

MAY 2024

# TIDINGS

The Church of the Good Shepherd  
Cashiers, North Carolina



## BELONGING

To belong is to be accepted. To belong is to feel secure. Without belonging, we can feel alone. As humans, our greatest desire is to know and be known, to love and be loved, and to feel confident that those who know and love us will be there for us through joy and trouble.

Relationships are the most important part of life. We desire to be connected to others. The greatest joy a human can feel is the joy of being securely connected or attached to others. The greatest type of pain a human can feel is relational pain, which is experienced through loss, rejection, and loneliness.

Our brains are more concerned with our connections (community) than with who we are as individuals. It is not that individual identity is not important. It is that belonging is even *more* important. We all need places to belong.

We are made in the image and likeness of God. It is evident through scripture and through experience that God is quite interested in a relationship with us. God often calls those who choose relationship with God "God's people" or "God's children."

***Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. ~Psalm 100:3***

***Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. ~Isaiah 43:1***

Jesus taught while among us on earth how to build communities knit together by a deep sense of belonging. Christ nurtured connectedness to build the types of communities that continue to do the work of Kingdom-building. Jesus brought people together and invited them to participate in the mission, nurturing a sense of belonging.

***I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own 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 do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ~John 10:27-28***

So, to belong to God is to feel at home. To belong to God is to feel safe and secure. Trust and connection are felt more deeply in this relationship than any other. It makes sense that our Creator would know what we need and be able to offer it. The joy of knowing you are loved and accepted just as we are, and we are enjoyed just because we exist, is not only restorative but also transformative.

Belonging to God and to each other has the power to transform. How about the belonging we experience at Good Shepherd? Do we extend that belonging to the world, every day? This is the hardest part of the Christian life, to pass on the sense of belonging, to share that experience of belonging every day. Yet, we agree in our baptismal covenant ... we will with God's help. Continue beloved to extend that belonging everywhere, in everything.

Alison +



**MAY  
BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 ERIN TURNER
- 1 SANDI BESSETTE
- 1 TK HEATLY
- 2 CAROLYN MITCHELL
- 2 BOB ANDERSON
- 2 JOE TRAVIS
- 3 NANCY WATSON
- 5 BYRON FINLEY
- 5 CAROL HUNTER
- 6 DON O'STEEN
- 6 KATHY CARTER
- 7 JIM THEUS
- 7 BRAD MUNDAY
- 8 GAYLE EBY
- 9 SCOTTIE JOHNSON
- 9 SUE HOLMES
- 9 CAREY JOYNER
- 11 JOHN THORPE
- 12 ASHLEY MERRILL
- 13 TOM SNYDER
- 14 CAROL NEWBOLD
- 17 LUCI HART
- 17 SAMUEL DYER
- 18 KEITH HART
- 19 KAY MOORE
- 22 JAMES WHITESIDE
- 22 BARBARA TICKLE
- 22 FRED HIRONS
- 24 JOHN LEACH
- 26 MILLIE LATHAN
- 26 PATCH FOSTER
- 28 JOHN RIVERS JR.
- 29 WILLIAM HUDSON
- 30 CHRISTIANNA MCCALED
- 31 NORA JONES
- 31 HELEN HARMON

**TRANSITIONS**  
*Transfers to Good Shepherd*  
Welcome Bill Viehman!

**13 WAYS WE CAN EXTEND HOSPITALITY AND BELONGING, WHICH IS AT THE CORE OF THE GOSPEL**

1. Let's all make a good first impression. Know that 40 percent of visitors make up their mind about a church before they even meet the leadership. Within two minutes of the beginning of a service visitors form an opinion about us.
2. You can show newcomers to the nursery, classrooms, coffee hour, etc. Try not just to point the way or give directions.
3. Be intentional about saying hello and goodbye. Greeting is everyone's job!
4. Adopt the "rule of three," which says we will not talk to other members in the first three minutes following the service, but talk to those you don't know — typically how long it takes guests to exit.
5. Enact the "circle of ten" rule — that each of us will greet anyone, member or guest, who comes within ten feet of them.
6. Say, "I don't think we've met before. ..." if you are not sure if the person next to you is a member or a visitor.
7. Help newcomers feel at home in worship, share your hymnal or prayerbook.
8. Wear your tame tag!!
9. Make a special effort to remember visitors' names and call them by name.
10. Don't overlook visitors who come to the church for the first time for an event other than worship.
11. Be more inviting.
12. "Bring-a-friend" to church or other events. Three out of four people attend a church for the first time because they were invited.
13. Become more aware of visitors and their concerns.

*adapted from 50 ways to welcome! for more ideas go to:  
<https://www.churchleadership.com/50-ways/50-ways-to-welcome-new-people/>*

**MAY  
ANNIVERSARIES**

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 9 DAVID & PAMELA TUTTLE       | 20 PARKER & CAROLINE ANDERSON |
| 12 SHANNON & KAREN REID       | 22 GORDON & JUDY GRAY         |
| 15 G. ELLIOTT & K. DEAKIN     | 24 BUD & EMILY MURPHY         |
| 16 KURT & CATHLEEN DUNKLE     | 25 KEN & DRINA MEYER          |
| 19 HOWARD & JEAN ANN L'ENFANT |                               |

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY IS MISSING PLEASE CONTACT ELLEN AT 828-743-2359 OR GOODSHEPADMIN@FRONTIER.COM



## SLATE OF 5 BISHOPS ANNOUNCED FOR 28TH PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

[adapted from Episcopal News Service] The Episcopal Church's next presiding bishop will be chosen this June from a slate of five nominees, whose names were released April 2: Nebraska Bishop J. Scott Barker, Pennsylvania Bishop Daniel G.P. Gutiérrez, Northwestern Pennsylvania Bishop Sean Rowe and Atlanta Bishop Robert Wright. New York Bishop De-De Duncan-Probe was added to the slate on April 16.

Those five bishops – and any additional candidates nominated by petition – will be presented for election at the 81st General Convention, which convenes June 23-28 in Louisville, Kentucky. The nominees' names will be formally submitted June 25 during a joint session of the House of Bishops and House of Deputies. On June 26, the bishops will elect, and deputies will be asked to confirm, the church's 28th presiding bishop, who will succeed Presiding Bishop Michael Curry beginning Nov. 1.

The nominee bishops draw on a range of experiences in seeking to become presiding bishop for the office's next nine-year term.

- Barker, 60, has led the Omaha-based Diocese of Nebraska since 2011. The diocese's 53 worshipping communities span the full state, where Barker was born and raised. A graduate of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale, Barker was ordained to the priesthood in 1992 and served for 10 years in Omaha and 10 more years in the Diocese of New York before returning to Nebraska as bishop.
- Duncan-Probe, 61, has led the Syracuse-based Diocese of Central New York since 2016. The nearly 80 congregations in the diocese span from the Canadian border to the Pennsylvania state line. After a career in education and business, Duncan-Probe earned a Master of Divinity degree from The General Theological Seminary in New York and was ordained to the priesthood in 2004 in the Diocese of El Camino Real in central California. She also holds a doctorate in theology from the Graduate Theological Foundation, completed at Oxford University, and served as an adjunct faculty member at Virginia Theological Seminary before her consecration as bishop.
- Gutiérrez, 59, has led the Philadelphia-based Diocese of Pennsylvania since 2016. It is one of five dioceses in the state. A native of New Mexico, Gutiérrez earned a diocesan certificate in Anglican Studies through the Trinity School for Ministry and has a master's degree in theological studies from St. Norbert College. He was ordained to the priesthood in 2008 in the Albuquerque-based Diocese of the Rio Grande and served there as canon to the ordinary, chief operating officer and chief of staff before he was elected bishop of Pennsylvania.
- Rowe, 49, has led the Erie-based Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania since 2007, and he also serves as bishop provisional of the Diocese of Western New York through a partnership the dioceses established in 2019. He previously served as bishop provisional of the Diocese of Bethlehem from 2014 to 2018. Originally from western Pennsylvania, Rowe is a Virginia Theological Seminary graduate and was ordained to the priesthood in 2000 in Northwestern Pennsylvania, where he served in congregational ministry until his election as bishop. He currently serves as parliamentarian of the House of Bishops and Executive Council.
- Wright, 60, has led the Diocese of Atlanta since 2012. The diocese, based in Georgia's capital city, has 120 worshipping communities across the northern half of the state. A Navy veteran and graduate of Virginia Theological Seminary, Wright was ordained to the priesthood in 1999 in the Diocese of New York. At the time of his election as bishop, he had served the previous 10 years as rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Atlanta. Since 2020, he also has hosted the popular podcast "For People" on faith and life.



From left, Nebraska Bishop J. Scott Barker, Central New York Bishop De-De Duncan-Probe, Pennsylvania Bishop Daniel G.P. Gutiérrez, Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York Bishop Sean Rowe and Atlanta Bishop Robert Wright.

The Reverend Robert B. Wood, Rector  
rwood.gs@gmail.com  
The Reverend Alison Schultz, Assistant Rector  
The Reverend Toby Summerour, Adjunct Priest  
The Reverend Steve Hines, Adjunct Priest

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Peter Keck, Senior Warden                      Fred Halback, Junior Warden  
Irv Welling, Treasurer                          Ellen Albright, Clerk

Vestry:

Ruth Russ                      Rose Mary Achey      Nancy Watson  
Kevin Rowland              Tylor Field              Ed Henson  
Sharon Stricker              Carol Treichel              Lynn Jones  
Vic Brandt

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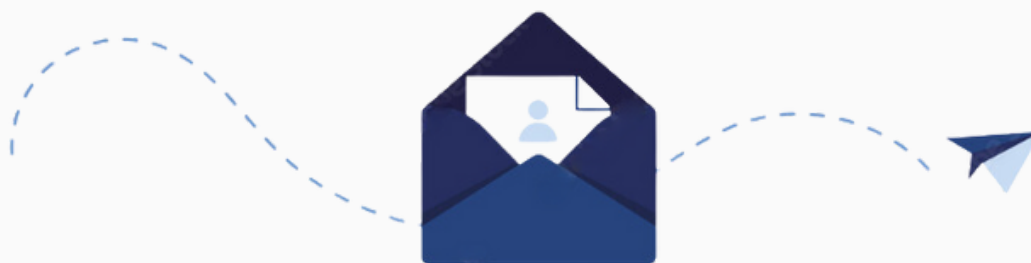
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