

Parish of the Good Shepherd

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ON ADVENT

On November 29th we will enter Advent. This is an amazing season that tends to be forgotten in favor of the Christmas season, which begins December 25th. So what is Advent? How do we experience Advent?

Advent is a celebration. We get to be excited. Enjoy the lights, the trees, the hot cocoa, the movies, the food, the Christmas Pageant (please sign up!), and the music! We are supposed to be joyous as Christians, getting ready for the birth of our savior. Have fun!

Advent is also a time to reflect. We must find time to pray. We should read the Christmas story. We need to spend time with family and listen to their stories. Remember what the season is about. Advent is about hope and anticipation – the hope and anticipation of the birth of Jesus and his eventual return. It is appropriate to respond by being a bit busy and enjoying the season while it is also good to slow down and reflect.

God of all hope and joy,
open our hearts in welcome,
that your Son Jesus, at his coming,
may find in us a dwelling prepared for himself,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

(From A New Zealand Prayer Book)

~ *Kourtني Brown, Director of Christian Education*

The Rev. Matt Engleby of El Hogar Ministries Visits on November 22

On behalf of our Outreach Committee, this Sunday, November 22, we will welcome the Rev. Matt Engleby, Executive Director of El Hogar Ministries. Matt, who is an Episcopal priest, will preach at both services that day, and will lead an adult forum after the 10:00 a.m. service.

“The mission of El Hogar is to transform and empower abandoned and hopelessly poor children in Honduras by providing a loving home and education” (from El Hogar’s website, www.elhogar.org). El Hogar fulfills its mission through its four centers: a residential agricultural school for boys; a residential elementary school for boys and girls; a residential technical institute for boys; and a home for high school girls. Please join us as we welcome Matt and learn about this important ministry.

Parish News - November 18, 2015

Pledge Cards Are Due by November 22

Please remember to return your pledge card by this Sunday, November 22. If you need an extra card, there are some in the back of the church, or you may call the church office to have one sent to you.

Louise Conant to Preach on December 6

On Sunday, December 6, it will be our privilege to have the Rev. Louise Conant as our preacher at both services. Louise and her husband, Loring, are parishioners at Good Shepherd; Louise also leads our Tuesday evening Bible study.

Save the Date – Noah’s Ordination is Dec. 19

All are welcome to attend Noah Van Niel’s ordination to the priesthood on Saturday, December 19 at 10:00 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist, 172 Main Street in Hingham. Please pray for Noah and his family as they prepare for this next step on the journey.

Trip to Heifer Farm

Several families from our parish went to the Heifer Farm, a program of Heifer International (www.heifer.org), in Rutland last Sunday. According to the children, their favorite experiences included milking a goat, spinning alpaca wool, and learning that chickens laid different color eggs. Everyone learned about seven Ms of Heifer: milk, manure, meat, muscle, money, materials, and motivation.



Christian Education News

Teachers Needed

We are always looking for more teachers! This is a fantastic way to serve the Church while also helping deepen your own faith. If you’d like to know more, contact Kourtnei Brown at ce@goodshepherdnewton.org.

Important Upcoming Dates

Advent Wreath Making Brunch

November 29, after 10:00 service.

Everyone is welcome to come. We ask that participants bring a pot luck dish. We will provide the wreath-making materials.

Contact Kourtnei Brown to RSVP

ce@goodshepherdnewton.org

Christmas Pageant

Forms can be found on the CE bulletin board downstairs, on the director’s door, or in an email.

Sunday, Nov 22 – completed forms due

Sunday, Nov 29 – rehearsal after 10:00 service

Sunday, Dec 6 – rehearsal after 10:00 service

Wednesday, Dec 9 – 5:00-7:00 Pizza and Pageant rehearsal

Sunday, Dec 13 – PAGEANT DAY

Contact Kourtnei Brown for details

ce@goodshepherdnewton.org

Next Newsletter

The deadline for the next newsletter is **Monday, December 7**. Note that, as is our custom, we publish only one newsletter in December. Please email your items to our Parish Administrator, Margaret Harrison, at office@goodshepherdnewton.org.

Thank you!