sages” or “almost kings.” Their names, Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, are first mentioned in the sixth century, and according to Matthew’s gospel (Chap. 2:1-12), they were the first Gentiles to worship Christ, presenting Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Webster’s Dictionary also says that while an epiphany can be “a revelatory manifestation of a divine being,” it can also be “a sudden manifestation of the meaning or essence of something;” indeed, it may be “a sudden INTUITIVE [emphasis mine] realization or perception of reality.”

The Irish author, James Joyce, was noted for always hoping for epiphanies. He was looking for new truths, for sudden deep insight.

In this day and age, we Christians, like the Magi of old, can ponder and meditate on the entrance of the Christ Child into our lives, the Jesus whose example influences our lives.

May each of us in this coming year experience our own sudden, intuitive epiphanies, our own inward feelings of faith and reaffirmation within each of us that indeed Jesus is the Way, and the Truth, and the Life.

Faithfully, *Jessie*

Hospitality and Fellowship:

Coffee Hour needs you !

When you volunteer to provide simple refreshment for coffee hour, you help to make a life-long parishioner, an occasional visitor or a newcomer feel welcome.

The sign up sheet is right next to the coffee pot in Watson Hall. *Joan Logan*



The Epiphany
O God, who by
the leading of
a star didst
manifest thy
only-begotten
Son to the
peoples of the
earth: Lead us,
who know thee
now by faith,
to thy presence,
where we may
behold thy glory
face to face;
through the
same Jesus
Christ our Lord,
who liveth and
reigneth with
thee and the
Holy Spirit,
one God,
now and for
ever. *Amen.*

The Annual Meeting of the Parish



Sunday January 30

after church in Watson Hall
with a **POTLUCK** lunch

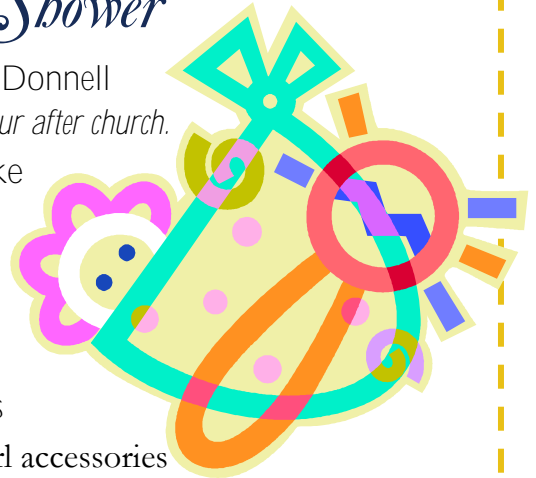
An 'After' the Baby Shower

For Amy and A.J. O'Donnell

Sunday January 23rd *during coffee hour after church.*

Some suggested items they need or would like

- Tights (0-6 months)
- Clothes (6+ months) or
- 6-9 month summer clothes
- Size 3+ Diapers
- Wipes
- Dresses (6+ Months)
- Lotions
- Powder
- Crib toys
- Kid's CD's
- Board Books
- Any 'Fun' girl accessories
- High Chair (Several people could share this)



If anyone would like to provide finger sandwiches, chips
or anything for a light luncheon, please contact:

Stephanie Jacobs Ph# 538-8006 or Email: stephaniejacobs2003@yahoo.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January

Birthday

- 6 Mooers, Emily
- 16 Grant, Renee
- 31 Mooers, Carolyn and Rebecca

February

Birthday

- 11 McIntosh, Edwin
- 12 Williams, Freda
- 16 Sanders, Lillian
- 19 Coburn, Elva
- 23 Toby, James
- 27 Anderson, David

March

Birthday

- 10 Delano, Dustin, Pinette, Corky
- 12 Urbanek, Ginny
- 28 Anderson, Beulah, Grant, Ben
- 30 Grant, Evelyn



Do we
have your
special date?

Please
let us
know!

corkysp@gmail.com

(207)-659-5429

Thanks be to GOD!

Your prayers of thanks are needed here.

For the good people of Good Shepherd, for their cards, calls, visits and sunshine basket while I recover, and for the generous Christmas gift. I appreciate it all. Leslie+

For blessing us with Dale Holden. She is a wonderful choir director, great organist and has been so loving and supportive to me personally these past couple of years. Laura





A dvent &
Christmas



Our Parish Directory

Church of the Good Shepherd
116 Main St.
P.O. Box 1672
Houlton, Me. 04730

The Holy Eucharist::

Sunday at 10 am & Wednesday at 5:30 pm
Office hours Wed. 2:30-4:30 207-532-2927

E-mail goodshepherdhoulton@gmail.com

On the WEB:

Good Shepherd: www.goodshepherdhoulton.org

The Diocese of Maine: <http://episcopalmaine.org/>

Bishop of Maine The Rt. Rev. Steve Lane

slane@episcopalmaine.org

Priest-in-Charge Rev. Leslie Nesin Cell (207) 290-0229

lnesin@telplus.net

Home (207) 732-4348

Deacon Rev. Jessie Drysdale

Cell (207) 538-7437

dosamigos@hughes.net

Home (207) 448-7765

Rev. Ginny Urbanek

mainebrat@hotmail.com

Vestry

Sr. Warden Dana Delano 532-9165

Jr. Warden Frannie Grant 532-3906

Clerk Jeff Prozzo 757 8939

Treasurer Roger Habrle 532-2022

Members

Sharon Chase (2011)

Joan Logan (2011)

Peggy White (2012)

Cindy Delucca (2012)

Michael Clark (2013)

Fred Grant (2013)

Jeff Prozzo (2013)

Lillian Sanders (2013)



Altar Guild Chairpersons

Wanda Brewer 532-2371

Joan Logan 532-4196

Parish Financial Adm.

David Flemington 532-3339

Rotary Meals Coordinator

Frannie Grant 532-3906

Sexton

Jim Ellsworth 521-9093

Sunday School Supervisor

Stephanie Jacobs 538-8006

Newsletter Editor

Corky Pinette 528-2857

Cell: 659-5429

Email: corkysp@gmail.com

Visitation Com. Coordinator

Alison Bossie 532-2518

Church Secretary

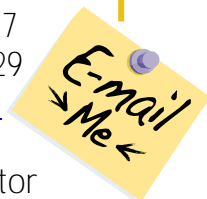
Sharon Chase 532-4397

Help us save postage by joining the growing list of folks who receive **“The Shepherd’s Flock” by email.**

Send an email to Corky requesting to be added to this list. You may also request to be removed at any time. **DEADLINE** for “The Flock” is the 15th of each month.

Your photos are gratefully received to share with our flock. Please include caption information i.e name(s), date & photographer.

Photos in this issue are courtesy of Michael A. Clark & Leslie Nesin



An 'After' the Baby Shower

For Amy and A.J. O'Donnell
Sunday January 23rd
during coffee hour after church
See page 4 for details

Vestry Meeting

January 26, 2011 at 6 PM
To approve the 2011 budget

Annual Meeting of the Parish

Sunday January 30th
with a pot-luck lunch



Church of the Good Shepherd

116 Main Street
PO Box 1672
Houlton, ME 04730