

# CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Lake Wales, Florida





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Our Prayer	Page 1
Our Vision	Page 1
Our Next Rector	Page 1
Our Parishioners	Page 2
Our History	Page 3
Our Worship and Music	Page 4
Our Physical Grounds	Page 5
Our Educational and Fellowship Programs	Page 6
Our Mission and Outreach	Page 7
Our Hospitality	Page 8
Photos	Page 9
Our Community	Page 10
Photos	Page 11
Financial Statements	Page 12-13



# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL

## OUR PRAYER

*Almighty God, giver of every good gift:  
look graciously on your Church, and so  
guide the minds of those who shall choose  
a Rector for our parish, that we may  
receive a faithful pastor, who will care  
for your people and equip us for our min-  
istries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

## OUR VISION

While Good Shepherd has always welcomed seasonal residents and folk from other parishes and denominations, the bedrock of our congregation has long been formed by a number of multi-generational families together with the friends and relatives they have attracted. We believe this is so because Good Shepherd is a church where young families can raise their children to know the Lord Jesus Christ and where the children find the parish and its message so joyful and attractive that they want to return to it as adults. Never has this concept been more important than it is now. We currently have seventy-six young people on our rolls, many of whom are the children, grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren of current parishioners. Over the next five to ten years it will be our challenge and our goal to serve these children and their families in such a way that they will find at Good Shepherd the faith and love that past generations experienced.

## OUR NEXT RECTOR

We and the parish believe we should call a person who celebrates our vision. In addition, we are seeking a person who has previous experience as a Rector, is a strong preacher, and is a compassionate pastor. We also think it is important that our new Rector have experience in the management of personnel. Finally, because of our location, we believe our new Rector should have an understanding of small town life and be willing to be involved in the community.



# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL

## OUR PARISHIONERS

When people think about the Church of the Good Shepherd in Lake Wales, Florida, they think about it as more than just a congregation. They see us as a community devoted to serving the Lord and His people.

At Good Shepherd, our worship services, both on Sunday and Wednesday, are central to our identity. However, we also value our common time together and find great satisfaction in the mission and outreach programs in which we are engaged both locally and beyond.

We have been told that we are one of the happiest congregations in the Diocese. Perhaps that comes in part from the small town atmosphere in which we live. Yet we also believe it is the result of how seriously we take the Lord's command to love and care for each other.

Because of this attitude we have a strong base of long time members. Moreover, we have found ourselves welcoming a number of new members who for whatever reason have found themselves unhappy in other Lake Wales churches or in other Episcopal congregations in surrounding towns and cities. We have 544 active baptized members and an average Sunday attendance of 199.

As you continue to read this profile, our prayer is that you will agree with us that Good Shepherd is more than a congregation. We are a community!





# Church of the Good Shepherd

## Lake Wales, FL

### OUR HISTORY

The Church of the Good Shepherd has been a part of Lake Wales since the city's early years. Good Shepherd was founded by a group of ladies who initiated a program to form a mission in Lake Wales. The first services were held in 1925. The next year the property on which the present church is located was purchased, and the first church building was constructed. The first service in the church was held on Easter Sunday 1926.

In 1937 the mission received the Reverend Gladstone Rogers as its first resident priest. One of his early projects was the building of a parish hall which is now a part of the present parish hall. Two other notable events occurred. The first was the presentation of a Christmas pageant which remains an annual tradition to this day. Also, the parish opened a thrift shop to serve the community's poor. That shop is still in existence and continues to serve a vital outreach function.

In 1944, Father Joseph Urban succeeded Father Rogers. During his time as rector, the mission became a self-supporting parish, and the present chancel and nave were constructed on the east end of the original church building.

The congregation continued to experience growth under the leadership of the Reverend Canon Richard Brown. As a result, the parish enlarged the nave to its present size. In addition, the congregation added a Sunday School wing to the parish hall and purchased a house and adjoining lot immediately across the street from the church to serve as a nursery.

Father Richard Sheffer became the fifth rector in 1972. During his term the nave of the church was beautified with stained glass windows and a pipe organ was installed to enhance the music program. Also, the parish hall was renovated to make it more attractive and useful for congregational meetings and fellowship. The parish also constructed a multi-purpose building behind the nursery and acquired an apartment building and vacant lot across the street from the church to provide for future expansion and additional parking.

Father Sheffer was followed by Father Harold Warren. During his time with the parish, it experienced strong growth in the number of young families and children. To meet their needs, the parish increased its spiritual and educational offerings and its youth programs. It also built a playground next to the nursery and purchased an adjoining house for youth activities.

Father Tom Seitz, Jr. came to Good Shepherd in 1997. During his twenty years as Rector, the parish continued to experience steady growth, and in the past five years it saw an explosion of families with young children. To meet the needs of these families, the parish instituted a new Wednesday night program which includes dinner and instruction for young children, youth and adults.

Another highlight of Father Seitz's time at Good Shepherd was an increased emphasis on mission and outreach. The parish entered into a partnership with a mission in a small village in Honduras. As a result of this partnership, the mission now has a church building and the means to earn funds to sustain itself. Closer to home, the parish has entered into a partnership with a local elementary school to provide mentoring services, food for needy children, and encouragement to teachers.

Since 1925, Good Shepherd has grown from its modest beginnings into one of the most active and stable congregations in the Diocese of Central Florida. The parish is thankful for its sense of family and for the goodly heritage it enjoys.



# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL



## OUR WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Sunday morning worship is the focal point of parish life at Good Shepherd. During the months of September through May, there are two services, one at 8:00 AM and one at 10:15 AM, with breakfast and an adult forum in between and a social time following the later service. The 8:00 AM service is a celebration of the Holy Eucharist (Rite I) and includes a sermon, organ music, and a closing hymn. The 10:15 AM service is a family oriented Eucharist (Rite II) with music and sermon.

In the summer months, because many of our seasonal members return to their homes in the north, the two services are combined into one service at 9:30 AM. Throughout the year there are two Wednesday Eucharists, one at 9:00 AM and one at 5:30 PM.



The congregation takes an active part in preparing for and conducting the services. Besides the choir, there are twenty licensed lay Eucharistic ministers and twenty-nine acolytes. There is also a devoted altar guild and an active corps of ushers. During the later service, children age four through seven gather in the Campbell Building for instruction and Children's Church. They, along with nursery age children, then join their parents at the communion rail for a blessing.

Music also plays an important role in the spiritual life of Good Shepherd, drawing us together in praise and worship. Good Shepherd's music tends toward a traditional organ liturgy but occasionally draws from the best of contemporary styles. We recently renovated our chancel and relocated our refurbished organ in order to improve the instrument's usefulness for leading congregational singing.

Good Shepherd is fortunate to have a healthy Adult Choir comprised of dedicated volunteers and one paid section leader. Our choir leads the hymns and responses during worship, and offers anthems several times a month which are chosen from diverse types of music. Choir members rehearse weekly on Wednesday evenings.

Good Shepherd's Junior Choir is open to all children five years old and above, but tends to be quite young. They rehearse on Wednesdays for ten weeks in the fall, and about sixteen weeks in the spring. They sing at least once a semester, spring and fall.





# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL



Church of the Good Shepherd

## OUR PHYSICAL GROUNDS

The church and attached parish hall, offices, and Sunday school rooms are constructed in a Spanish style with a stucco finish and barrel tile roof. The church consists of a nave seating 240 people and a smaller adjacent chapel which holds approximately 40 people and is used for excess seating and smaller services. Adjoining the church is a sacristy, robing room, parish hall, kitchen, library and conference room, music room, rector's office, office reception, parish secretary's office, and workroom. Also adjoining is a wing with additional office and classroom space.



Nursery and Cambell Buildings

The parish owns property across the street which includes two small homes that have been converted into a nursery and youth building. There is a separate building behind the nursery which was designed to provide space for Sunday school rooms as well as smaller meetings.



Kenney Youth Building

The parish also owns a small apartment building across the street. It currently contains six apartments available for rent and a community meeting room.

Two parking lots to the north of the church and two to the east of the church provide adequate parking.

Apartment  
Complex



Good Shepherd Thrift Shop  
on Orange Street





# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL

## OUR EDUCATIONAL AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

Good Shepherd offers a variety of educational classes which provide opportunities for spiritual growth for both adults and children.

On Sundays (except during the summer) members of the clergy offer an adult forum between the two services. Examples of programs covered in the forums include Bible Study, introduction to the prayer book, church history, and stewardship.

Also on Sundays there are classes for three and four year olds as well as elementary school age children which introduce the children to the Bible and to worship. The classes meet during the 10:15 service.

On Wednesday evenings the clergy offer two multi-week programs on various historical and spiritual topics. During the same time period teams of lay members offer programs for elementary age children and for middle and high school students.

Finally, the clergy lead a mid-week Bible study which considers the lessons for the following Sunday.

In addition to these educational offerings, the parish offers many opportunities for fellowship. Among these are:

- Brown Bag Bunch: A group of older and retired folk who meet for a monthly meal and program.
- IF Tables: Women of different ages meet monthly in groups of six to share a meal and discuss four questions designed to involve them in Christ-centered conversation.
- Men's Interfaith Breakfast: Men from our parish and other local congregations meet weekly for breakfast and a Christ-centered program. The programs are presented by various local clergy including one of Good Shepherd's deacons.
- Saint Mary's 2 – A group of young mothers who meet monthly for study and support.
- Centering Prayer Group
- Daughters of the King
- Women's Fellowship Group
- Cursillo Reunion Groups
- EYC
- Vacation Bible School





# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL

## OUR MISSION AND OUTREACH

Good Shepherd has a number of strong mission and outreach programs.

The oldest is our Thrift Shop. For more than seventy-five years the shop has sold clothing and household items for minimum prices, allowing folk to buy items they could not otherwise afford. Moreover, a significant portion of the funds raised by the shop are contributed to a number of other non-profit organizations which serve people in need.

Another local outreach involves a partnership with Polk Avenue Elementary School. There we provide backpacks of food to children who would otherwise go hungry on the weekend. We also provide mentors for the children and encouragement for the teachers. A second school related outreach is The Closet program which gives coats and jackets to children who face cold mornings without sufficient clothing.

In addition to these programs we open our facilities to a number of AA and NA groups and we provide space to AARP for its tax preparation assistance program. Looking beyond the Lake Wales community a number of our members are involved in Kairos which is a Cursillo-like program for prison inmates. Other parishioners support the program with gifts of cookies and prayers.

We have also been active in our companion diocese in Honduras. We entered into a relationship with a congregation in the small agricultural town of Santa Maria. Our activities there have included having a well dug, providing scholarships for children to go to school, purchasing sewing machines for a sewing co-op, and purchasing land. We helped them plant crops on a part of the land and provided funds for the building of a church on the remainder. We are thankful for this relationship and happy that El Buen Pastor is one of the most thriving congregations in the Diocese of Honduras.





# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL

## OUR HOSPITALITY

By our Lord's miracles of turning water into wine at a wedding and feeding the 5,000, He put an emphasis on hospitality. Following His example, Good Shepherd fellowships and ministers through food.

Our Youth Group cooks and serves lunch on several Sunday afternoons to the homeless in Lake Wales through the Lake Wales Care Center.

Emergency Meal Teams and the Daughters of the King prepare and take food to those who return from a hospital stay and food to families after the birth of a child. They also host receptions after funeral services for families of those who have lost a loved one.

Social Hour Hosts prepare and serve refreshments after the second service every Sunday.

The men of the church with the help of youth group members cook and serve breakfast between the two Sunday services. Twice each summer and during the Thanksgiving holiday the church feeds a large group of middle and high school students who are spending the week doing service projects for widows and families in need in the community.

In the fall the congregation gathers for Rally Sunday to enjoy a reception and sign up for all the programs and ministries offered during the year. Then when the school year ends we celebrate with a Graduation Sunday picnic. Our Wednesday evening programs begin with a dinner provided by several groups of volunteers.

Perhaps the highlight of good Shepherd's year is the Christmas Dinner and Pageant. Everyone dresses in their Christmas finery and enjoys a delicious dinner prepared by members of the parish followed by our traditional Christmas pageant.





# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL





# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL

## OUR COMMUNITY

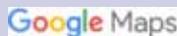
Located in the heart of Central Florida, Lake Wales is known as the “Crown Jewel of the Ridge” and has been voted the friendliest small town in Florida. It is nineteen square miles in size with an estimated population of 14,210. It also serves a greater population of 8,780.

Lake Wales’ largest employer is Florida Natural, a citrus juice co-op. Citrus and other agricultural industries have a large influence on our economy. Tourism is also important.

Lake Wales is unique in education. We have the only Charter School district in the state. There are five elementary, one middle, and one high school in the district. All Saints’ Academy in nearby Winter Haven is an Episcopal college preparatory school, pre-K through grade twelve. We have three schools that serve the greater area children with special educational needs. Vanguard is a boarding & day school which serves grades five through twelve. The other two are Candlelight Christian Academy and Victory Ridge Academy. Higher education opportunities surround us. Polk State College has a branch campus in Lake Wales with their main campus in Winter Haven. Warner University & Webber International University are just minutes south of Lake Wales. Forty minutes away in Lakeland you will find Florida Polytechnic University, Florida Southern College, and Southeastern University.

Lake Wales is becoming known for its arts opportunities. The Lake Wales Arts Council brings concerts and exhibits to its historic building along with a two-day Art Show along the shores of Lake Wales. Lake Wales Little Theater performs plays throughout the season. Lakeland Civic Center has name performers come throughout the year, and with Tampa & Orlando within 1 ½ hours away Broadway Theater is also available. Nearby attractions include Legoland, which is twelve miles away, as well as Disney World and Universal in Orlando. We have kept the best for last, our own Bok Tower Gardens. The botanical gardens have a world renowned carillon and a mansion to tour.

Recreation opportunities abound. A 2.25 mile trail around Lake Wales is used by many people for walking, running, or biking. Our youth athletic programs are quite active. They offer Little League baseball, softball, football and soccer. We have many nature trails close by of various lengths and difficulties. Central Florida is known for its many lakes which offer great fishing and sailing. Our City offers a program to teach our youth how to sail on prams on Lake Wales. We also have an active YMCA.



Church of the Good Shepherd





# Church of the Good Shepherd Lake Wales, FL





# Church of the Good Shepherd

## Lake Wales, FL

### OUR FINANCES

Over many years, Good Shepherd's parishioners have been exceptionally generous and faithful. This is reflected in the 2017 General Fund Budget to Actual Report which is set out on the following pages as well as the December 31, 2017 balances of the parish's various funds which are set out below.

General Fund	\$139,931.04
Savings Accounts	\$380,553.05
Mission and Outreach Endowment	\$233,939.56
Capital Repair and Improvement	\$ 73,958.43
Clergy Housing Fund	\$362,344.12
Other funds	\$ 26,109.95

01/23/18

### CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD GENERAL FUND BUDGET vs. ACTUAL January through December 2017

	<u>Jan - Dec 17</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>Income</b>		
605 · PLEDGE RECEIPTS	404,460.23	363,977.00
608 · PREPAID RECEIPTS	12,485.72	20,000.00
610 · OPEN PLATE	8,562.55	7,000.00
615 · GIVING WITHOUT PLEDGING	80,149.00	50,000.00
620 · CHRISTMAS OFFERING	1,331.00	1,500.00
625 · EASTER OFFERING	561.00	500.00
630 · FLOWERS	5,339.50	5,000.00
633 · INTEREST EARNED	3,584.74	2,500.00
* 635 · OTHER RECEIPTS		
5005 · AARP TAX PROGRAM DONATIONS	1,006.41	
5108 · CHRISTMAS DINNER	-85.35	
5140 · DISCRETIONARY FUND	-100.00	
5161 · FOUNDATION GRANT	15,000.00	
5162 · GAIN-LOSS STOCK SALE	-206.06	
5176 · 2016 OFFERING	2,133.00	
5177 · 2017 INITIAL OFFERING	109.00	
5210 · LOCAL PURPOSES	2,150.00	
5240 · MISCELLANEOUS	-376.16	
635 · OTHER RECEIPTS - Other	45,238.62	12,000.00
Total 635 · OTHER RECEIPTS	<u>64,869.46</u>	<u>12,000.00</u>
640 · THRIFT SHOP REVENUE	37,000.00	40,000.00
653 · APARTMENT FUND TRANSFER	12,000.00	9,000.00
Total Income	<u>630,343.20</u>	<u>511,477.00</u>
Gross Profit	630,343.20	511,477.00
<b>Expense</b>		
703 · PRE-TAX MEDICAL - RECTOR	6,313.00	8,436.00
704 · SALARY - RECTOR	82,425.12	82,425.00
705 · HOUSING ALLOWANCE - RECTOR	24,999.93	25,000.00
706 · SALARY - SUPPLY CLERGY	175.00	700.00
707 · SALARY - FINANCIAL SECRETARY	1,706.87	1,780.45
708 · SALARY - HANDBELL DIRECTOR	2,475.00	2,000.00
710 · SALARY - SEXTON	17,874.91	18,000.00
711 · SALARY - NURSERY	3,936.78	4,000.00
712 · SALARY - MUSICIANS	4,585.00	5,000.00
713 · SALARY - CHURCH MUSICIAN	27,099.96	26,800.00
715 · SALARY - YOUTH DIRECTOR	4,315.00	7,500.00
716 · SALARY - PARISH ADMINISTRATOR	39,504.47	40,242.00
717 · HOUSING ALLOWANCE - ASSOCIATE	9,000.00	9,000.00



# Church of the Good Shepherd

## Lake Wales, FL

01/23/18

**CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
GENERAL FUND BUDGET vs. ACTUAL**  
January through December 2017

	<u>Jan - Dec 17</u>	<u>Budget</u>
718 · SE OFFSET- RECTOR	5,200.00	5,200.00
719 · AUTO ASSOCIATE	0.00	1,000.00
720 · PAYROLL TAXES	7,934.38	8,700.00
721 · PENSION FUND - ASSOCIATE	859.50	1,620.00
722 · PENSION FUND - CLERGY	21,791.04	22,000.00
723 · PENSION ANNUITY - CLERGY	1,200.00	1,200.00
724 · PENSION FUND - OTHER	6,585.29	8,250.00
725 · AUTO RECTOR	2,519.33	3,500.00
726 · AUTO DEACONS	596.23	600.00
728 · MEDICAL/LIFE INSURANCE	9,639.00	10,446.00
729 · CONTINUING EDUCATION	2,635.11	6,000.00
730 · DISCRETIONARY FUND	2,400.00	2,400.00
731 · SUPPLIES - OFFICE	4,518.73	6,000.00
732 · POSTAGE	2,275.49	2,400.00
734 · SUPPLIES - ALTAR	756.98	1,000.00
735 · ALTAR FLOWERS	2,920.00	5,000.00
736 · SPECIAL MUSICIANS	350.00	500.00
737 · SUPPLIES - MUSICAL LIBRARY	334.42	700.00
738 · MAINTENANCE - MUSICAL INSTR	280.00	600.00
739 · SUPPLIES - HOSPITALITY	8,570.03	10,000.00
740 · MEETERS & GREETERS	159.44	400.00
742 · SUPPLIES - CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	658.25	600.00
745 · EYC	0.00	1,400.00
751 · TRACTS, BOOKS & SUBSCRIPTIONS	2,401.40	2,000.00
752 · PLEDGE TO DIOCESE	39,100.08	39,100.08
753 · REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	13,861.35	12,000.00
754 · MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS	10,778.76	10,000.00
755 · GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	14,094.43	14,000.00
756 · TELEPHONE	5,882.96	7,000.00
757 · ELECTRIC & WATER	21,797.12	24,000.00
758 · INSURANCE	28,991.00	37,000.00
759 · OUTREACH - LOCAL AND DIOCESE	13,796.97	15,000.00
767 · NEW EQUIPMENT	3,070.97	6,000.00
* 768 · CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	72,873.91	5,000.00
780 · SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SPEAKERS	289.05	1,000.00
783 · DAUGHTERS OF THE KING	556.83	500.00
785 · SEMINARY INTERNSHIP	0.00	3,000.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>534,089.09</u>	<u>505,999.53</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>96,254.11</u></u>	<u><u>5,477.47</u></u>

\* 635 Other Receipts – This account is high because of two specific donor gifts. One gift was designated for new lights for the nave and chapel and the other gift was designated for a shade for the playground area. Account 768, Capital Improvement, includes expenditures for those projects.



Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd  
221 S. Fourth St.  
Lake Wales, FL 33853  
(863) 676-8578  
[www.goodshepherdnews.com](http://www.goodshepherdnews.com)