

# THE CALL

The Reverend Adam S. Linton, Rector

JANUARY 2007

## Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

2374 Grant Avenue, Ogden, Utah 84401

### Rector's Reflections

Dear friends,

The beginning of a new calendar provides us with opportunity to reflect. Even if we don't undertake one of the usually ill-fated "New Year's Resolutions," most of us do ponder hopes, priorities, and goals. This is a generally healthy exercise, to be sure. It's no absolute guarantee, of course, but usually mindfulness helps us head toward the light.

Taking stock spiritually, both personally and as a faith community, is a classic discipline. It's so easy to get distracted by all the "stuff." And it's also so easy to become infatuated with novel, almost magically regarded formulas that claim to solve just about all that needs solving – as well as provide us with all necessary energy.

Spiritually or otherwise, we usually find in ourselves a certain resistance to the truth that really "getting things done" is almost always a matter of plain, unheroic, unmagical, everyday practice. Does not the Anglican heritage stress the revelation of the remarkable in the mundane, the sacred through the prosaic? As I've said before, ours is an *incarnational* piety; our life-calling, sacramental.

Here's a general truth, very much applicable to our endeavor of faith: we may not feel it nearly so much, but more profound growth has a way of starting when the novelty passes. We all certainly know what it's like to take detours of questionable helpfulness. But sometimes one must travel far to discover what is near.

We find that going deeper with the basics, engaging more profoundly with the gracious core given in Jesus Christ, is the well-spring of all our excellence, in life and in the church. Once again, we ought to beware of the seduction of the dramatic. Perhaps, when we're tempted to say, for ourselves or others, "There's nothing there," we're being invited to the counter-reflection: "Nothing; except maybe Life itself."

So, as we begin 2007, on behalf of Good Shepherd Church, I invite (or re-invite) us – both personally and corporately – to the following:

the enlivening of our spiritual imaginations in engagement with the Scriptures;

the grounding of our conversation in prayer;

the nourishment of our souls in worship and Sacrament;

the fortification of our minds in Christian education;

the healing and warming of our hearts in godly fellowship; and,

the devotion of our lives to that service which God gives us.

In all these, may we be sustained in that adventure, uniquely ours (and in the words of George Herbert, "more ours by being His"), held for us in the purpose of God in Christ.

Blessings.

Adam †

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### The Slippery Slope

Lunch discussions can be arenas for all kinds of conversations. If you share your noonday meal with a variety of people, you probably know what I mean. There are those topics which have become consistent favorites – TV shows, office politics, and of course, any sports event. Most of us have sat through conversations about whose kids are sick, the last irritating thing committed by someone's spouse, or even the changes in the weather. These meetings over food are a way to pass the time until we're sent back into whatever salt mine we work in.

I'm surprised however, by the number to times the lunch conversation turns to church and charities. These two topics

should be excellent candidates for enlightened, shared contemplation, followed by, at least ethical, if not spiritual growth. No deal! Instead, the conversation goes something like this.

“I just got two more cards in the mail asking for money. They’re not good with record keeping. I gave money to them just six years ago!”

“The problem with helping out at the church is that once you volunteer for one thing, they ask you to do something else!”

“Every time I walk through the door they’re asking for money. If it’s not for this, it’s for that!”

The usual response from the lunch crowd is a general nod of agreement followed by every person around the table trying to outdo everyone else with stories of how much money, time and effort has been given and still more is asked.

Yep! That’s right. Here at Good Shepherd, we’re no different. There’s the building fund, annual pledges, UTO, altar flowers and pot luck suppers. There’s the constant call for Sunday School teachers, acolytes, workshop participants, clean up crews, LEMs, ushers, choir members and coffee hour hosts. Don’t forget the reminders to attend Vestry meetings, ECW, Altar Guild luncheons, men’s morning prayer, women’s evening prayer and youth events.

The list goes on and on. If you’re not careful, you’ll get roped into all kinds of jobs and pull money from your pocket with both hands. One day you’re sitting in the pew, minding your own business, and the next day you’re on the Vestry!

Funny thing about church. It doesn’t take too many times attending before you get this creepy feeling that you’re not only supposed to *say* you believe in Christ, but you’re supposed to actually act as if you do! Walking the walk and all of that.

It’s a slippery slope. Some lesson about loving children, or caring for the poor, or witnessing in faith, wiggles its way into your heart, and the next thing you know, you have to do something about it.

So, how have you been doing lately? How about the next church social, or the next opportunity (that’s right, I said *opportunity*) to give money or time? Watch out! If you’re not careful you could end up living your life in Christ. See ya in church!

Blessings

Claudia †

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**The deadline for submissions for the February 2007 edition of The Call is January 20. Thanks in advance!**

## CORC Update

The Coalition of Religious Communities is offering “Legislative Orientation on Capitol Hill” on Thursday, January 11. There will be two sessions and you are welcome to attend either one. The first one will be from 11:30am - 1:30pm and the second will be from 3:00pm - 4:30pm. This is a great opportunity to learn your way around at the legislature and to learn how to send an effective note to your representative, read the electronic boards in the House and Senate, to get a copy of the voting record on any Bill, etc. Learn about our issues for the upcoming legislative session and how easy it is for you to make an impact! Contact Nancy Groshart for more information.

CORC is sponsoring Basic Healthcare Day on Capitol Hill. January 15<sup>th</sup> is the first day of the 2007 legislative session. Come and help Utahns from several different faith and community organizations to ask our state legislators to make 2007 the year they begin to solve Utah’s healthcare crises. The goal is to get 1000 people gathered at the Capitol. A group from Ogden will be going down and we would love to have you join us.

Also,

### January 23 is Episcopal Day on the Hill

There will be a group going down from the Ogden community. If interested in either or both of these events, contact Deacon Nancy.

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## Nominations for Vestry Open

There are three openings on the Vestry for three-year terms beginning with the Annual Meeting in January 2007. The Nominating Committee has come up with a slate of four persons who have accepted nominations. They are Godfrey Akpan, Betsy Guyon, Ian Harden and Scott Hodgson. Recent formation of the Building and Capital Campaign Committees already occupies many of those who might otherwise be willing and able to serve on the Vestry. In the press of Christmas and New Year preparations, we have likely overlooked someone who would like to serve on the Vestry but hasn’t expressed that interest.

If you or someone you know, are interested in running for Vestry, there is still time to put your name on the ballot. Just notify the office in writing by January 20, 2007 and turn in a short biography that can be distributed at the annual meeting. Nominations other than those made by the Nominating Committee must be made by five voting members of the parish. Nominations cannot be made from the floor at the meeting.

Anyone thinking of running for Vestry should consider that the monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of

each month at 6:00pm at the parish. The meetings usually last approximately an hour but occasionally run longer. Regular attendance at the meetings is expected along with active participation in parish life. In addition to attending the monthly meetings, Vestry members are responsible for counting and depositing the collection each Sunday on a rotating basis.

Serving on the Vestry can be fun and fulfilling. It is also a responsibility that shouldn't be taken too lightly. If you like to be involved in just about everything that is going on at Good Shepherd and are willing to take part in some tough decision-making, this job is for you.

Sandra Corp  
Senior Warden

## Youth and Good Shepherd

As we delve into the exciting and, sometimes, nerve-racking task of how to best utilize our plot of land to the east, I think it is important to remember who we are planning for. Because the date of completion is five years away, current members of the congregation will be able to benefit from the new space. However, it would be selfish and shortsighted of us to think only of ourselves and not the parish as it may look in the distant future.

The children of this parish are the distant future. These children will grow up, marry and bring their own children to Good Shepherd. They are the ones who will continue the wonderful traditions that we currently honor. We need to say to ourselves, "What is the most important message for us, the adults, to send?"

While I think it is important for us to think about expanding programs and activities, I think it is more important to look at the intrinsic things Good Shepherd already offers children, youth and young adults in our parish. I would like to offer a song we sing in the atrium: "This is holy ground. God's given us holy ground. God is in this place and so this place is holy." What Good Shepherd already offers is a place to think and grow at one's own pace. It is a place where children can express their doubts and concerns without fear of an adult telling them they are wrong. Children can try on adult roles in the church with gentle and understanding guidance. We offer religious instruction and spiritual guidance. These things, to me, are more important than pool tables and computers. I am not naïve. I understand that today's youth need the material things to draw them to the space, but I also think that is the job of the parents and other adults to help our children, youth and young adults understand that there is much already here for them to participate.

Indeed, let's look at creating a youth space that is inviting and multi-purpose to help them feel like we thought

carefully about their needs and wants. Let us not, however, forget the primary reason we are here; to spread and live the Word.

Yours in Christ,

Letitia

## Episcopal Youth

We will be visiting the Ott Planetarium at Weber State University on **Friday, January 19 at 6:00pm**. The theater holds 60 people and we pay a flat rate, so bring friends!!!

PLEASE let me know if you are coming. It makes my life so much easier. My e-mail is [lteneau@hotmail.com](mailto:lteneau@hotmail.com). You could also text me at (801) 920-3187. Remember to put your name in the body of the message so I know who you are.

**Good Shepherd Annual Meeting  
Sunday, January 21 at 9:00am**

**Please plan to attend  
Childcare will be provided**

**Holy Eucharist at 8:00 & 11:00am**



**All Annual Reports are  
due by January 15.**

**Everyone who heads a  
program must have their report  
in to the office by then!**

(The penalty for non-compliance is severe indeed, and includes a heavy dose of public humiliation, with your tardy report emblazoned in "Goldenrod" for all the world to see.)



## Vestry Candidates' Bios

### Godfrey Akpan

I'm Godfrey Akpan, currently living in Ogden but originally from Nigeria. Studied Communication at Weber State; now working part-time construction. Born and baptized into the Charismatic African Apostolic Church and five years of Lutheranism while in boarding school. Now I have found my spiritual niche in the Episcopal Church; participating in Good Shepherd for five years, attending the Sunday Eight O'clock service, and now serving as a Lector and Chalice Bearer.

### Betsy Guyon

I have been a member of Good Shepherd since moving to Utah in 1990. I was Baptized, Confirmed and married at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Carbondale, Illinois, where my family was active in many areas of parish life.

Upon graduation from high school, I moved to New York City to pursue a career in the ballet. I retired in 1982. I majored in Music at university, and after staying home for some years raising my three children, I worked in the Administrative Office at the Browning Center for the Performing Arts at Weber State. I am currently opening a music shop on Historic 25<sup>th</sup> Street and eagerly awaiting the completion of my new condo downtown.

During my years at Good Shepherd, I taught Sunday School, and serve as an Acolyte, Lay Reader, Chalice Bearer, and as the editor of the monthly newsletter. I served on the Vestry from 2002 through 2004, and worked with the Property Acquisition Committee to arrange the purchase of the property on which our new building will sit.

If elected to the vestry, I would like to participate in the continued growth and development of Good Shepherd as a vital and visible part of our downtown community, expand our exposure in the local and regional press, and be a part of the decision-making process during this difficult but exciting time of expansion and financial pressure. My increasing ties to downtown Ogden can be beneficial to the successful growth of our facility and our congregation.

### Ian Harden

I've been a member of Good Shepherd for 18 years now, and participate in the 10:30 service. My wife and I were married at Good Shepherd in August of this year. I'm glad to see what the church has done for the people of its congregation as well as the surrounding community. I participated in Youth Impact in its early stages, and then went on to help out as a counselor in high school. I was recently appointed to the Commission on Ministry and I taught Sunday School for the

high school for the 2005-06 year. I also help out with the acolytes. In running for Vestry, my hope is that my experiences as a part of these ministries will enable me to expand my service to Good Shepherd and bring new ideas to the table as we move forward in coming years.

### Scott Hodgson

Hello, my name is Scott Hodgson. I have lived in Ogden for the past three and a half years and have attended Good Shepherd most of that time. I am originally from northwest Indiana, where I lived until I was 18. After high school I moved to Golden Colorado to attend the Colorado School of Mines. I graduated in 2003 with a degree in mechanical engineering. ATK Thiokol offered me a job so I moved to Utah to work in the rocket motor business.

As for my religious background, I was baptized Episcopalian at a very young age and was confirmed when I was 11 years old. I grew up attending St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Balparaiso, IN. While a member of the church I served as an acolyte, was active in the youth group, and also earned my "God and Country" Boy Scout Award. I am a third generation Episcopalian and my family has always been involved in the church. My Mom taught Sunday school for many years and my Dad was a member of the vestry. Last year I was elected to finish Matt Otten's term. I have enjoyed the experience over the past year and hope to be able to continue to give back to the church that has given me so much and continues to give. Good Shepherd has really made me feel welcome and has helped to ease the culture shock of Utah by being able to worship with people who have the same beliefs.

## Adult Sunday School

We continue our reflection on apprenticeship to Jesus, through study and discussions on the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1 – 7:29), using Dallas Willard's *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering our Hidden Life in God*, as a special resource. Please note the special sessions this month, led by guest presenters.

**January 7:** Special Session with the Rev. Canon Mary June Nestler: "Our Holy Baptism"

**January 14:** "The Community of Prayerful Love" (Part III), 6:9-13

**January 21:** Annual Parish Meeting

**January 28:** Special Session: "Getting Ready for Flu Season"

Presented by Nancy Nightingale, member of the Weber and Morgan County Task Force for Pandemic Influenza. You

will be given valuable information on this topic and prevention strategies. Don't miss this valuable session where we can learn more about Bird Flu and what to expect and how to be proactive if this pandemic should occur.

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## News from the Attic

The Attic has had a successful year and we have been able to assist with the needs of organizations within the church and in the community. As of December 13, 2006, contributions and gifts totaled \$1328.35. The Attic Committee met on December 17, 2006 and approved an additional amount of approximately \$1700 to these activities and several others. A full accounting of our disbursements for the year will be included in our financial report at the Parish Annual Meeting in January. We appreciate the support of the congregation which enabled us to be successful in our mission.

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## The Angels

The Angels were assisted by members of the Junior High Sunday School class who made Anglican Prayer Beads as Christmas gifts for those members of the parish who are shut-in and not able to attend church. Our church secretary, Linda Harden helped us by preparing and printing pamphlets to be used while praying the beads. These were delivered by the clergy during the Christmas holidays.

Belle Schwarzenbach and Nancy Groshart also helped by preparing and freezing casseroles and breads to be delivered to anyone in need. The Angel Pantry is fully stocked and food is available for anyone with a temporary need who is referred by the clergy. We have been able to keep a good supply of staples and canned goods thanks to donations from members of the congregation.

Thanks,  
Nancy Mikesell.

### Help Needed! Lay Eucharistic Ministers

This involves going out once a month to take communion to a shut-in. We have boxes ready for you and Linda has put together some very nice service booklets. Training is minimal and you can do this. Please volunteer for this very important and vital service to those who can not join us in church. Contact Deacon Nancy and thank you.

## Episcopal Church Women

We women of the Episcopal Church have had a full and active year. We have enjoyed community outreach programs and speakers as well as successful fund raising efforts. The annual Bazaar was our most recent event and a wonderful demonstration of the results we can achieve when we all put our hearts and hands together. Thanks again to all of you who worked so hard to make it such a success.

We are planning for another year of interesting and supportive events. Our first meeting will be a luncheon on Saturday, February 3, to launch the new year. We are planning to elect new officers and to make decisions about distributing our Bazaar earnings. In addition, we will have an interesting speaker and some inviting refreshments. So make plans now to attend, since our ECW meetings are important to all of us.

As we now anticipate the construction of a new church building and the potential for our membership to grow beyond what we've known in the past it will be a natural response for us to organize programs that will welcome new parish members as well. The Episcopal Church Women will be a primary force in the planning for those efforts.

So, come to the first ECW meeting of the new calendar year and share in all that is happening with the Episcopal Church Women.

– Delores Ottley

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## Building Committee Report

The Building Committee continues to gather input from parish members and groups, as we proceed with our development of plans for how to use our new site. Well, actually, we're still waiting for it to be "our" site, but hopefully that will be settled soon, with full ownership on the dotted line. Discussions also continue with Ogden city officials and members of the Diocesan Jubilee Committee. We certainly appreciate the attendance and concern of all those present at our last parish meeting. The process is continuing, and we will be continuing to gather information, options and opinions. Our next meeting is January 9, and we will also be meeting with the youth of the church and their parents soon. There will also be a presentation at the Annual Meeting. Please continue to keep our efforts and those of the whole parish in your prayers. And if you have not yet turned in your pledge, that would be helpful as well!

Lucy Stretch	David Seiter	Cecele Cox
Pete Poggemeyer	Diane Lowe	Karyn Johnston
Linda Harden	Letitia Teneau-Sword	
Billie Wilson	Marty Moss	Bill Jourdan

## Confirmation Classes

### Adults – Saturday, January 13, 3:00pm

Engaging with the Scriptures, Part Two

### Youth – Monday, January 15, 5:45pm

Bible, The New Testament

## Study Groups Resume

Beginning on Tuesday evening, January 30, at 7:00pm, Mother Claudia will lead a discussion of *Forgiving and Forgiveness* by William Countryman. Copies of the material will be available in The Attic. Hope to see you there.

## Revised Lectionary Readings

The following are the Sunday readings from the newly revised Common Lectionary for the month of January.

### January 7, First Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 43:1-7  
 Psalm 29  
 Acts 8:14-17  
 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

### January 14, Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5  
 Psalm 36:5-10  
 1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
 John 2:1-11

### January 21, Third Sunday after Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
 Psalm 19  
 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
 Luke 4:14-21

### January 28, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10  
 Psalm 71:1-6  
 1 Corinthians 13:1-13  
 Luke 4:21-30

## Offering Envelopes are Here

If you requested envelopes for your offering, you may pick them up at the back of the church on Sunday. Thanks.

### Rector's Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday, 9:30am - 4:30pm  
 Friday is Fr. Adam's usual day off. Always feel free to contact him in the event of a hospitalization or a pastoral emergency at the office (392-8168) or at home (605-1883).

### Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8:00am - noon, 1:00pm to 4:00pm  
 Fridays the office will close at 3:00pm.

**Phone:** 392-8168

**Fax:** 627-7026

**Email:** goodshepherd -ut@qwest.net

**Website:** www.goodshepherdogden.org

## January Birthdays

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP)*

7. Brianna Davis
8. Randy Wilson
10. Samuel Bauther
14. Ryker Ellis, Alan Joslyn
18. Norman Worth
19. Linda Garner
21. Andrew Wilde
22. Kelly Garner
24. Kevin Merchell, Mary Joslyn
26. Hannah Cross
28. Ron Ingoldsby, David Seiter
29. Rhyianna Anderson
31. Ashley Cross

## January Anniversaries

*Give them wisdom and devotion in the ordering of their common life, that each may be to the other a strength in need, a counselor in perplexity, a comfort in sorrow, and a companion in joy. Amen. (BCP)*

24. Randall & Mattie Wilson
31. Jack & Roberta Mauterer

## Thanks to everyone who provided information this month for The Call.

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