

Outreach to the Community

In 1980, the church started the first permanent soup kitchen in Raleigh. Today, the kitchen—**The Shepherd's Table**—is in the bottom floor of the Parish Life Center. Good Shepherd participates in **Habitat for Humanity** builds, gathers Christmas presents for children in need, conducts blood donation drives, participates in **Warmth for Wake** and **Family Promise**, knits and crochets scarves, hats and blankets for the needy, conducts mission trips outside our area, and participates in the **Meals on Wheels** program and the annual **Historic Church Walk**. The church is a member of **OneWake**, an organization of religious congregations and other non-profits created to develop solutions to serious social and economic problems (access to affordable housing, for example) in Wake County.

Our Ministers and Directors



The Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser, Rector
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The Rev. Joyce Corbin Cunningham,
Associate Rector
919-831-2009
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The Rev. Nancy Allison, Priest-in-Residence
919-831-2003
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Dwayne Holloway, Director of Music Ministries



Terrill Lloyd, M.Div., Director of Children's and Family Ministry

Church Services and Contact Information

8:00, Sunday, Contemplative Service
10:00, Sunday, Full Service with Choir

121 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., M-F
Email: info@cgs-raleigh.org Phone: 919-831-2000

CGS website: <https://www.cgs-raleigh.org/>
YouTube: Go to Good Shepherd Episcopal, Raleigh
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cgsraleigh>

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
121 HILLSBOROUGH STREET
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27603



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN RALEIGH



ALL ARE WELCOME!



What We Believe and Teach



We are Christians: Christ's teachings are at the center of our faith, and the Bible is our holy book. We strive each day to follow Christ's commandment—to love God **and** our neighbor. At our baptism, we make a covenant with God and one another to strive for justice and peace, seek Christ in all persons, and uphold the dignity of every human being.

We are members of the Episcopal Church which is an offshoot of the Church of England (the Anglican Church) that was established after the American Revolution. Today, the Episcopal Church is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. For members of this Communion, the “cornerstones of our faith and sources of authority are scripture, tradition and reason.”

We affirm committed relationships that are lifelong and monogamous, but recognize that divorce happens and do not punish people for it. Both men and women can be priests, deacons, or bishops in our church, no matter what their sexual orientation or gender identity might be. We respect people's rights to make personal, informed decisions about birth control. We respect science and encourage people to care for the earth. We love prayers and songs that are ancient and new. We believe that God loves you, just as you are.

How We Worship

The Book of Common Prayer is our guide for worship and was first published in the 1500s. The full church worship service at Good Shepherd begins and ends with a processional of our clergy and the choir. Our service is composed of prayer, song, Bible readings, a sermon, the recitation of a creed, a confession of sin, the exchange of the peace, and the celebration of the Eucharist (Holy Communion). For us, the Eucharist is both a remembrance of Christ's last supper with his apostles and a spiritual encounter with God and is generally taken at the railing in front of the altar. When we pray, we kneel or stand, if able. All are welcome to attend our services and anyone baptized as a Christian (regardless of denomination) is invited to take the Eucharist.



Our History

Good Shepherd was founded in 1874 by a small group of people, many of them members of Christ Church, then the only Episcopal church in town. The group met in a downtown bank building and organized what was called a “free church”—one that was open to all and raised funds from pledges and contributions, not pew sales which was common then. Land was purchased on the corner of Hillsborough and McDowell streets, just a stone's throw away from Christ Church across Capitol Square, and a small wooden church was erected.

The first rector of Good Shepherd, the Reverend Frank Rich, began the church's tradition of service to the community, and in it's first few years of existence, the church started the first public library in Raleigh and the first hospital, which evolved into Rex Hospital. This tradition of service continues today.

The church building we now occupy is over 100 years old and took over 15 years to build. Noted New York architect Robert W. Gibson is responsible for the basic design. The church opened for its first service in the Spring of 1914. It took another 50 years to complete the magnificent stained-glass windows that grace the church. In 2024 Good Shepherd will celebrate its 150th anniversary.

Serving Our Members

The church offers Sunday school classes for all ages on Sunday morning and the Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) meets Sunday evening and offers middle and high schoolers an opportunity for fun, fellowship and spiritual growth. Vacation Bible School is held each summer, a Grapes and Grain class is offered each year to teach children about our church worship service, and a confirmation class is held each year to prepare older youth and adults new to our faith for church membership. Several Bible study classes are offered during the week in the morning and evening.



Music has been a focal point at Good Shepherd for over 100 years, and it sponsors a variety of choirs for children and adults. We have a multitude of groups dedicated to prayer, church history, maintaining the church grounds, managing our library, helping the homebound, serving refreshments at weddings and funerals...the list goes on!



Events (with food!) are a popular way for us to get to know one another and include sharing cookies and lemonade after church, potluck supper clubs that meet periodically, and our “big” annual events—the Christmas Pageant and Party, Chili Cook-off, Pig Pickin', Parish Picnic, and Oyster Roast.