

News From The Good Shepherd

"By the power of the Holy Spirit we will seek and serve Christ"

The Episcopal Church of
The Good Shepherd

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The Rt. Rev. Dr. Prince Singh
Bishop of Rochester

The Rev. Lance D. Robbins
Rector

The Rev. Barbara Fornalik
Deacon

The Rev. Steve Robb
Deacon

Dr. Karyn Robbins
Music Director/Organist

December 2017

Advent Prayer

Emmanuel

*Our world waits in longing for your light,
In the midst of darkness, reveal your light.*

As we long for lasting peace in the midst of violence

Be with us.

As we long for families to be reunited, Be with us.

As we long for enemies to be reconciled, Be with us.

As we long for cures and healings, Be with us.

As we long for freedom from fear and anxiety, Be with us.

*Fulfill the deepest longings of your people and dispel the darkness in our hearts
and in the world. Let your Word ignite the hope the world needs to bring to life
your love and justice.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dana' with a cross at the end.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Prince Singh
Bishop of the Diocese of Rochester

Rector

The Rev. Lance D. Robbins

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Convention Delegates

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Denise Junker 413-6286
Marj Matsky 645-3222

UPDATE Deadline:
Tuesdays by 10 am to
Church Office

NEWSLETTER Deadline:
20th of Each Month
Richard Reid 585-347-4839
writer2363@gmail.com



Merry Christmas to one and all! I hope you have all enjoyed a fabulous Thanksgiving holiday with friends and loved ones. We had an excellent turn out for our Thanksgiving meal following the Thanksgiving liturgy on Wednesday! We shared a wonderful meal and gave thanks for our church family.

December brings many annual activities. Please look for dates and times on the Stewardship calendar or weekly updates! We have the Advent workshop, the chime choir playing at Webster Village Days, hanging the greens in the sanctuary, the teen choir caroling and Christmas cookie delivery, the Christmas Pageant, etc! There is something for everyone!!

We are continuing our stewardship campaign and trying to close it out. If you have not sent in your pledge yet, please do so as soon as possible. We have some critical needs for our budget next year and we are hoping to reach our goal so that we can plan it out. Also, along the lines of planning, if you have a particular issue that you would like addressed at the annual meeting in January, please send me an email, leave a note in my mailbox in the office, or give me a call! I will be happy to address any concerns you may have.

We are beginning our stewardship calendar planning for next year. Please let me know of any events you have (day & time) and I will be sure to include it in the calendar. It is a great reference for our year of activities!!

For those of you who know me well, I love Christmas music and this is my favorite time of year! I love the lights, the scents, the music, but most of all the feeling of joy. Our church family brings this to so many of us.

“And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

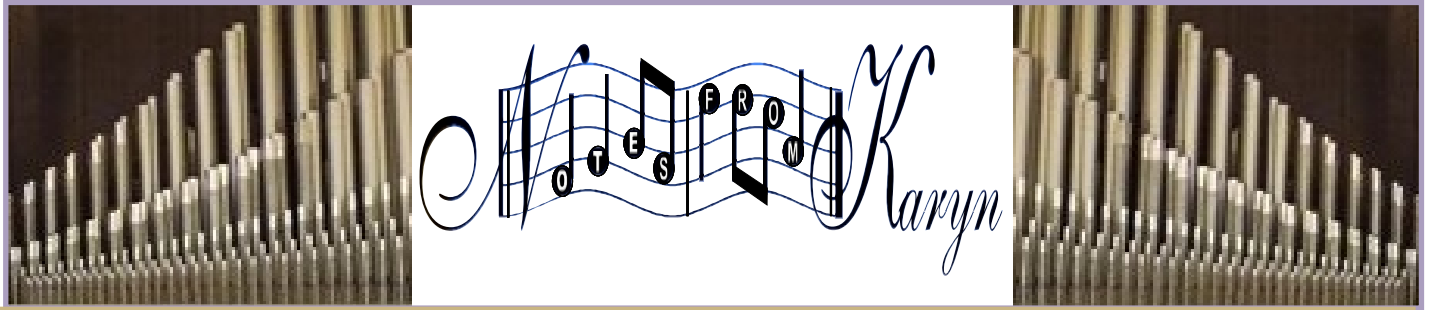
¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord”

Luke 2:9-12 King James Version (also by Linus vanPelt!!)

Blessings & Merry Christmas,
Jill





*“O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!”*

A blessed Advent and Christmas to everyone! May the music that you hear and sing in our liturgies this season be a blessing to you as we worship our Lord in word and song.

Advent begins with the hymn “Wachet Auf!” or “Wake Up!” (“Sleepers, Wake”) The first Sunday in Advent will use music based on the story of the watchman calling out to prepare for the coming of Christ, the Bridegroom! The tune, “Wachet Auf” will weave its way through the liturgy with the music of J. S. Bach, Paul Manz and of course the hymn itself.

Our Advent liturgies begin with the lighting of our Advent wreath and we will sing a favorite musical setting by Joel Raney called “God with Us, Emmanuel.” It is for congregation and choir.

If you are wondering what to do on Saturday, December 2 – come to the four corners in the village and listen to our Chime Choir play Christmas carols during Webster’s White Christmas in the Village celebration. The Chime Choir will perform between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. They will play traditional favorites, such as “Hark the Herald Angels Sing and “Silent Night.” They will also entertain with such pop classics as “Rudolph” and “Winter Wonderland.” And of course, a bell choir has to play “Jingle Bells!” Children and adults alike will enjoy the ringing of these Christmas carols and songs. Come, enjoy!

On Sunday, December 17, the children and youth of the parish will present their Christmas Pageant. It’s called “Voices of Mary.” This is an interesting telling of the life of Christ but through his mother Mary’s eyes! Worship with us as children, teens and adults share with us the true meaning of Christmas.

Remember, 15 minutes of Christmas caroling precedes the beginning of our Christmas Eve liturgies. Plan to join in singing Christmas carols at 3:45, 6:45 and 10:45 p.m. on Christmas Eve. Let’s join the angels’ song as we sing:

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

ADULT FORUM

Tuesdays, 10:00 am

Eternal God, bless us as we continue in our journey of faith and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

December 5: **Movie:** "The Story of Anglicanism" (1990) color 80 mins Documentary produced by the Episcopal Church and narrated by actor Michael York

December 12: **Movie:** "Come to the Stable" (1949) b/w 93 mins Loretta Young and Celeste Holm as French nuns in post-WWII America on a special mission.

December 19: Dr. Karyn Robbins on Christmas Music followed by Holiday Luncheon At Jeremiah's Tavern, Fairport

December 26: Christmas Break – No program

January 2: World's Great Churches: Chartres and Winchester Cathedrals (A Great Courses DVD presented by Prof. William R. Cook, SUNY Geneseo)

Note: Richard Reid has assumed responsibility for coordinating the program schedule of the Adult Forum. He welcomes your ideas and proposals for presenting future programs on diverse topics. Please speak with him on Sundays or e-mail him at writer2363@gmail.com.

(Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am in the Narthex or Library; approximately 1 hour. Movies may run longer)



Now that we all are in the middle of Christmas holiday preparation, it is a good time to stop and read a book about what Christmas is all about.

Your church library has some good books that might help there. You will find them all out on display. *In Search of the Real Spirit of Christmas* by Dan Schaeffer is a good one as are two small books by Colleen Reece: *O Come All Ye Faithful* and *Joy to the World*.

Max Lucado has written, *Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born, Hope is Here*. Another one of his books -- not really Christmas but good any time: *Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World*.

May all my readers have a blessed Christmas. Happy reading!

-- Marilyn Nuffer

Your church library is open whenever the church is open.



The Stitches meet every Thursday in the church library from 9:30am to 11:00am. We welcome anyone who would like to join us, no skills required! Our Book Club meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month between 10am and 11am (although the conversation has been known to continue at the next Stitches meeting).

The Good Shepherd Stitches gathered on November 16th for a "Sew Day". From 9:30 until about 3pm we cut and sewed fleece in various colors and patterns into hats and scarves. Our goal was to make approximately 75 hats for the men, women and children who are weekly guests at A Meal and More. Many hands make light work and I am happy to report we reached our goal!

December's book, *How Mrs. Claus Saved Christmas*, by Jeff Guin, will be discussed on December 7th at 10am. This is a fanciful, highly original piece of fantasy revealing how Santa Claus' wife in 1647 organized support against the Puritans who have gained control of Parliament and passed a law punishing anyone who celebrates Christmas!

For January, our first book of 2018 will be Fannie Flagg's 2016 novel, *The Whole Town's Talking*, described as "an unforgettable story of life, afterlife, and the remarkable goings-on of ordinary people". Upcoming books (so you can put it on your list to Santa) will be Mary Kubica's novel, *Pretty Baby*, described by People magazine as, "a hypnotic psychological thriller", for the February meeting. March's book will be Tom Rinaldi's *The Red Bandana*, a true story about a young man who became one of New York City's many self-sacrificing heroes on 9/11/2001.



The Narthex at Good Shepherd houses many opportunities for Outreach in our community. The Back Pack program, Stitching Ministry, Meal Ministry at the Homeless shelter are just a few of the ongoing opportunities. The collection for the Angel Tree this season will benefit Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School #9 in Rochester. They are in need of children's briefs and undershirts. The tree has tags identifying size and gender for these items. Please consider supporting this basic need for children in our city. You will also find tags for adult items to support those that are homeless and in shelters right now. The collection will conclude on Sunday, December 10th. Your generosity is a blessing to so many in need. Thank you!

Many thanks to our Youth Group, including Keisha, Karyn and Lance, for making the gift tags for the tree, Lisa Daniels for making the signage for the collection and Dottie Smart and Marj Matzky for overseeing this Outreach project. Thanks, also, to Janet Maier and the Stitchers group for making about 75 hats for the guests at A Meal and More.

Plans are being made now for the Outreach spring fundraiser. We are always looking for help with this event. Please consider joining us for our next meeting on Sunday, December 10th at 9 AM in the meeting room next to the office.

As we wait, prepare and stay alert during the season of Advent, may we make the time to quiet ourselves, our lives and our minds and listen to that quiet voice. The miracle of birth, the birth of our Lord, the Word Incarnate, is the reason for the season. Thanks be to God!

A blessed Christmas and a wonderful 2018 to all of you!

Yvonne Arnold



LEGO LOVE -- Advent Edition by Deacon Steve Robb



Lego Love returns! During the Sundays in Advent (Dec. 3, 10, 17 & 24), in the Narthex, we will be building a stable for the Holy Family out of Legos. Each Lego block is \$1.00.

Fontanini creche figures and animals (yes, Father Lance, this includes the three Wise Men!) will be available to "rent" once the stable is made. The rental rates will be posted on a sign: \$2 for sheep and goats; \$5 for shepherds; \$5 for oxen and donkey; \$10 for Wise Men on their camels; \$20 for Mary and Joseph; \$25 for the angel and \$50 for the baby Jesus.

If paying by check, make it payable to "Steve Robb" - that way I can cash the checks, add them to the cash, and deposit it all at once into the Costa Rica school account. This makes it easier on Dick Robinson.

We are now at \$11,000.00 dollars towards building the school in Costa Rica, and every dollar gets us closer to the goal. So please stop by the Lego Love table in the Narthex after either service and join in the Christmas spirit of giving!



by Keisha Stokes

CALLING ALL COOKIE BAKERS!



The Youth Group needs your help! They will be making and delivering plates of cookies to members of the Webster community and members of our church family this Christmas season. We will be collecting cookies (homemade and store-bought) on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10. There will be a table set up in the Narthex on which you can place your cookies.

It is very helpful if you attach a post-it note that indicates how many cookies are on the plate or in the container and if there is anything special to note about them such as "contains peanuts" or "gluten-free", etc.. This is a Youth Group tradition and we really appreciate your help and generosity!

Thank you and happy baking!



"The annual youth group cookie collection is donated to senior citizens and members of our church family. The youth plate the cookies and decorate the baggies."



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLES



As we have done for many years, the Youth Group will be placing votive candles on the window sills for our Christmas Eve Services. The order form for candles is attached to this newsletter. Please complete and return your order by Sunday, December 17. There will be a box in the Narthex labeled "Christmas Eve Candles" where you can place your order. *Please DO NOT put your order in the collection plate!* Each candle may be offered in one of three ways: "In Memory Of," "In Thanksgiving For," and "In Honor Of" living or deceased persons for \$2.00 per candle. The names of the donors and honorees will be published on Christmas Eve. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTION THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

By Deacon Steve Robb

Does your special “someone” have enough sweaters or enough perfume, or still hasn’t eaten last year’s Christmas fruitcake? Flummoxed at what to get this year? If so, here’s a great gift idea, one which also will help contribute to a most worthy cause.

ENTERTAINMENT 2018 coupon books will be on sale starting November 26th in the Narthex. Look for Sally Robb (or call her at [585-704-7062](tel:585-704-7062)) The price is \$20 - these make a wonderful Christmas gift, and the \$8 we get for each sold will go towards building the school in Costa Rica.

If you’re not familiar with the ENTERTAINMENT coupon book -- it covers a wide area - all of suburban Rochester to Leroy and the Finger Lakes. It has restaurants, casual dining, fast food, golf, sporting events, gaming places like Dave and Buster's, car washes, national rental services, craft stores, movie theaters, car rentals, hotels, etc! It is a book of paper coupons - literally thousands. Some very good deals will be found here for even the pickiest of people.



GLOBALPALOOZA 2018

By Deacon Steve Robb



With the encouragement of our Bishop and Diocesan Council leadership, we are starting what we hope will become a new tradition in our Diocese - "Globalpalooza!" Our Diocese is committed to supporting several ministries of loving service to our neighbors in need. Many of these are our global neighbors. Globalpalooza is an evening of fun for the whole family and its purpose is to raise friends and funds to support the Sustainable Development Goals that the United Nations has helped us identify and support. Proceeds will go toward supporting this global commitment of our Diocese.

This initial friend and fundraiser will be a fun-filled evening provided by the nationally known hypnotist, Jason Christopher. Fear not! His show is delightful and does not ridicule or make fun of anyone. He has performed for major corporations across the United States, in such cities as Las Vegas, Los Angeles and New York City. This will be held on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 in the Webster Schroeder High School auditorium, at 875 Ridge Rd, Webster, NY from 7 - 9 pm. Tickets are 10 dollars per person, and will be available for purchase in each parish starting December 15th. Kids love his show too, so what a great Christmas family gift for a great cause! The doors will open at 6 pm, so that everyone can look at displays of global projects presently supported by our Diocese.

So, come on out on Jan. 13th, have a great evening of entertainment while supporting projects of loving services to our global neighbors! For details, contact Deacon Dr. Steve Robb via his e-mail: stever630@gmail.com



19 members of the GS Choir performed at the Webster Council of Churches' annual "Festival of Choirs" on Nov. 5th, held this year at the Church of the Holy Spirit on Hatch Road in Webster.



About sixty people gathered in the Parish Hall on Nov. 5th to hear Janine A. Sanger, Coordinator of Health and Wellness at the Webster Central School District present an informative talk about the opioid crisis and ways to deal with it.



Attendees at the Adult Forum on Nov. 7th were treated to the sounds and stories of guest Mitzie Collins, Rochester's "Dulcimer Lady."



Susan Marren provided the Prelude and other music during the 10:15am service on October 29th with an instrument you don't often hear in church: the marimba.

Sunday, December 24th - Christmas Eve
 Quiet Liturgy at 9:00 am
 Liturgies at 4 pm, 7 pm, 11 pm (carol singing 15 minutes before each service)

Monday, December 25th - Christmas Day
 Liturgy at St. Andrew's Chapel at 10:00 am



TIMELY “CONVERSATIONS” PLAY PRESENTED AT GOOD SHEPHERD

By Richard Reid

Today, the right to vote by American citizens is under attack in many states through the use of certain voter identification requirements and by regulations that limit access to polling places and absentee ballots -- all as a result of the faux issue of massive voter fraud which remains unproven after several years of allegations. As a reminder that half the adults – women -- in this country were denied the right to vote prior to the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution in 1920, Erica Kortepeter-Ragan’s play-in-progress, Conversations in Mary’s Home, about Rochester’s women’s suffrage leader Susan B. Anthony (played by Keisha Stokes), couldn’t be more timely or necessary. A single staged reading of the 35-minute piece was presented on November 10 at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd to an audience of about 60 people.

A cast of twelve, teens and adults, gave voice to the play’s central theme: “we are all a product of a cast of characters,” drawn from what happened on the day of Susan B. Anthony’s death, March 13, 1906. In the words of the play’s Narrator, she “suddenly began speaking out loud the names of all the women who aided her in her many causes: temperance, abolition, suffrage for women.” The drama presented several of those named individuals, including Susan’s sister, Mary (acted by Gwen Brennick) and fellow activist Elizabeth Cady Stanton (portrayed by Amy Yelle), in monologues and vignettes plus a few men such as Susan’s father (our own Fr. Lance) and Frederick Douglass (essayed by Rev. Michael Ware of the Webster Baptist Church). Erica began writing the play eleven years ago as a tribute to her paternal grandmother, Olive Derbyshire Kortepeter, “a strong Quaker [who] gave much inspiration to the theme and words woven together in the play,” she explains, Unfortunately “she passed before the play’s first performance in 2006, shy of her 103rd birthday.”

Returning this year to the play’s original text, Erica, who also directed the show, added “another layer of action and dialogue” which helped to illustrate some of the many forms of “slavery” which prevailed in 19th century America, including marriage (women were essentially men’s property) and even clothing (an amusing reminder with the introduction of Amelia Bloomer, editor of a temperance newspaper, whose name became associated with the liberating bloomers). Traditional period music provided by Jack Brennick (guitar) and Tom Nyman (banjo) along with songs, including the spiritual, “Freedom is a’Comin’,” offered by the cast, added an additional dimension to the play. Bruce Dunn’s evocative lighting was another plus for the production. The other actors in the cast were Susan Boyd-Marren, Talor Marren, Marj Matzky, Amy O’Neil, Carol Reid, and Payton Yelle.

Although the 19th Amendment corrected the injustice of denying women the right to vote, 19 enlightened U.S. states, starting with Wyoming when it was still a territory in 1869, did the right thing before that. New York State came late to the party, extending women suffrage in 1917, the 17th state to do so. Still, New York was ahead of the 31 other states at the time which hadn’t passed such a law. Conversations in Mary’s Home is one more way to celebrate the centennial of New York’s extension of the vote to women. A re-staging of the play outside of Good Shepherd Church in the spring is being considered. Watch for an announcement.



Congratulations to Richard and Carol Reid who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on November 19th when they renewed their wedding vows during the 10:15am service. Their two sons, Brad and Logan, and their families, joined them in church for the occasion.



Besides being Good Shepherd's Master of Sound, Bruce Dunn is also a Lighting Wizard, designing the lights for the Susan B. Anthony play presented at GS on November 10th. Here, he continues a family tradition, begun when his son, Ian, was six by having his grandson, Isaac, also age 6, assist him and run the light board cues.



Congratulations to Andrew Ragan, son of Andy and Erica Ragan, who played the role of "Max Detweiler" (and had two songs) in a production of *The Sound of Music*, staged at the Allendale Columbia School on November 17th and 18th. The photo shows a scene from the play as Andrew (on the far right) in character addresses some of the Von Trapp children. Andrew's younger brother, Jonathan, worked behind the scenes as part of the stage crew.



Winter Scene (A)

Note cards of St. Andrew's Chapel are available for \$1.00 each. There are now **FIVE** available, two interior images and three exterior scenes. Cards can be ordered through Martha Conte, 315-524-5310 or Carolyn Pfrommer, 315-524-9281. Envelopes are included. Proceeds will benefit the Chapel Fund.



Interior (A)



Summer Scene



Winter Scene (B)



Interior (B)

HAPPY

Kathleen Rivera
Jill Burch
Kimberly Yourch
Kaitlyn Koneski
Frank Roselli
Hannah Bauersch
Larry Therkildsei
Stephen Meyer
Eleanor Bauersch
Gordon Wilbert
Gavin Sabin
Debra Nelson
Donald Osborne
John Van Hooydonk
Kennedy Grimshaw
Jack Brennick



12/01 Ellie Martin
12/04 Madeline Peterson
12/06 Jane Hogle
12/07 Pam Brashich
12/08 Pam Russo
12/08 Bill Comella
12/10 Larry Howe
12/11 Ruth Jacque
12/11 Sherri White
12/11 Patricia Delperdange
12/12 Lisa Robinson
12/13 Deb Anderson
12/13 Terri Edwards
12/14 Rolin Peets
12/15 Norma Osborne
12/16 Nancy Stones



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BIRTHDAY



In addition, **Mugs and Note Cards** of the individual stained glass windows can be ordered at a cost of \$10.00 for each mug and each set of (7) 5x7 cards.



Digital Poster Prints of both the stained glass windows and the Church sanctuary are again available at a cost of \$15.00 each.

All of the proceeds from these sales will go to the church. Please contact **Maureen or Peter Marr** in person or at **872-6579** if you want to purchase any of these items. Thank you.

~ Maureen & Peter Marr



CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL CANDLES

To enhance our Christmas Eve service, the youth will place lighted memorial candles on the church window ledges. Each candle may be offered in one of three ways: "In Memory Of," "In Thanksgiving For," and "In Honor Of" living or deceased persons. A list of donors and recipients will be published in the church bulletin. You may have a candle dedicated at a cost of **\$2.00 per entry**. Donations should be placed in an envelope along with form stating the name of the honoree and the donor. Envelopes should be marked as "**Christmas Eve Memorial Candles**" (checks should be made payable to "Church of the Good Shepherd" with Christmas Eve Candles in the memo line). Your donation can be placed in the labeled box in the narthex or sent to the church office (**please do not put your donation in the collection plate**). **Please return by Sunday, December 17th**. The memorial candle sale is a fund-raiser for the youth group. If you have any questions, please call Keisha Stokes at 585-880-0134 or e-mail at kmstokes@frontiernet.net. Thank you for your support.

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

In Thanksgiving For:

Donated By: _____

Total \$ _____

Please place your order in the box in the narthex labeled "Christmas Eve Memorial Candles".

Do not put candle orders in the collection plate!

All orders are due by Sunday, December 17.