

# The Good N'ewes for April 2024

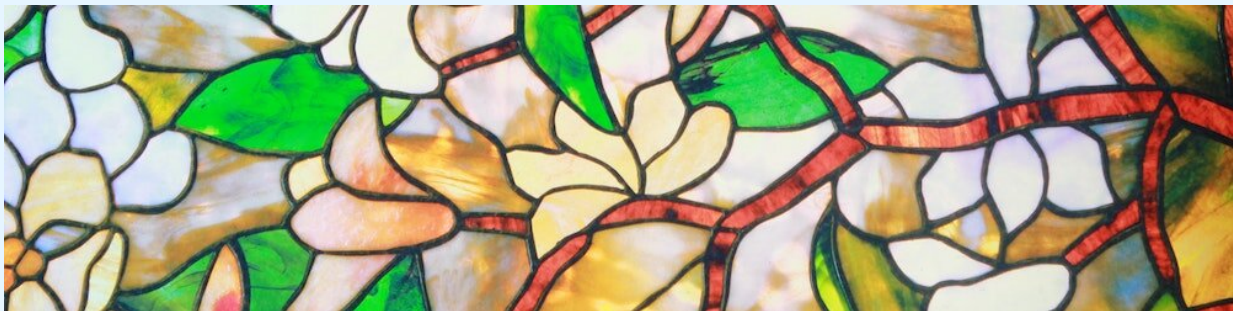
## Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Nashua, New Hampshire



*"In fundraising as ministry, we are inviting people into a new way of relating to their resources. By giving people a spiritual vision, we want them to experience that they will in fact benefit by making their resources available to us. We truly believe that if their gift is good only for us who receive it, it is not fundraising in the spiritual sense."*

-- Henri J. M. Nouwen  
A Spirituality of Fundraising

## EpiscoWhat? Stewardship



Merriam Webster has two different definitions for stewardship: 1) the office, duties, and obligations of a steward. 2) The conducting, supervising, or managing of something; the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care. Dictionary.com says similarly, 1) the position and duties of a **steward**, a person who acts as the surrogate of another or others, especially by managing property, financial affairs, an estate, etc. or 2) the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving. The Wikipedia article on stewardship starts with: Stewardship is an **ethical value** that embodies the responsible planning and management of **resources**. The concepts of stewardship can be applied to the environment and nature, economics, health, places, property, information, theology, and cultural resources.

Consistent to all these definitions is that stewardship is the care and preservation of something precious, but not for ourselves but on behalf of community. In the Episcopal church, we often use stewardship as a euphemism for fundraising. In truth, it is far deeper and wider than the common usage.

## Following the Flock

The slate of Bishops nominated for Presiding Bishop has been narrowed to four final candidates: Nebraska



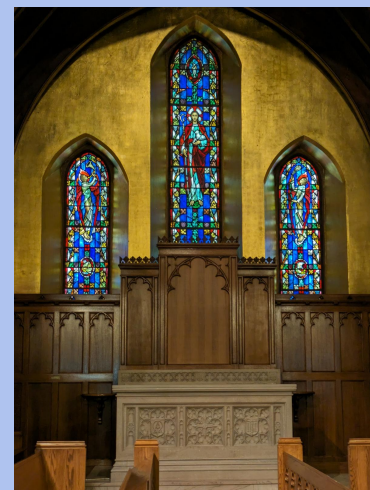
Bishop J. Scott Barker, Pennsylvania Bishop Daniel G.P. Gutiérrez, Northwestern Pennsylvania Bishop Sean Rowe and Atlanta Bishop Robert Wright. The election will take place in June.



On the left, our own Professor Jeff Cooley speed runs a group of parishioners through the highlights of the stories of King David. On the right, Nick Pothier is being celebrated for achieving his Doctor of Musical Arts.



What a beautiful Holy Week!



Have you or a loved one done or seen something great this last month, or do you have pics of a



church event? Please send the pics and info to [news@cgsnashua.org](mailto:news@cgsnashua.org). We'd love to add diversity to our coverage of The Flock.

## Happenings Highlight: Diocesan Creation Care Efforts



The Diocese of New Hampshire has its own **Earth Care Commission**, devoted to providing resources for Environmental Stewardship. The commission coordinates grants, organizes events, provides education, and supports the Solar Saints in their mission to replace inefficient lightbulbs with LED bulbs.

In particular **Sustaining Earth, Our Island Home** provides ways each individual can steward our own little corner of the earth.

### Earth Care Network Gathering Tuesday, April 30 at 7 p.m.

The Earth Care Commission and SpiritBound will host our second conversation about what is happening in environmental stewardship around the state. Do you have a passion for earth care and want to connect with others? Are you interested in hearing from others about congregational and community response to Climate Change? Do you serve on a Green Team or volunteer for a local environmental non-profit?

We'll exchange our collective wisdom on topics such as reducing plastics in our communities, talk about lessening our carbon footprint collectively and individually as well as opportunities for environmental policy advocacy. **Register here.**

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

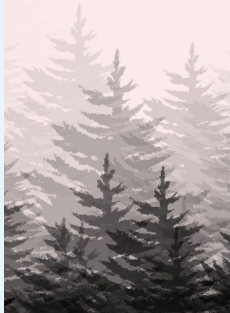
**Church Trivia:** Did you know? The Episcopal Church is a founding member of **Creation Justice Ministries**. They send out a regular **email newsletter** and provide **resources** on their website for many aspects of creation care, and economic and racial environmental justice.

## Who Are Ewe?/Thank Ewe The Finance Committee

Church financials are more than just Stewardship in the fall, they require 'round the year care. Our Finance Committee consists of Amey Fuller as chair, Sandeep Joshi, Michael Engelson, Jeff Snow, Jim Monahan, Don

**Spend**

**Wisely**



Yelton, and John Rowntree with Sue Corman as the Vestry rep. The team makes budget recommendations to the Vestry, is currently creating new financial policies and procedures, and plans to create an investing team with a mix of committee and non-committee members. To help create appropriate financial separation, the chair or a vestry member signs the church checks instead of the clergy. In addition, they are creating a financial inventory this year in advance of the recommended audit to occur next year.

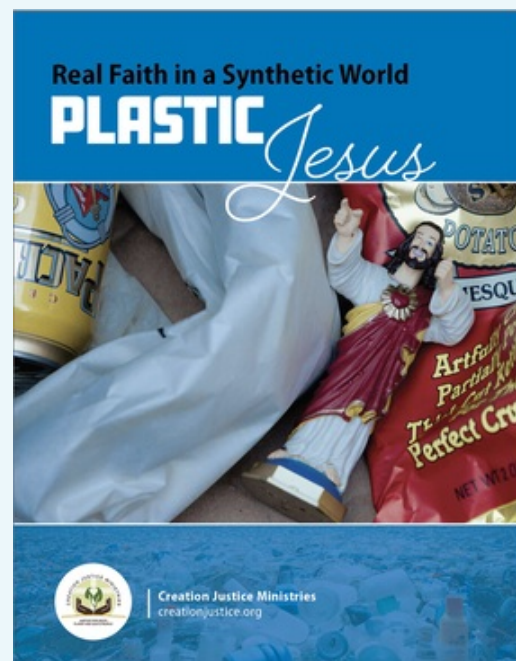
Thank you, Finance Committee for the work you do to ensure that Church of the Good Shepherd stewards our monetary resources ethically, wisely, and in the black! We literally could not exist without you.

**Book Rec: Walter Brueggemann** is an American Protestant Old Testament scholar and theologian who is widely considered one of the most influential Old Testament scholars of the last several decades. **Prayers for a Privileged People** stands out of the over 58 books, hundreds of articles, and several biblical commentaries he has written. This is a book that surprisingly has many insights into the posture needed to effectively steward the environment, each other, the poor, the church, and the rest of the world. Even as it provokes deep thought it deals gently with the reader, using humor and grace.

## Tapestry of Souls: Earth Day with the Episcopal Church

As with any endeavor we are stronger together than apart. When it comes to environmental issues it's easy to get discouraged. Take heart! The Episcopal Church as a whole has been very active in environmental issues and environmental justices causes. Read all about it on the [Creation Care Resources Page](#).

This Earth Day, Creation Justice Ministries has created a whole package around this year's worldwide "**Plastic**" theme. As a congregation, what can we do to reduce plastic use? For one, now that our dishwasher is working, we can reduce our use of plastic silverware. When we use disposable cups, we can choose paper instead of plastic. Let's pull together!



**Feedback!**



Let us know! Do you:  
Have an idea for an article?  
Thought of the BEST theme for an upcoming N'ewesletter?  
Want to correct an article?  
Thought the pictures were the greatest?

Send complaints, ideas, and feedback to **Johanna**. Any information for future articles needs to be in by the first of the month to meet the deadline.

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Remember to check out the website for more upcoming [activities and opportunities](#) to help.



[Our Website](#) | [Contact the Office](#) | [Contact the Newsletter](#)

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