

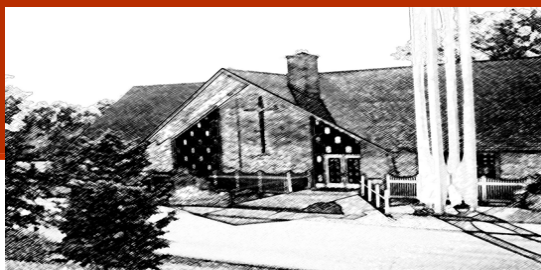
Shepherd's Journal

Humor For The Hard Times

" Why is a car's windshield so large and the rearview mirror so small? Because our *past* is not as important as our *future*. So look ahead and move on."

—via Peter Dring
Lan O Lakes, WI

ISSUE 02



February 2012

Church of the Good Shepherd - Pastor's Ponderings

Ash Wednesday (February 22) begins the season of Lent, which lasts 6 weeks until Easter (April 8). It is an annual reminder that

--we are mortal. None of us know how long we will be on this earth. We are reminded to focus on the most important things.

--we need time away from the busyness of life. For 40 days, Christ gave up food and human companionship, so that he could listen to God's word for his life. Imagine giving up Facebook or texting or watching sports—not because they are bad, but because the time they occupy could be used in growing spiritually.

--we need time to prepare in order to receive God's gifts of forgiveness and eternal life.

What are you doing for Lent this year?

See you in church.



Ash
Wednesday

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February Birthdays



February 02

Mike Skinner

February 03

Andriana Mayle

Roger Sine

February 04

Paul Reneau

February 06

Glenn Bartlett

Jason Runner

John Souther

February 10

Patsy Harman

Janet Losh

February 11

Carol Rowe

February 12

Bettie Marshall

February 13

John Finch

Sydney Bolyard

Jonathon Sine

February 16

Bob Leonard

February 17

Adrienne Kunce

February 18

Kevin Grinnan

Bill Harman

February 19

Linda Sapp

February 20

Pat Trischler

Louie Gerard

February 21

Tom Stolzenfels

Valerie Barlow

February 22

Adam Whitescarver

February 23

Dan Pauley

Pam Brown

February 24

Larry Adlington

February 26

Chris Smith

February 28

Katrisha Pauley

February Anniversaries



February 05

Gary and Susan Sinsel

February 16

Jim and Marie Fawcett

In 1963 he was discharged, leaving behind dozens of very funny experiences and some positively hilarious half-true ones.

Spotlight on the Flock

Conversations with Carla

This month my article is about Don Harman. Don and Phyllis have three children: Donna L. Garrett, Deborah Grinnan and Gregory Harman. They also have eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren to date. Phyllis passed away on June 17, 2011 at her home with Don and their children at her side. Don has a brother Kent who is also his business partner.

In the 21 years before Don Harman and Phyllis were married, they led quite different lives. Phyllis' adopted parents were school people, both teachers and administrators. During the summer vacation periods Earl Culp, Phyllis' father, managed a city park in Washington DC where Phyllis learned to swim. She be-

came a champion in her early teens.

During those same years Don traveled with his family, who were in the construction business, all over northern West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Don began traveling with his father to work occasionally from the sixth grade until Don was big enough to have a full time job; he began working full time during summers from age 15 on, and had saved enough money to completely pay for his first year at WVU. From the first to the eighth grades Don attended 19 schools in West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Phyllis attended Harrisville High School three years, where she was an All-State Cheerleader, Golden Horseshoe winner and mem-

ber of the National Honor Society, then graduated from Grafton High School where Mr. Culp was principal.

Don attended Grafton High School and was a member of the football team for four years. Don and Phyllis began dating at WVU in early 1953 and were married in August that year. Upon graduation Phyllis, then a medical technologist, ran a lab at Mon General Hospital. Don had studied in the ROTC program and was a Second Lieutenant upon graduation. He was able to work as a bridge carpenter until he was called to report to active duty in October 1955. The Korean Conflict was winding down and after short stays in Maryland, Kentucky and Giessen, Germany, Don was stationed near Frankfort, Germany for

the rest of his two-year active commitment. Phyllis and Don lived in a fourth-floor apartment near the army base. Should the Russians attack, Phyllis had two five-gallon cans of fresh gasoline, a packed suitcase, roadmaps and instructions, food and water. She was to take herself and Donna to an airfield in France. Phyllis and Don had driven the route several times to avoid any mistakes.

Don was the commander in the local Reserve Unit with the rank of Captain. In 1963 he was discharged, leaving behind dozens of very funny experiences and some positively hilarious half-true ones.

"While living in Germany, Phyllis and I were fortunate to be able to travel in France, Italy, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Austria, Denmark and Sweden. We camped in an Army pup tent and cooked on a GI one-burner stove. Phyllis said she would never camp again and she did not. But we both had fun camping in Europe."

Don began working with Builders Service & Supply and Harman Brothers Construction Company in the office in the fall of 1957.

In 1967 when an archives group from Washington took moving pictures of the Mother's Day Shrine, Phyllis

portrayed Anna Jarvis with her Sunday School Class of Primary graders. Local visitors were surprised to learn that Phyllis looked exactly like Anna Jarvis.

Phyllis was a member of the Eastern Star, DAR, a Medical Technology group, Teachers group and Good



Shepherd Church. Phyllis was fun-loving and helped organize chaperones for band camp. Pranks were executed by the half-dozen middle-aged housewives upon a fresh-out-of-college band director; they were daring, elaborate and totally out of character for the perpetrators.

Don is a member of the Shriners, Gideons, Salvation Army Board, Prison Ministries, Russia Missionaries and Church of the Good Shepherd. His favorite food is "well done."

Don's favorite passage in the New Testament is Matthew 11:28-30. Speaking to the poor Jewish farmers

and fishermen, Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

"When Pastor Bert came to The Church of the Good Shepherd, he announced that he would be going to Russia and needed two or three more people to accompany him on the trip. Phyllis suggested I go with him and I did. I have done so seven more times since." Don has helped with video and still photography each year he has traveled with the group. The group has had loads of fun along with some irritating and harrowing experiences.

The most rewarding religious experience is to realize that these Russians are actually very young Christians, having been in church perhaps 3 - 6 years. "We are able to actually see them grow as Christians."

FINANCIALS

2011 General Fund Transactions

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED METHODIST

SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUND TRANSACTIONS FOR 2011

MONTH	BEGINNING BALANCE	OPERATING RECEIPTS	WAGES & BENEFITS	DISBURSEMENTS CHURCH OFFICE & PROGRAM EXPENSES	FAIR SHARE UTILITIES & OTHER	ENDING BALANCE
JAN 2011	\$5,098.36	\$12,333.93	\$9,194.52	\$674.10	\$4,361.70	\$3,201.97
FEB 2011	\$3,201.97	\$14,574.82	\$10,082.74	\$83.61	\$2,599.36	\$5,011.06
MAR 2011	\$5,011.06	\$13,723.25	\$9,607.82	\$1,798.18	\$6,461.99	\$686.32
APR 2011	\$686.32	\$14,452.50	\$9,832.88	\$1,238.07	\$3,475.25	\$672.62
MAY 2011	\$672.62	\$16,362.92	\$10,448.59	\$761.94	\$4,166.53	\$1,545.46
JUNE 2011	\$1,545.46	\$10,986.00	\$9,546.74	\$720.68	\$1,050.44	\$1,216.72
JULY 2011	\$1,216.72	\$17,972.20	\$7,598.46	\$887.65	\$1,056.93	\$9,865.68
AUG 2011	\$9,865.68	\$10,581.00	\$9,143.22	\$921.85	\$8,916.32	\$3,265.49
SEPT 2011	\$3,265.49	\$12,225.00	\$9,786.08	\$626.85	\$3,715.94	\$1,361.62
OCT 2011	\$1,361.62	\$16,568.40	\$9,985.60	\$524.51	\$3,459.57	\$2,958.34
NOV 2011	\$2,958.34	\$15,650.13	\$9,654.23	\$1,164.21	\$4,989.03	\$2,601.00
DEC 2011	\$2,601.00	\$28,253.13	\$12,605.16	\$755.32	\$6,731.42	\$8,482.23

2011 ANNUAL CASH FLOW	
YEAR-TO-DATE TOTALS	COLLECTION
	\$163,373.28
	-
	117,885.04
	SPENT
	10,136.87
	178,008.41
	=
	50,988.50
	3,363.87

	ACTUAL GIVING	ACTUAL WAGES & BENEFITS	ACTUAL TOTAL EXPENSES	TOTAL FAIR SHARE WV CONFERENCE PAYMENTS
Giving Units	106	106	106	\$26,000.00
# of Weeks	52	52	52	106
AVERAGE PER WEEK	\$33.09	\$21.39	\$32.46	\$4.72

FINANCIALS

2011 General Fund Expenditures

2011

SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES - DECEMBER 31, 2011

To The Congregation of Good Shepherd

We began 2011 with a cash balance of \$ 5,098.36 in the Fund.

The Sunday collections for the year to date are \$ 182,373.28 for a total of \$ 187,471.64

\$	5,098.36
\$	<u>182,373.28</u>
\$	187,471.64

Expenses for the year to date are:

Wages & Benefits	\$	117,886.04
Church Office & Program Expenses	\$	10,136.87
Fair Share, Utilities & Other	\$	50,986.50
	\$	<u>179,009.41</u>

\$	<u>179,009.41</u>
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The General Fund ending balance December 31, 2011 was

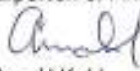
\$ 8,462.23

\$	8,462.23
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Included in the Paid Fair Share, Utilities & other Expenses above are:

WV Conference Fair Share	72%	\$26,000.00
Mon-Valley District Fair Share	100%	\$ 480.00
		<u>\$ 26,480.00</u>

Your Chairperson of Finance


Arnold Kuhl

Sermon Schedule

“Dear God, my prayer for 2012 is for a fat bank account and a thin body. Please don’t mix these up like you did last year. Amen.”

—via George Goldtrap Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL

A little boy came home from Sunday school and told his mother he got a part in a play.

“What part is it?” she asked.

“I play the part of the husband,” he replied.

“Go back and tell the teacher you want a speaking part,” the mother said.

—Author unknown

During the next 14 weeks, our worship will continue to focus on the stories that make up The Story, the narrative of God's love for us. Each week's story will be one part of the message that began with Creation and will be fulfilled when Time becomes Eternity.

February 5 Moses

12 Joshua

19 Ruth

26 David

March 4 Daniel

11 Esther

18 Job

25 Mary

April 1 Jesus

8 Thief on the Cross

15 Mary Magdalene

22 Disciples

29 Paul

May 6 Second Coming

Each Sunday evening at 4:30, there will be a time for those who want to know more about that day's story. We will read and pray together to learn how each of us is a part of God's story, too. Materials will also be available for parents who would like to "home-Sunday-School" their children.



MISSION TRIPS FOR 2012

The West Virginia Annual Conference is sponsoring several mission trips this year.

In addition to trips to Russia, there will be teams going to

Haiti (earthquake recovery)

New York (flood recovery)

Japan (earthquake recovery)

Pennsylvania (flood recovery)

Missouri (tornado recovery)

Oak Hill, WV (housing repair)

Burlington, WV (children's home)

Beckley, WV (children's home)

Holy Land (Bethlehem olive harvest)

England & Wales (John Wesley tour)

Native American Site

Peru

Guatemala

Cuba

Hungary

South Africa

Upcoming Events

Lenten Services
6:00 p.m.

February 22

Ash Wednesday Service
Blueville UMC

February 26

Fetterman UMC

March 4

Haymond UMC

March 11

Flemington UMC

March 18

Trinity UMC

March 25

Wesley Chapel UMC

April 1

Church of the Good Shepherd
UMC

February

February 7

5:30 - Little Shepherds Board Meeting
7:30 - Trustees Meeting

February 12

12:00 - Diaper Shower - Elyza Leach
2:30 - Russia Initiative

February 19

3:00 - District Leadership Training

February 21

5:00 - Nurture Committee Meeting
6:30 - Finance Committee Meeting
7:30 - Administrative Council Meeting

February 22

7:00 - Ash Wednesday Service

February 26

6:00 - Parish Lenten Service

February 28

7:00 - Parish Council Meeting

Upcoming Events

7th ANNUAL ROTARY BUCKWHEAT DINNER

BUCKWHEAT CAKES & SAUSAGE

Supports the 29th Rotary's Grafton High School "Honor Graduates Banquet"

JELLY BEANS & BOOK SALE

Supports the Grafton Rotary activities during the year

CHURCH BAKE SALE

Supports the Good Shepherd's WV Conference And District "Fair Share"

Contact Leah Powell 304-265-0572 to Donate Baked Goods

- WHEN:** MARCH 9 & 10, 2012
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
- TIME:** 4:00 PM to 7:00PM
- WHERE:** Church of The Good Shepherd Church
- AMOUNT:** All you can eat
- PRICE:** Adults - \$7.00
Children - \$ 3.00 (Under 12)

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the beautiful blanket. Woody and I both feel better knowing he is covered by a soft, warm blanket and surrounded by prayer. Your caring and concern is a blessing to us.

God Bless You,
Ann Woodyard

Thank You

Gratitude

Carla and Leah,

Making life more beautiful is just part of what certain people do - and you both do this better than anyone! Thank you for thinking of my daughter Liz and making the prayer blanket. It will give her comfort and peace knowing so many prayers are Always always with her.

Thank you for the many ways you minister to people through Good Shepherd.

God bless you,
Stella

Dear Pastor Coffman,

It is with much gratitude and blessings I wish to thank you for your prayers and my prayer blanket. This is a wonderful ministry and a blessing, my mom is part of your congregation. Your act of kindness is encouraging of my faith, and reminder of His love and that I am never alone. I would like to share my health is better. Thank you very much.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth Rickard - Stella Hawk's daughter

Thank You

Dear Pastor Coffman:

Please thank the members of your congregation for their generous donation of school supplies for our students at Taylor County Middle School.

Our students are making good use of the school supplies. Many of our youth cannot purchase basic school supplies and they request school items through the counselor's office. Our thanks also go to John Finch for delivering the supplies.

Your time and thoughtfulness is appreciated by the staff and students at Taylor County Middle School. Please convey our appreciation to your members who gave this wonderful gift.

God Bless,
Mary Ann Merrifield, school counsel
Taylor County Middle School

February is Random Acts of Kindness Month

**With all the random acts of nastiness in our society,
churches are being asked to extend an
unexpected kindness to strangers as well as to people
they know, including spouses, parents, children,
and pastors.**

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Church of the Good Shepherd

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