

# THE CALL

The Reverend Adam S. Linton, Rector

APRIL 2005

## Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

2374 Grant Avenue, Ogden, Utah 84401

### Rector's Reflections

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

For those who follow the rhythms of the church year, the season of Eastertide has its own unique character. For me, even the physical space of the church – empty and between services – seems to have a different feel; somehow imbued with the significance of the Lenten and Holy Week passage it has so recently hosted, still radiant with the brightness of Easter morning. How could the re-presentation of Christ's giving of life leave that space – or us – untouched?

As I've remarked before, this is meant to be a time of new beginnings, not simply the fizzling out of a program year. This, too, is an opportunity for spiritual discovery and growth. Where is God leading us next? How does God intend to use the new beginning?

A new tool for strengthening us in this discernment is "Via Media," about which you'll be hearing much in the coming weeks. In particular, I'd invite you to read the enclosed article in this issue of *The Call*. In short, it is a major new endeavor in the Episcopal Church to foster deeper reflection and sharing of faith. Our Diocese provided training for all parishes a couple of months ago. Good Shepherd sent a group of eight to participate in this training. We all came back both committed and enthused. I am happy to affirm my own full support and sincerely hope that as we begin our Via Media experience the latter part of this month we will have high levels of participation. I'm convinced that those who do so will find it both engaging and rewarding.

Blessings in the Risen Christ,

Adam †

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**"God must be allowed the right to speak unpredictably."**

(Thomas Merton, *Essential Writings*, "A Call to Unity: Keeping Faith")

### Radical Hospitality

Recently, I officiated at a wedding for a friend of mine. The wedding ceremony was a small, relatively quiet service for a middle-aged couple. When the couple first approached me about having the wedding at The Good Shepherd, I must admit, I balked. Neither individual is Episcopalian, nor is either likely to abandon their faith community in order to make The Good Shepherd their spiritual home.

They were coming to me for three reasons, and they were totally honest about these. Primarily, the couple thought the church worship area where they ordinarily attend is too large to feel comfortable for the 50 or so wedding guests. As they told me, "Our little group will feel lost sitting in an area that usually holds a thousand." Well, it's true, there is no 'getting lost' at Good Shepherd.

Also, the couple said "The Good Shepherd is beautiful. It would be difficult to find a prettier setting for a wedding. This goes without saying.

Of course, the third reason was that they know me. They felt that having a friend celebrate their marriage would add something special to their wedding. Hmm...

My first inclination was to tell the couple that, while I was flattered at being asked, The Good Shepherd is not a mere wedding chapel, and that they should seek a church more in line with their own faith tradition. But something stopped me.

Instead, I found myself instructing them about the counseling sessions they would need to attend, and payments for our organist and altar guild. I also pulled out a copy of *The Book of Common Prayer* and advised them to read through the ceremony before deciding if they wanted to proceed with their wedding plans at our parish.

Over the next few weeks, we met and talked about their relationship. We reviewed the service and practiced for their big day. In the meantime, my friends learned a few things about our brand of Christianity. They had the opportunity to sense the joy and love that Christ has brought to us who call this our spiritual home.

This wedding was an opportunity for evangelism. Not the kind of camp meeting, or tent revival evangelism we often think of when the word 'evangelism' is used. No, this was a

demonstration of the Gospel at work in the life of our parish – a demonstration of our interpretation of the Good News. It wasn't evangelism for gaining members, but evangelism for sharing joy. It was the evangelism of hospitality.

We are about to embark on a wonderful opportunity to practice radical hospitality. We will be able to share our individual perceptions and observations of the Good News with everyone who wishes to join in. As *Via Media* programs offer the chance for us to explore our faith, they allow us to present to others the beautiful gifts of worship that we have been given. The *Via Media* sessions will help us examine essential questions about faith and discuss how each of us approaches our relationship with Christ.

We have a wonderful message of Christ at work in our church. We know how God has touched our lives. It would be selfish for us not to share our joy and our questions with others. Please plan on making time for these *Via Media* sessions, and for sharing your own faith journey with others.

Blessings,  
Claudia †

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## Adult Sunday School

We continue our conversations on the award-winning PBS series, *The Question of God*. Dr. Armand Nicholi compares and contrasts the views of Sigmund Freud and C.S. Lewis. Please join us in Tuttle Hall at 9:30 on Sundays. The schedule is as follows:

April 3	Session 10: <i>Love Thy Neighbor</i> , Part B
April 10	Session 11: <i>The Human Condition</i>
April 17	Session 12: <i>Moral Law</i> , Part A
April 24	Session 13: <i>Moral Law</i> , Part B
May 1:	Session 14: <i>Suffering and Death</i> , Part A

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### 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 - 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

## The Attic

Please mark you calendars and begin weeding out your bookshelves to make room for some great summer reading. The Attic is having a **Book Sale on Sunday, May 15**. Donations for the sale are now being accepted. Bring your used books to the church before May 14.

# The Attic

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church  
2374 Grant Avenue, Ogden

Gifts ~ Books ~ Jewelry

Open Sundays 9:00am - 1:30pm

Wednesdays 10:00am - 1:00pm

Thursdays Noon - 1:00pm

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## Lay Eucharistic Ministers Needed

We are in need of more people to serve as Lay Eucharistic Ministers. These are the folks who take out the boxes on Sunday to shut-ins or those in the hospital. We have an abbreviated service and training is quick and easy. If you are interested in serving in this very important ministry, please contact Deacon Nancy. Thanks.

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## Via Media begins in April

Good Shepherd announces the presentation of *Via Media*, a series of eight weekly contemporary religious discussions beginning Tuesday, April 26, 2005. *Via Media* brings people together with a new program that teaches about the Episcopal Church and what it means to be an Episcopalian in today's world. Hear from well know, respected theologians and religious scholars as they break down the door of ancient tradition to uncover the truth and reality of the Episcopal Church today, and what it means to be a part of a progressive movement in religion. We want current members of the parish and the diocese to use this opportunity to encourage friends and family to be a part of this experience to learn more about the Episcopal faith. *Via Media's* purpose

is to educate and reach out to the greater faith community in Utah.

The Via Media program consists of eight weekly sessions. Each weekly session has a short video presentation featuring prominent theologians talking about important issues affecting the Church and our society. In addition to the video, a portion of each session will be dedicated to open discussion and conversation. Food and beverages will be provided. The eight sessions begin Tuesday, April 26, 2005 at 6:00pm in Tuttle Hall. To register for or receive additional information about Via Media, contact the church office at (801) 392-8168 or visit our website at [www.goodshepherdogden.org](http://www.goodshepherdogden.org).

*Matt Otten, Junior Warden*

## Episcopal Church Women

We hope everyone that took quilt blocks are busy with their creations. Please remember we would like them turned in at the ECW Quarterly Meeting this month. If you would like a block or have questions, please contact Linda Garner (399-0428) or Billie Wilson (546-1531).

### ECW Annual Spring Luncheon Saturday, April 23 12:00 Noon

We are planning to have more than one presenter for a variety of different craft ideas. It should be an unusual and interesting event. Please plan ahead to spend your Saturday afternoon with us.

The revised bylaws and standing rules have been approved by the ECW board and will be posted this month in Tuttle Hall, as well as on the web site for easy access.

Additionally, there will be a plastic bin for contributions for St. Anne's Shelter across from Fr. Adam's office. The current needs list for St. Anne's is as follows:

- Men's PJs
- Coffee
- Bus tokens (20 for \$6 at the main hub on Wall Ave.)
- Blankets
- Sheets for bunk beds
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Deodorant

Thanks,  
*Delores Ottley, ECW President*

## Memorial Day - Lake Powell

Greetings from St. George. The now 4<sup>th</sup> yearly Good Shepherd Lake Powell Memorial Day Weekend is alive and well. The picnic with St. Davids and Grace Church also participating will be Sunday, May 29. The rest of the activities will start Friday afternoon, May 27 and end after breakfast on Monday, May 30. Anyone who thinks they may be coming, please email me at [ldeggert@msn.com](mailto:ldeggert@msn.com) and I can get more information to you.

*Joan and Larry Eggert*

## Acolyte Schedule - April 2005

### April 3

- 8:00** John Kunkel  
**10:30** Server: Hope Linton  
 Crucifer: Emily Lloyd  
 Clergy Cross: Alex Bray  
 Torches: Matthew Hales, Riley Thomas  
 Dani Hall, Samantha Hall

### April 10

- 8:00** Dan Johnston  
**10:30** Server: Ethan Roberts  
 Crucifer: Jeffery Hales  
 Clergy Cross: Rachel Hargis  
 Torches: Alexx Unsworth, Sarriya Hill  
 Riley Thomas, Nolan Peters

### April 17

- 8:00** Bonnie Taylor  
**10:30** Server: Brendan Stump  
 Crucifer: Doniell Mojazza  
 Clergy Cross: Emily Lloyd  
 Torches: Alexx Unsworth, Sarriya Hill  
 Nolan Peters, Sara Mojazza

### April 24

- 8:00** Letitia Teneau-Sword  
**10:30** Server: Hope Linton  
 Crucifer: Taryn Kelly  
 Clergy Cross: Alaina Kelly  
 Torches: Tori Skiver, Tiffany Arnett  
 Connor Lay, Shayn Moss

**Submissions deadline for the May edition of *The Call* is Wednesday, April 20. Thanks.**

### **April 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)*

1. Zachary Higley, Reneé Merchel
3. Robert Bevan, Stephen Harden
4. Andrea Arnett
6. JoEllen Parrish
7. Barbara Gray, Sarah Mojaza
8. Robb Hall, Mark O'Dell
10. Wilma Higley, James Mikesell
11. Mark LeTourneau
13. Travis Otten, Collette Torghelle
14. Tallen Lemings
15. Robert Torghelle
16. John Patterson, Candra Wilson
20. Collin Greenleaf, Doniell Mojazza
22. Melissa Fairchild
23. Sherrie Bangert
27. Robert Garner
28. Joan Stromberg
29. Kyler Anderson, Tyson Farr, Steven Garner

### **April Anniversaries...**

*Grant that their wills may be so knit together in your will, and their spirits in your Spirit, that they may grow in love and peace with you and one another all the days of their lives. Amen (BCP)*

11. Steve & Adele Greenleaf
28. Michael & Linda Harden
30. Les & Bonnie Taylor

## Vacation Bible School

**Youth Ministries is pleased to announce the resurrection of Vacation Bible School! Come one, come all. This program will run the week of June 13 from 9:00am to Noon. Children ages 4 - 12 (and their adults) are invited to attend. We will be exploring the Book of Psalms through a series of learning stations. There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the Youth Ministries board outside of Letitia's office.**

## Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

The Right Rev. Carolyn Tanner Irish, Bishop  
 The Rev. Adam S. Linton, Rector  
 The Rev. Claudia D. Seiter, Associate Rector  
 The Rev. Nancy L. Groshart, Deacon  
 The Rev. L.E. "Pete" Poggemeyer, Jr., Deacon

Music Director: Dr. Rulon Christiansen  
 Choir Director: Lori Linton  
 Sexton: Dyrk Farr  
 Custodian: Richard Brown  
 Director of Youth Ministries: Letitia Teneau-Sword  
 Senior Warden: Sandra Corp  
 Junior Warden: Matthew Otten  
 Vestry Members: Steve Bauter, David Dirks, Jim Hard, Bill Jourdan, Mark LeTourneau, Marty Moss, Brenda Ruffier  
 Treasurer: Bill Bangert  
 Recorder and Parish Secretary: Linda Harden

Good Shepherd  
 concert series  
 presents  
 Evelyn harris and her  
 chamber choir  
 Sunday, April 24  
 at 7:00pm

You're invited to attend this special choral event, featuring a varied program of music of different styles presented at Good Shepherd. Come early for seating at this popular event. Admission is free.

