



Word of the week

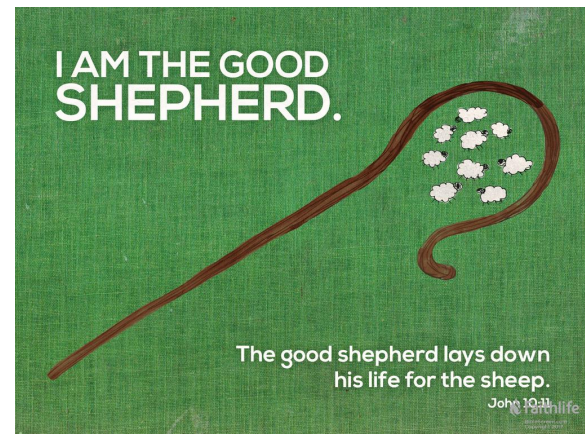
John 10:11-18

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

Something to think about....

In this week’s scripture passage we see Jesus’ style of friendship – he is prepared to lay down his life for his friends. He uses the example of a good shepherd who is willing to lay down his life for his sheep. The Good Shepherd also includes other sheep who may not be from his pen and protects them too from the wolf.



What can we learn from this? Do we go the extra mile for our friends? Do we protect or speak up for them if they are being attacked or given a hard time by other people. And are we inclusive and invite others into our friendship circle? Do we allow other people to get to know us, or do we put barriers up? Friends are God’s gift to us, so that whenever we are lost, confused, or sad, they will be there to walk alongside us, giving us security and comfort.

There will be a FAITH IN ACTION award meeting on Wednesday at 3:15pm in Room 36 for about an hour.



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK



The CHAPEL CAFÉ will be open on Friday at break! Don't forget to bring some change to buy a delicious Fairtrade snack!

Something to talk about....

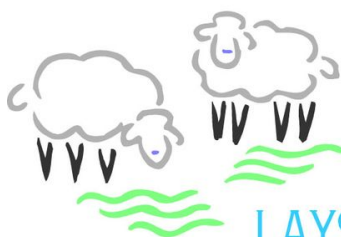
- Think about your friends – which of their qualities do you like the most?
- What kind of friend are you? How would your friends describe you?
- What about the friendship of Jesus? Would you consider Jesus to be your friend?
- "If you want a friend, be one!" What does this mean? Do you agree?

Something to do....

Watch 'The Friendship Algorithm' scene from *The Big Bang Theory*! <https://youtu.be/k0xgjUhEG3U> Howard's question at the ends is: "Why can't Sheldon make friends?" What are your thoughts?



I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD.



THE GOOD SHEPHERD

LAYS DOWN HIS

LIFE FOR THE SHEEP.



JOHN 10:11



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Loving Father, help me to have a listening heart, and form relationships that are open and supportive of others. Let the space between me and my friends become a place where others can feel safe. Be in that space to help and to heal hurts where our experience and wisdom fall short. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Risen Lord. Amen