Come as you are ... All are welcome.
No exceptions.

OUR PRAYER

Dear Lord, with your everlasting love, light and guidance, we navigate our way, united together as parishioners, through our search for a new rector of our parish. We faithfully serve you in the search process and know that you are with us and loving us every step of the way.

Grace us with open hearts, discerning minds, wisdom, patience, understanding and courage, and inspire us through this journey in the hope and excitement of the search for a new rector.

We pray for a rector that will faithfully serve our parishioners in your name, Lord, continue the love and growth of our ministries to support our parishioners, community and those in need in the world, continue to grow our parish, and welcome all to your table, Lord. Amen

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Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd is a vibrant and ministry focused congregation of 231 members. Our average Sunday attendance in 2019 was 189. Our members believe in giving back to the church, the community and the world. We hold dear and strive to live up to our credo “All are welcome, no exceptions.” There are close to 60 ministry opportunities at Church of the Good Shepherd to assist the church, the community and the world. We are located in Dunedin, Florida, a town of 36,500 people with a median age of 53. Thirty-one percent of the population is made up of families with children under the age of 18.
As you step across the threshold of Church of the Good Shepherd, the adorned hard wood floors creak, having borne the weight of previous generations. A sense of quiet and calm is felt by even the youngest congregants because this is such a special place and has been so for many years. Part of the tranquility is the beautiful heart of pine construction so treasured by early Floridians, it was saved for the most special buildings. Part of the peacefulness is the calm others around you are feeling as they prepare for worship. Part of the serenity is the beautiful music coming from the pipe organ. Most importantly though, it is because you are entering a historic place of worship.

The Church of the Good Shepherd has a rich and fascinating history at its location on Edgewater Drive along the Gulf of Mexico in delightful downtown Dunedin. The Church of the Good Shepherd is one of the oldest buildings in town. In December 1886 the first Episcopal Church services in Dunedin were held marking the beginning of our Good Shepherd congregation. At the first service, the Right Reverend Edwin G. Weed, Bishop of Florida, preached, confirmed four people and celebrated the Holy Eucharist to a congregation of about sixteen persons.

Following his visit, the little congregation petitioned the Bishop for missionary oversight, and it was soon put under the care of Reverend William H. Noyle. The church building was built on its initial site on the corner of Edgewater and Albert Street, a stone’s throw from the church’s current location. The construction of the building began in 1887 on land purchased from William H. Simpson. Under Father Noyle’s devoted care, the congregation grew to 41 members by the end of 1888. The congregation took the name of the Good Shepherd from Bishop Weed’s former parish in Summerville, now a part of Augusta, Georgia.

Cupid played a part in the completion of the construction of the church building at its initial site on Albert Street. At a time when construction of the church building was lagging, Father Noyle was pining away for his beloved Amy Florence Thompson in England. Also, the widowed Duke of Sutherland wanted to marry his companion, Caroline Mitchell Blair. Father Noyle used his skill as a carpenter to speed along the completion of the church building so that both gentlemen could marry their sweethearts. The church was consecrated on March 4, 1889, in time for the wedding of Father Noyle and Amy Florence Thompson at 8:00 a.m. and the Duke of Sutherland and Caroline Mitchell Blair at 10:00 a.m. the same day.

Father Noyle returned to England in 1892 as did many English residents here and throughout Central Florida. Severe freezes had devastated the citrus industry in Florida. The economic conditions and loss of core membership caused severe retrenchment of the work of the Episcopal Church throughout Florida. Into the 1940’s, the small congregations at Safety Harbor, Tarpon Springs, New Port Richey, and Dunedin often were served by a single priest.
Our first resident priest, the Reverend Canon Eric Robinson arrived in 1947 and served at Church of the Good Shepherd until 1953. The Church of the Good Shepherd became a member of the Diocese of South Florida in 1955. A year later on July 8, 1956, the Church was moved to its present site along Edgewater Drive. Additional adjoining property was purchased in 1961 and 1963. In 1969, when the Diocese of Southwest Florida was established, Church of the Good Shepherd became a member of that diocese.

A history of Church of the Good Shepherd would not be complete without a note about the Church’s grand and beautiful organ, an Opus 296, which was built by Wilhelm Zimmer and Sons of Charlotte, North Carolina and was dedicated on April 24, 1983. Our organ has been in continual use since then, and it is cared for lovingly by our music director.

In the past five years, the church’s emphasis has been on the community that it serves. The church has created ministries to feed and clothe children and to support the homeless, poor, hungry and abused. We have also increased our attention to the Dominican Republic and other under-developed countries, as well as our relief efforts for victims of natural disasters.

Today at Church of the Good Shepherd, we are combining the best of the old and the new, the past and the future, the traditional and the progressive, to serve the entire community as the home of Christ. Come as you are … All are welcome. No exceptions.

We invite you to explore additional detail as to the history of Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin, Florida at [https://www.cogsdunedin.com/history-of-the-episcopal-church-of-the-good-shepherd/](https://www.cogsdunedin.com/history-of-the-episcopal-church-of-the-good-shepherd/)

The devoted and inspirational resident clergy serving Church of the Good Shepherd have been:

- The Rev. Canon Eric Robinson – 1947 - 1953
The Church Campus

The Church of the Good Shepherd sits in the quaint waterfront downtown of Dunedin, Florida. The Church campus comprises 2.07 acres located along Edgewater Drive and Albert Street.

The church building was built beginning in 1887 on its initial site on the corner of Edgewater and Albert Street in Dunedin. An 1880’s Florida gothic style church, the church building was built with Florida hardwood pine and the interior is adorned with dark wood throughout the church. Many decades later in 1958, the church building was expanded and moved to its present site along Edgewater Drive.

Immediately to the north of the church building is a two-story building which includes the spacious and welcoming Kirk Hall, which is the host room for monthly “Bodacious Brunch,” weekly coffee hours after each church service, annual shrimp boils, and many other events to support fellowship in the church. This 9,665 square foot adjoining building also has a rector’s office on the 2nd floor and administrative offices and 16 rooms throughout the building that are used for meetings and fellowship. The building and the church are connected by a courtyard which was completed in 2019, linking these two important parts of the campus together.

The church owns two houses on its campus. The first is a delightful Florida style bungalow along Albert Street, which has been the home of the church sexton for many years. The second is a residential concrete block home located to the south of the church, directly on Edgewater Drive, this is currently being used as the Rector’s family home.

The lots directly North of the church administration building and across Albert Street were purchased in 1992 and affectionately named “Peace Park.” Peace Park encompasses 0.9 acres and provides overflow parking for church services and events. The Church campus also has a paved parking lot directly adjoining the church and administration buildings.
These coveted parking spaces are also used by the Parking Lot Team to request donations from folks that park in Peace Park and the Church paved parking lot during special events in downtown Dunedin.

The Church of the Good Shepherd designated an area of the church campus to be used as a memorial garden for scattering and burying of ashes of parishioners in accordance with the memorial policy of the Church. The memorial garden provides a place for parishioners to visit the final resting place of their loved ones and leave fresh flowers on the site to commemorate the visit.

The Church of the Good Shepherd also established a pet cemetery on its beautiful and serene campus allowing parishioners to express their love and affection for their pets by burying their ashes and giving parishioners a place to visit the final resting place of their pets.

**Off Campus properties**

The Furniture Thrift Shop is located at 1714 North Fort Harrison, Clearwater. The Furniture Thrift Shop is a 6500 square foot building which was purchased in 2018. The volunteers at the Furniture Thrift Shop joyously pick up donations of furniture and other household items from members of the local community, which are subsequently sold by the store at modest prices to support and bring hope to the local community in need.

The Little Thrift Shop is a month-to-month leased property located at 506 Main Street in downtown Dunedin, and is a ministry of the Episcopal Church Women. The shop welcomes donations of clothing, household items and decorations.

Today at Church of the Good Shepherd, we are combining the best of the old and the new, the ancient and the future, the traditional and the progressive, to serve the entire community as the home of Christ. Come as you are … All are welcome. No exceptions.
The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd is a historic church in the city of Dunedin, Florida. In recent years, the congregation has grown to become a diverse and program-size church. Our staff, vestry, and Eucharistic Ministers provide a sacred and lively place where all are welcome to worship and serve others. Through our ministries, we actualize the Christ that is within us.

At Church of the Good Shepherd, we recognize that opportunities for ministry are everywhere, not simply in our worship services, but throughout our daily lives. We encourage every member to explore those moments of grace wherein we serve and minister to others, whether through worship, music, fellowship, inreach, outreach, stewardship and more.

There are nearly 60 ministries offered. Some meet weekly, while others are less frequent. The vestry organizes a Ministries Fair each autumn to showcase all the ministries offered. The fair is a great place for fellowship as well as recruiting new members for a team.

Ministries are organized into six teams. Each team has a vestry liaison allowing for open lines of communications between a ministry, its leaders, our staff, and the vestry. The six teams are: Exalt, Enlighten, Engage, Empower, Enterprise and Enjoy. Within each team, there are multiple working teams which have a narrower focus.

Exalt teams “…proclaim the greatness of the Lord; and exalt his Name together.” (Psalm 34:3)

The working teams include worship and music, acolytes, altar guild, Eucharistic Ministers, adult choir, flower ministry, hand bell ensemble, lectors, pastoral care, Eucharistic Visitors and the worship planning team. Together these working teams assist the clergy in achieving meaningful weekly worship.

**Highlight: Worship Music**

Music is an integral part of our weekly services. Classical to contemporary music genres complement our worship. The adult choir, led by our music director, fills our sanctuary with delightful song. In 2019, the vestry approved a choral and musical scholars program which financially assists young musically talented individuals to pursue higher education in music. The choir was able to obtain a high school senior to grace us with a tenor voice. In addition to our adult choir, and during selected worship services, our handbell ensemble, led by a volunteer director, embellishes the joyful sounds of our worship. One highlight of our musical program occurs during the last week of Advent. All our musical talent come together to offer a Carol Sing for the congregation and the community-at-large. Favorite Christmas carols are sung. In addition to the hand bells and organ, the event may also include high school music scholars who add brass, percussion, and string instruments. Free will offerings benefit our music program.

Enlighten working teams include spiritual formation via education, exploration and teaching; adult Christian education courses and events; Bible study where people are encouraged to read the complete Bible within one year; prayer teams during Communion at all Sunday services; Sunday school for children
through grade six, nursery care for infants through age five, and a youth group for teens and tweens.

**Highlight: Surveying the Meadow**

In 2017, two parishioners sought approval from the vestry and clergy to offer an adult education program geared to meet the emotional, social, cognitive, and spiritual needs of our senior adults. The program offered attendees a safe and confidential place where they could share life experiences, engage in fellowship, and participate in group discussions to discover ways to live a life of joy and dignity well into retirement. The program was made possible through a generous grant from the Diocese. Surveying the Meadow was launched with a study of the book *Traveling Light* by Max Lucado. More than 30 participants signed-up for the six-week program. At the final session, participants were asked to provide anonymous reviews of the course material, format, and style. Reviews proved to be positive, and interest in future sessions was strong. Since its inception, there have been five additional opportunities to engage our seniors. The focus of each group discussion is relevant to living in today’s challenging world.

**Engage** makes up the largest group of ministries. There are a total of 18 working teams, all of which are outreach to others in need — locally, regionally, and internationally. A few of our many outreach programs include providing new clothing for youth of low income households in our county; supporting a collaborative community food bank; preparing nutritional snacks and drinks for school-age children who would otherwise have little or nothing to eat over the weekends; and using the rector’s discretionary fund to assist local adults unable to pay their utility bills in a timely manner. Reaching out beyond our borders, a team in the Clearwater Deanery Collaboration supports mission teams to Episcopal parishes in the Dominican Republic. Each year, we also gather and distribute supplies needed by migrant workers in our region. During extreme cold weather, a shelter in neighboring Clearwater is staffed in part by members of our church community. Our parish representative to Episcopal Relief and Development informs us of current projects desperately in need our financial support.

**Highlight: Pack-A-Sack**

Pack-A-Sack meets weekly during the school year. Together with the church sexton and a group of volunteer church members, Kirk Hall is turned into a supply chain where hundreds of bags are filled with nutritious snacks and drinks. Once all the bags are prepared, our sexton delivers them to area schools. The bags are then distributed by school personnel to children in need. What began as a small ministry in 2010, has grown steadily. Last year nearly $18,000 was used to purchase food for children in Dunedin. There is no defined budget allocated for Pack-A-Sack. Annually, the volunteers of Pack-A-Sack have fund raisers to help support the growing need. Our Episcopal Church Women routinely supports the Pack-A-Sack program.
Enterprise work teams are close cousins to our Engage outreach teams. There are three work teams which make up the larger Enterprise team: the Little Thrift Shop, Furniture Thrift Shop, and the Parking Lot Team. These teams develop funding over and above member contributions. Funds generated by these teams are used to support parish operations as well as our many outreach programs.

Highlight: Our Thrift Shops
Anyone who ventures down Main Street, Dunedin will surely notice the Little Thrift Shop (LTS). It has a long history of serving the community. Many shoppers enjoy stopping in to find that perfect gift. The LTS is a ministry of the Episcopal Church Women. The shop fits right in with many of the boutique shops that line Main Street. It is staffed by volunteers who take pleasure in arranging displays of household items, decorations, jewelry, and gently used clothing. Proceeds from the sale of donated items are generously shared with other ministries at Church of the Good Shepherd. Last year, the LTS helped to financially support our Pack-A-Sack ministry. Like a loving mother, the staff of the Little Thrift Shop make sure that Pack-A-Sack survives.

Our Furniture Thrift Shop (FTS) is in nearby Clearwater. It has grown since its inception several years ago. Due to careful planning, stewardship, and assistance from the Diocese we were able to purchase the entire building, rather than renting one small shop. FTS is also run by volunteers most of whom have discovered that the facility is much more than a thrift shop. It is a place where all people are welcome. No one is turned away. Shoppers have come to depend on the store for great bargains and for being treated with dignity and respect. FTS is a significant source of funds which are used to support our many ministries as well as our church’s operations.

Empower work teams focus on the lay members’ roles as faithful, active, and visionary leaders. They consist of leadership, communications, finance, and administration. They are likened to the behind-the-scenes working operations, without which the parish could not function smoothly. There are 15 teams that work both independently and collaboratively as needed. Leadership teams include the Vestry and the Board of Trustees. Communication teams include public relations, advertising and Invite, Welcome and Connect.
all with the goal of welcoming newcomers and utilizing parishioners’ innate talents. At each Sunday service, members of the welcome team personally greet newcomers and ensure that ushers assist them with seating in the sanctuary. Finance and administrative teams include buildings and grounds, emergency management, money counters, finance, personnel, electronic communications, and publications. Finally, our stewardship team supports all church members as they explore ways to use their time, talent, and treasure.

**Highlight: Stewardship**

Throughout the year, members of the team continually look for those opportunities that will engage our parishioners in living a life that is imbued with generosity and love of neighbors, strangers and even our enemies. It’s a way of life that is chosen and practiced daily. At weekly Sunday services we become re-energized by God’s Word and the reflections of our pastor. As we become stronger in our faith, we also become good stewards of our time, talent, and treasure. Every year, the Stewardship team develops an organized campaign which culminates in members making a solemn financial promise to our church community. Only God, the individual, and the parish administrator know what has been pledged. A few members are invited to witness before the congregation by sharing what Church of the Good Shepherd has meant to them. We have been blessed with a steady increase in annual contributions over the past ten years.

**Enjoy** work teams take to heart the following passage from 1Timothy 6:1. “God richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.” Put a different way, all work and no play make Jack and Jill very dull and unhappy people. Indeed, God wants us to be happy and to enjoy the many blessing that are available. Here are a few ways that we find enjoyment:

1) Establishing unique teams which provide opportunities to gather and have fun. In autumn our pumpkin patch has proven to bring together people of all ages.

2) Affectionately referred to as “the best smelling church in town,” our *Bodacious Breakfast* is a monthly event offered by the Brotherhood of Good Shepherd. For a donation of five dollars, one can partake in a wide variety of breakfast/brunch delights. Visitors are invited free-of-charge. Proceeds support our outreach ministries.

3) Coffee Hour follows both Sunday services. Newcomers are personally invited to meet parishioners and vestry members, and to enjoy refreshments.

4) Special events, such as spaghetti dinners, pancake suppers, game night, or even a drum circle are held throughout the calendar year.

**Highlight: Drum Circle**

Drum circles are special events that many of our members enjoy. Both young and young-at-heart gather at the beach or on our patio just before sunset to participate in drumming. New attendees do not know what to expect—but what they discover is the fun of making music with others. Being outdoors, watching a sunset, and being with people one knows, or just getting to know, produces fun! Folks come with a folding chair and select from several different drums, tambourines or musical gadgets, and voila, music is made. The master of ceremonies is a young man who teaches drumming at various locations. He sets the beat, and the rest is pure pleasure. It is always heartwarming to see other people out for an evening being drawn into our crowd. Typically, a church member invites onlookers to select a drum or tambourine. Most do!
Welcome to Dunedin, we hope you feel at home here and love it as much as we do.

Nestled on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico, Dunedin is a hidden gem located just north of Clearwater. In Dunedin, you will find a charming and active downtown, beautiful parks, recreational activities for all ages, history, culture and educational opportunities. Also, just off the coast of Dunedin are Caladesi and Honeymoon Islands, state parks renowned for their unspoiled beauty.

Dunedin is the oldest town in Pinellas County and began as a remote settlement in 1852. The name comes from the Scottish-Gaelic form of Edinburgh, Scotland, Dùn Èideann. Dunedin reflects the rich American and Scottish heritage of its founders. This charming village-like town has the distinction of being the oldest town south of Cedar Key. Early in its history, thanks to a dock built to accommodate schooners and sloops, and the ingenuity of pioneers from as near as Georgia and as far as Scotland, Dunedin became one of Florida's chief seaport and trading centers. At one time, Dunedin had the largest fleet of sailing vessels in Florida. Early settlers were primarily cotton and citrus growers. It also has a wooded and subtropical setting with almost four miles of picturesque waterfront, a relaxed lifestyle, and activities for all ages.

Dunedin is a fun and family-centric town. The city hosts celebrations, festivals and street fairs throughout the year. Outdoor activities, art shows our very own Highland Games, along with Mardi Gras, Dia de los Muertos and a Celtic Music Festival, reflect the diversity and fun lifestyle of the town. Dunedin boasts a rich Scottish heritage and you will often times hear bagpipes or spot the locals wearing a kilt. Historic Downtown offers shopping, dining, dancing to live music, strolling through waterfront parks and a hopping Craft Brewery scene.

Learn how to pronounce it correctly and you will fit in just like a local. Dunedin (pronounced DONE-EE-DIN) is a small town featuring big city amenities. Dunedin is also lucky to be a small town in the midst of a vibrant metropolitan area.

The Clearwater – Tampa – St. Petersburg area has many outdoor and indoor attractions to enhance a vibrant life here for adults and children.
**BEACHES**

**Honeymoon Island State Park:** The pioneers called it Hog Island, but it became Honeymoon Isle in 1939 when a New York developer built 50 palm-thatched bungalows for honeymooners. Today, you can drive across Dunedin Causeway to enjoy the sun-drenched Gulf beaches, mangrove marshes, and tidal flats. Nature lovers will find osprey nests, a wide variety of shorebirds and one of the few remaining virgin slash pine forests in South Florida. The park boasts a Nature Center, several trails, and bird observation areas. You can swim, fish, snorkel, kayak and paddle board in the warm waters of the Gulf, or picnic while you enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Shelling is particularly good here, as the Gulf currents deposit an incredible variety of seashells. Dog-friendly Dunedin and Honeymoon Island also feature a pet beach for you to enjoy.

**Caladesi State Park:** As one of the few completely natural islands along Florida’s Gulf coast, Caladesi’s white sand beaches were rated *America’s Best Beach in 2008*. Beach lovers can enjoy swimming, sunbathing and beachcombing. Saltwater anglers can cast a line from their boats or surf fish. Nature enthusiasts can spot wildlife while hiking the three-mile nature trail through the island’s interior or paddling a three-mile kayak trail through the mangroves and bay. The park is accessible by boat or ferry.

**Clearwater Beach:** Seven miles south of Dunedin, Clearwater Beach was voted the No. 1 beach in America by Trip Advisor in 2019, 2018 and 2016 (it was also named No. 6 in the world in 2019!). Its wide sugar-sand beaches and emerald-clear waters make this the perfect beach. The beach offers shopping, restaurants, a huge outdoor playground, and Pier 60 which offers nightly entertainment. The Clearwater Marine Aquarium allows you to explore the world of marine life rescue. Winter the dolphin lives here. She starred in the two Dolphin Tale movies that tell her story of survival after losing her tail to injury.

**SPORTS**

Baseball is played in Dunedin from March through September thanks to the **Toronto Blue Jays & Dunedin Jays**. The Toronto Blue Jays take the field each March for spring training, offering great baseball action in an intimate re-modeled ballpark setting. The minor league Dunedin Jays, part of the Florida State League, take the field from April through September. These young players offer exciting action. You never know which of these athletes will be called up to the big leagues.

Spring Training in Florida is that "not to be missed" opportunity. Dunedin is perfectly situated to watch lots of Major League action. In addition to the **Toronto Blue Jays**, see the **Phillies** in Clearwater or the **Yankees** in Tampa.

Several other major league sports teams are home to Tampa Bay. You can watch the **Tampa Bay Rays** at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg and the **NFL Tampa Bay Buccaneers** at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa. The 2004 Stanley Cup winning **Tampa Bay Lightning** play at Amalie Arena in Tampa, and the Tampa Bay Rowdies, a professional soccer team, plays in St. Petersburg.

**WALKING AND BIKING**

**Pinellas Trail:** Bike, walk, roller blade or jog through the heart of Dunedin, Florida. The Rails to Trails program gave Pinellas County's
former railways new life for all to enjoy. This 34-mile trail gives residents an opportunity to exercise and enjoy the outdoors. Dunedin's downtown surrounds the Pinellas Trail, and is friendly to all types of Trail users.

**The Hammock Park:** After Florida joined the Union in 1845, a team of surveyors were mapping out the state and identified the borders of a truly unique, natural environment. Their survey's north and south borders of the Hammock still exist today. This fantastic park is home to over 300 trees, shrubs, flowers and animals, as well as over 100 species of birds. Its natural Florida setting is one you don't want to miss. Picnic, stroll, or hike through trails, both natural shell or elevated boardwalk, and experience Florida as it was decades ago.

Pinellas County offers over 50 parks and preserve areas for you to walk, hike, canoe, kayak and paddle. They are beautiful natural habitats to enjoy and learn about our local eco system.

**GOLF**

**Dunedin Golf Club:** The Club was the original home of the PGA from 1945 to 1963. This famed Donald Ross-designed course is a challenge for all skill levels. All are welcome on this course, which offers fantastic greens and superior play.

**Dunedin Stirling Links:** offers a par-3 golf course as well as practice area to hit a bucket of balls, take a lesson or practice putting.

**ARTS**

**Dunedin Fine Art Center:** For almost four decades, the Dunedin Fine Art Center has been offering exciting art opportunities. The mission at the Dunedin Fine Art Center is to enrich lives through educational experiences in the visual arts. The Dunedin Fine Art Center is a leading visual art center providing unparalleled educational, cultural & creative experiences.

**THEATER**

The greater metropolitan area includes various art venues from modern music halls to historic theaters. Tampa Bay's live performance venues cater to a wide range of theatrical and musical tastes.

**CLEARWATER**

**Ruth Eckerd Hall:** a 2180 seat theater, REH features stellar lineups of more than 200 performances a year, including lectures, contemporary music for all age groups and comedy acts featuring some of the country's biggest names and The Florida Orchestra.

**Bilheimer Capitol Theatre:** a former cinema, now an intimate and charming concert venue, is located in downtown Clearwater.

**Francis Wilson Playhouse:** opened in 1935, is a 200-seat local theater with volunteer actors, directors, and stage hands. Its 91st season opens in 2021. The theatre is small and intimate.

**ST. PETERSBURG**

**American Stage Theater Company:** an intimate 850 seat theater where you'll see everything from dramatic to comedic classics as well new award-winning musicals and farces.

**Freefall Theater:** year-round season of plays, musicals and world premieres, one of only two professional regional theatre companies in St. Petersburg.

**Mahaffey Theater:** a 2,031-seat facility which features European box-style seating, a ballroom space and views of Tampa Bay. It hosts a wide variety of cultural and musical events and is home to The Florida Orchestra in St. Petersburg.

**TAMPA**

**Straz Center for the Performing Arts:** one of the largest theaters in the southeastern United States, provides world-class entertainment, ranging from lavish Broadway shows to classical music and rock concerts.
MUSEUMS
The Dunedin History Museum: housed in the former railroad depot on Main Street, it underwent an expansive renovation and remodel from 2017 to 2018 which included new exhibits and a new entryway. The museum has created a modern and interactive museum experience that explores Dunedin's history through mixed media platforms.

St. Petersburg
St. Petersburg prides itself on its bustling art scene which is illustrated well by its various museums.


The Dalí Museum: hosts the largest collection of the surrealist’s works outside of Spain.

The Florida Holocaust Museum: plays an important educational role in our community, skillfully telling the story of the Holocaust through art, photographs and historical artifacts.

The James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art: local philanthropists, Tom and Mary James built this splendid home for a part of their vast personal collection of Western and wildlife art.

The Museum of Fine Arts: shares exhibits spanning 4,000 years, including African art, European paintings & American photography.

Tampa
Henry B. Plant Museum: once the Tampa Bay Hotel, this museum focuses on the hotel's role in the Spanish-American War.

Museum of Fine Art: located in downtown Tampa by the Hillsborough River and the city’s beautiful Riverwalk, it exhibits modern and contemporary art, as well as Greek, Roman, and Etruscan antiquities.

Museum of Science and Industry: a scientific playground with more than 100 hands-on activities.

EDUCATION
The Tampa Bay area is home to several outstanding Colleges and Universities

Eckerd College: located on 188 acres of waterfront property in St. Petersburg, Florida. A private, coeducational, liberal arts college, Eckerd offers students a close and friendly community that values volunteer service, environmental activism and academic excellence. Eckerd’s 1,970 students choose among 41 majors.

University of South Florida Tampa: a highly rated public university located in Tampa, Florida. It is a large institution with an enrollment of 24,834 undergraduate students. Popular majors include Health Service Preparatory Studies, Biomedical Sciences and Molecular Medicine, and Liberal Arts and Humanities.

University of South Florida St. Petersburg: a public university with an enrollment of 2,789 undergraduate students. Located on the waterfront in downtown St Pete, popular majors include Psychology, Biology, and Liberal Arts and Humanities.

University of Tampa: a globally connected campus located in a vibrant metropolitan area. A distinguished faculty and approximately 9,304 students are joined in a university ranked among the best of the best by U.S. News & World Report, Forbes, and The Princeton Review. A medium-sized private university, UT offers more than 200 academic programs.

St Petersburg College:- SPC was founded in 1927 as St. Petersburg Junior College, Florida's first two-year college. Now offers four year degree programs too. Access, excellence and student support are the hallmarks of St. Petersburg College. Regionally accredited and nationally recognized, St. Petersburg College offers more than 180 degree and certificate programs of study, and many high-demand, high-skill industry-recognized workforce certifications.
Over the past decade, financial transparency has become the norm and is evidenced by the accessibility to our financial reports on the church website [https://www.cogsdunedin.com/financial-reports/](https://www.cogsdunedin.com/financial-reports/).

Our Finance Team meets monthly to review and report on the distribution of mission funds, as well as income and expenses in relation to the annual budget and comparisons to the previous year. We are also very protective of the church’s Endowment Fund, and the balance of funds in reserve and restricted accounts. We review fundraising proposals, insurance policies, spending requests and contracts, and provide recommendations to the Vestry for a final decision.

Financial reports and presentations typically begin by highlighting our distribution of funds for outreach, mission and ministry. The combination of the discretionary fund, profits from our thrift stores, special collections, fundraisers, and a portion of our diocesan tithe add up to money distributed throughout the local community, nationally and internationally. In addition to dollars, we track the number of volunteer hours our church members donate to mission and ministry programs within the local community.

Most of our outreach funding is generated by our Little Thrift Shop operated by the Episcopal Church Women and our Furniture Thrift Store. Both enterprises turn donated goods and volunteer hours into financial donations to multiple organizations. Another non-financial community mission program we track is the total pounds of food donated to our Dunedin Cares food pantry.


We have one liability – a diocesan loan originally $300K with a current balance of $249K for the purchase of the Furniture Thrift Store strip mall in our neighboring City of Clearwater FL. All loan payments are made via Furniture Thrift Store proceeds.

As always, our financial information is readily available and conversations regarding church finances are encouraged.

Incorporated in 1963, the Endowment Fund was created to receive gifts to be managed for the benefit of Church of the Good Shepherd. A Board of four Trustees elected by the parish, plus our Rector are fiduciaries for the Fund.

Over the last 57 years, the Endowment Fund has grown exclusively through the generosity of parishioners and friends of the church. This fund has been, and continues to be, increasingly important for the existence and support of our church. Distributions from the Fund have permitted improvements to church property, supported ongoing operations, allowed for acquisition of adjacent property and helped purchase the Furniture Thrift Store in 2018. It has also helped enhance outreach ministries.

The Fund is governed by its Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and the Investment Policy Statement where the spending policy stipulates the limits of annual disbursements. Currently the Fund is valued at approximately $1.5 million.

A heritage society called The Rod and Staff Society was begun in 2013 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Fund. Its purpose is to recognize and thank those individuals and families who have committed to Good Shepherd’s future by remembering the Endowment Fund in their estate plans through a documented planned gift. More so, the Society serves to enable members and friends to witness to the value of Good Shepherd in their lives and secure its ministries for generations to come.
Parishioners were surveyed regarding their hopes and dreams for our church. Survey responses indicated the following areas of focus (not necessarily in order of priority):

1) respondents hope to call a priest with whom we will grow spiritually
2) grow in our understanding of God’s word and meaning for us as a church and as individuals
3) increase membership and attract more families and youth
4) strengthen the music program
5) maintain our community outreach and ministries
6) remain financially sound and be prepared for community crises
7) grow from where we are and continually walk in the path of Christ
The Church of the Good Shepherd has a history of sustaining, loving and joyful relationships with its rectors. We have thrived under the clergy, vestry, and parishioner leadership in the past decade, and are prayerfully seeking a new rector for our church with the following qualities and aspirations (not necessarily in order of priority):

**Qualities We Are Seeking In Our New Rector**

- A compassionate and thoughtful rector who embraces all as the beloved children of God
- Delivers inspiring sermons to the congregation based in biblical readings and the gospel, applicable to daily life
- Is deeply grounded in prayer and quiet reflection
- Continues to nourish the ministries and missions of our church
- Cultivates fellowship among our parishioners
- Is committed and devoted to the spiritual development and education of our parishioners
- Shares in our admiration for all facets of our music program, expanding it by offering varying styles of music
- Is an active and engaged listener and loving and effective communicator
- Has the ability to continue to grow the church
- Understands endowment funds, budgeting, prudent spending and is respectful of fiduciary obligations
- Nurtures the children’s program and seeks new families to become members of our church
- Models justice, peace and kindness to our parishioners, our community and the world
Our Survey

Church of the Good Shepherd – Parish Profile Survey (July 2020)
A Parish Profile Survey was administered in July 2020 as another avenue to gather congregation input into the Rector Search Process. Our response rate of 60% is an indication of the level of engagement and commitment to Good Shepherd's future shared by our parishioners. Responses were used to guide sections within the Parish Profile and additional highlights are called out in this narrative. The complete survey results may be accessed here; and a summary of the survey results may be accessed here.

Respondent Demographics:
In general, our survey respondents indicated that they are long-term members of the church, as nearly 60% have worshipped at Good Shepherd for six or more years. We are a multigenerational congregation; however 67% of respondents are at least 66 years of age. A majority indicated that they are Sunday morning worshippers; reside in Dunedin and its surrounding communities; and consider themselves to be actively involved in the life of the church. A majority of respondents also indicated that they stay at Good Shepherd for the same reasons they first came:

- The priest
- The style of worship
- The fellowship

Worship and Spiritual Formation/Personal Involvement:
Worship, spiritual formation, and ministries are valued at Good Shepherd. Respondents indicated that they help them grow in their relationship with Christ and each other, and prepare them to be a witness of the Good News in their communities. They also indicated that they feel a strong sense of engagement and empowerment and are aware of and involved in ministries and programs.

Communication and Concerns:
Good Shepherd is a communicative congregation! Ninety-five percent (95%) of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that communication is open and that it is easy to find out what is going on in the church. When it comes to sharing concerns, 93% indicated that they know where to take them if they arise. The survey revealed that good communication skills are desirable characteristics in our next priest.

Respondents agreed or strongly agreed that...

- they are happy to be a member of Good Shepherd (98%)
- communication is open at Good Shepherd (95%)
- there is a strong sense of community in our church (96%)
- Good Shepherd has a good reputation in the community (96%)
- they are welcoming to newcomers and people of diverse backgrounds (96%)
- they are committed to making sure their stewardship meets the needs of the church (95%)

Welcome and Fellowship:
Our fellowship and welcoming nature extend beyond the walls of the church into its surrounding communities. Nearly all survey respondents (96% or greater) agreed or strongly agreed that Good Shepherd has a good reputation in the community; cultivates a strong sense of community in our church; and that they are happy to be a member of the church.

Personal Narrative:
When asked to identify the two most important issues facing Good Shepherd and its future, the most frequently mentioned areas were growth of the church and calling the right priest to serve us. Finally, there is resounding sentiment in the importance of our welcoming, family-like church, and our "come as you are" nature, as these were referenced most frequently as the two things respondents like most about Good Shepherd.
Please submit the following materials:

- Resume/CV
- A copy of your updated OTM profile
- A letter of interest that highlights how you feel you meet the needs of Church of the Good Shepherd and why you feel called to serve as our Rector

**The deadline to apply is October 24, 2020**

Email all documents in **PDF format** to:

The Rev. Canon Richard H. Norman  
Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida  
rmorman@episcopalswfl.org