

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

October, 2008

Council Meeting Minutes *(Draft copy, not reviewed by council)* **September 8, 2008**
(submitted by Gil Vatter)

The meeting was called to order by President Gil Vatter at 7:00 PM

Attending were: Pastor Schmidt, Mike Carp, Andy Mathisen, Lou Medici, Sharon Oberkehr, Pat Miller, Steve Miller, Tom Tehve, Karl Torjussen and Gil Vatter. Absent was Garry Westerweller

The meeting was opened with prayer by Gil Vatter

Pastor Schmidt led the Council in the beginning of a study of "The Seven Churches" which will continue over succeeding Council meetings.

The Council approved the minutes of the meeting of August 10, 2008.

Pat Miller and Tom Tehve presented the Treasurer's report and a balance sheet. They reported that giving was higher in August than the average for the year.

Because Mike Carp and Andy Mathisen are required to attend a CROP WALK meeting in Red Bank this evening, the agenda was modified to move directly to old and new business before their departure.

Old Business - It was moved and seconded that the Property Committee be authorized to spend up to \$800 for a protective wooden barrier for the side glass door and the new basement window. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business - It was moved and seconded that financial matters be removed from the church's web site and from any Council minutes that are shown in the "Shepherd's Voice". Financial reports will continue to be reported to the congregation orally, in the bulletin and on bulletin boards. The motion passed unanimously.

It was agreed that we will send the "Shepherd's Voice" to anyone asking for it as well as to other local churches.

Gil Vatter reported that we have received correspondence from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue concerning an overdue bill for \$150.54, including collection cost of 25%. Gil has written a letter to the Harrisburg legal firm handling the matter, requesting more information. We have been unable to identify any G.S. employee who resided in Pennsylvania.

The Council discussed the need for a procedure to handle the many requests for money received by the church. It was decided that all requests for a donation will be turned over to the Social Ministry Committee for screening and eventual examination by Council of any recommended by Social Ministry.

It was decided to add all organizations using the church to the "Position List" with a contact person and their e-mail address but no photo.

It was moved and seconded that the local branch of the Sons of Norway be permitted to use our facilities on Sunday April 19, 2009, from noon to 2:00 PM for their annual memorial service. The motion passed

unanimously. Pastor Schmidt will attend the service, representing G.S.

The Council agreed to the use of our facility for blood pressure screening on Friday December 12, 2008, during the day.

Christian Education - Sharon Oberkehr reported that Sunday School has begun and the children will present a Christmas pageant during the worship service on December 21.

Fellowship - Debbie Blackburn and her committee will meet to prepare a fall event, probably for September 28 or October 5.

Finance/Stewardship - Lou Medici distributed a 2009 budget for study and discussion at the October meeting. Karl Torjussen distributed the first draft of a letter, which will be sent to the congregation in late October to announce pledge Sunday, November 16. Gil Vatter asked the committee to study a "Thirteenth month offering" program and report at the next Council meeting.

Property Committee - Steve Miller and Tom Tehve reported that there will be a workday on Saturday September 20 and Tuesday September 23 to work on the spouts on the front of the building and to raise the sill in front of the basement windows, both to control water when it rains. A card will be put into the bulletin for sign-up for work day. Pat Miller has already submitted the cost of the new door glass and the new basement window to Thrivent for possible matching money. Karl Torjussen distributed photos of the approaches to the church, coming east and west, to illustrate how our overgrown trees and shrubs hide the church from anyone passing by. Property Committee will study the problem and report back to the Council with possible solutions.

Social Ministry Committee - Mike Carp and Andy Mathisen are attending a meeting to get information on our participation in this year's CROP WALK. In July, all collected food was given to Lunch Break and the Calico Cat (COG) and in August to Lunch Break and St. Mark's Pantry by Larry Jackson and Gil Vatter. We have sent a total of \$675, through September, to St. Mark's Pantry. We have begun to send a monthly check to Advent Church in Trenton for \$100. Not enough food is being donated by members of the congregation. We will try a new approach by designating a single item each month, such as "canned goods month" or "cereal month". We have been requested to consider opening an office for the Counseling Center for Human Development at our church. Linda Van Fusson, the Director of the Center, already has an office at Hope Lutheran in Feeehold. Gil Vatter will contact Hope Lutheran to find out their experiences with the Center before we consider the matter.

Youth and Family Committee - Mike Carp will begin reporting as chair of this committee. He has already contacted the Synod person responsible and will ask him to speak at G.S. in the near future.

Pastor's Report - There will be a baptism at the September 21 service and members of the Council will be installed on September 14. The study of "Psalms" has begun for adults on Sunday morning and the study of "Daniel" on Wednesdays will begin September 17.

President's Report –

Clem Hergenhan has been appointed chair of the Mutual Ministry and Staff Support Committees. He will meet with Pastor Schmidt by October to discuss procedures for working with him and with Miae Park and Pat Dunn by January. He will choose his own committee members and report to Council.

We still need an Evangelism chair and a PR person.

Gil Vatter thanked Steve Miller for the way he worked with two visitors to the church and he urged others to follow by example.

A letter of thanks has been sent by Garry Westerweller to Dick Alberti for his work as Treasurer.

A letter was sent to all members of the congregation and a different letter to former members urging them to support our ministry.

Stationery was ordered and proofs have been approved by Pastor, Pat Dunn and Gil Vatter. Delivery should be made very soon.

We have still not determined if an audit letter was sent to Synod and the ELCA for 2007. We will continue to investigate.

It appears that the organizations using our building include: Little Lambs of the Good Shepherd, the German School, Compassionate Friends and, perhaps, the NJ Youth Symphony. A contact person, with an e-mail, should appear on the "Position List".

Vice President Andy Mathisen should begin the process of preparing a slate of candidates for Council.

Little Lambs of the Good Shepherd - Pastor Schmidt distributed a September report from Barbara Benson. It was suggested that Mrs. Benson distribute copies of the "Shepherd's Voice" to all parents of LLGS students.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

One of the great joys of my life for many years has been the music from the "Big Band Era" of the 1930's and 1940's. Among my favorite big bands is the Glenn Miller Orchestra, arguably among the top bands of the time.

I was reminded of the Miller orchestra a few Sundays ago as Pastor Ed preached from Saint Matthew and mentioned the "pearl of great price", since one of the most admired songs played by Glenn Miller was his famous "String of Pearls". You can seldom find a collection of his "best of " records without finding "String of Pearls" included.

In life too, a string of pearls is a valuable possession, which demands care and maintenance. It is worn with pride and reflects the taste of the person wearing it. To me, our congregation is like a string of pearls, each person a shimmering, individual gem, yet, when strung together, a wonderful set of gems, which, as a group, radiate a collective aura, different from any other. Our parish is a very remarkable pearl necklace. Each member brings to the church his own unique assets, but, all together, we project a personality and strength, which has become the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

Now, we stand at a crossroads, questioning which road to follow and, as we move cautiously forward, we must search for new or former members to enhance our pearl necklace, to make the journey with us. New pearls to lengthen and strengthen our string of pearls.

Last month, I asked you to give your time, your talent and your treasure toward the success of our ministry. Today, I ask you to invite another person to join our Christian community. I challenge every one of you to find another pearl, a friend or neighbor to come with you to church. In addition, when you see strangers in the narthex, make it your business to welcome them, to make them feel at home. Tell them about your church and invite them to return soon again.

Your effort could add another pearl to our necklace of great value.

Gil Vatter

HELP WANTED

THE CHURCH COUNCIL NEEDS A PERSON TO BECOME CHAIR OF THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE. ALL INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD CONTACT PASTOR SCHMIDT OR ANY MEMBER OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL.

Retired? - Looking to begin some "pay-back"? - Need an activity during the week?

The Monmouth County Office of Social Services is looking for volunteers to drive people to the hospital, to doctor appointments, to the dentist, etc. For more information, contact :

Katie Perez - Volunteer Coordinator
Volunteers in Public Service
Monmouth County Office of Social Services
Phone - 732-845-2081

Greetings In Christ from Pastor Ed

The Celebration of Reformation Sunday (October 26) is a good time for us to review the basics of our faith and Reformation Heritage. The chief article of faith for us is that we are JUSTIFIED BY GOD'S GRACE THROUGH FAITH.

In Article IV of the Augsburg Confession on Justification, we read:

It is also taught among us that we cannot obtain forgiveness of sin and righteousness before God by our own merits, works or sanctifications, but that we receive forgiveness of sin and become righteous before God by grace for Christ's sake, through faith, when we believe that Christ suffered for us and that for his sake our sin is forgiven and righteousness and eternal life are given to us. For God will regard and reckon this faith as righteousness, as Paul says in Romans 3:21-26 and 4:5.

The Sermon Theme for Reformation Sunday will be, "A CONTINUING REFORMATION", and reminds us of the need to keep our faith and activities up to date.

The Fall Program at Good Shepherd has done just that! We have gotten off a to a good start -- the two recent work days saw many people involved in trimming hedges and trees and well as painting both inside and outside of the church. Our Bible Studies are underway with a good number of people being a part of both the Psalms Study on Sundays at 9 a.m. and Daniel on Wednesdays at 1 and 7 p.m. Of course, many folks work behind the scenes to keep us going. All of this is truly appreciated. Thanks!

This month as the Fall Program gets underway would be a good time to invite someone to worship with you. Invite them to Bible Study also. There is always room for more. As the Holy Spirit empowers us to work and witness together let us celebrate our heritage as Lutheran and rejoice in the Lord's presence in our midst.

Joy and Peace
Pastor Ed

Special Reminder → SPONSORS ARE NEEDED FOR ALTAR FLOWERS. AVAILABLE SUNDAYS ARE LISTED IN THE NARTHEX

SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS (submitted by Gil Vatter)

In July, all the food contributed by the members of the parish, was distributed to the Calico Cat (Community Outreach Groups) in Middletown and Lunch Break in Red Bank. In August the food was taken to Lunch Break and St. Mark's Pantry in Keansburg. If you have a suggestion to receive food from Good Shepherd, please notify the church office or any member of the Church Council.

The FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties distributes 3.8 million pounds of food a year through 250 charities. Last year, the FoodBank purchased 5,000 turkeys for the holiday season. This year they expect to buy 6,000 turkeys and hope that another 4,000 will be donated. If you patronize a supermarket which awards a free turkey based on total purchases, consider donating it to a pantry or food kitchen.

Remember, each time you shop for food, there are hungry people living in Monmouth County who cannot afford to buy enough food to feed themselves and their families.

In September, Good Shepherd, with the help of Thrivent, contributed over \$1,400 to flood relief.

BRING SOME FOOD TO CHURCH THIS WEEK!!!

AROUND THE PARISH (submitted by Gil Vatter)

1. If you are interested in contacting Compassionate Friends, which meets in our church, you may call Carol Hirsch at 732-671-4715 or Terri Dassing at 732-787-3866. The organization meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 7:30 PM until 9:00 PM.
2. The church was notified that Gail Denison, Aletta Genova's brother, has died. Gail worshiped at Good Shepherd many times in the past.
3. Kim Wherli spent her summer working at the Eagle's Nest on Sandy Hook.
4. Thanks to Mike Carp, Bob Fulmer and Steve Miller for their mini work day in late August.
5. The Rev. Frederick Neiderhiser, who led our services during Pastor Lauder's illness, has accepted a call to serve as interim pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church in Oakland, effective April 10.
6. Rev. David Lauder has accepted a call to serve as interim pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Edison, effective July 1.
7. Rev. Susan Nagle, who was a seminary assistant at Good Shepherd, has accepted a call as pastor at the Lutheran Church of the savior in Paramus, effective August 8.
8. The church has been notified that a son, August Henry, was born to Natalie Papailou Zilincar, daughter of Greg and Pauline Papailou on July 2.
9. Thanks to Bill Wherli for painting the yellow stripe at the entrance to the church.
10. A tip of the sombrero to everyone who pitched in on the September 20 and the September 23 WORK DAYS. The "campus" has been spruced up, the windows painted, new spouting added and lots of other tasks completed.

Special Reminder → IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE RECEIVING "THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE", PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE, A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL OR NANCY AND CLEM HERGENHAN.

Greetings from Little Lambs (submitted by Barbara Benson)

The school year began with happy faces, warm hugs of welcome and lots of stories from the summer. The children settled beautifully into their routines and have been busily getting art done for our back to school night, October 6. We are very thankful to Mrs. Miller (Pat) and Mrs. Alberti (Sue), who are members of the school committee for coming to welcome out families the first day. They are part of the reason things moved along so smoothly. Our classes are still small but we anticipate a few more children will be joining us in the next couple of months. The second week of school found us in the sanctuary with Pastor Ed. We introduced ourselves to each other and talked about prayer. It was short sweet and precious! We certainly look forward to more time with Pastor and an opportunity for us all to meet the congregation in worship soon.

In years past our three year olds have met on Monday Wednesday and Friday, but the parents have agreed that with a change to Monday Wednesday and Thursday, we will all benefit from having both classes here on Thursday rather than have just the threes be in the building on Fridays. We would like to start a Toddler/Parent class on Fridays, but that will have to begin later in the year after we have presented the Potty Seminar (**Thursday, October 2**) and celebrated our anniversary with alumni and have gotten the word out that this is going to be available.

I will be at the Holmdel Community day on **Saturday, September 27** with flyers and brochures about the school and the upcoming seminar. Please stop by and say hello (oh, and please pray for fair weather ☺)

As mentioned our 5th anniversary is approaching and we are inviting our alumni, past staff and their families to join us in celebrating. The date is **Monday October 20th at 5 p.m.** Holmdel children do not have school that day (no homework) so we are hoping many of our families will visit with us. The congregation is invited as well, just let us know you are coming by calling the church office. We will be having a child friendly supper and dessert and a slide show of years past. It will be a smile filled evening (but definitely not quiet ☺) and a time to give thanks for those special Lambs of His flock.

We are very appreciative of all the volunteers who came out for the work days. Certainly the church is “sprucing” up. Two Boy Scouts, four year old teacher, Mrs. Wagner’s son Brandon and my son P.J. worked with us to really clean up the playground area. I am also in the process of polishing the floors in the classrooms (two are done) two more this week along with the Frank hall rug. This holiday season Good Shepherd will sparkle like the gem it is! To the other church angels who float in and out during the week, we send our heart felt thanks. We have found buttons from a special Mrs. V, numerous goldfish and snacks from a quiet Mr. J, egg cartons, tubes and box tops from a lovely Mrs. B. and the baskets and gifts for the Bazaar that are appearing and multiplying on the table are too many to type here, but I know “bunny” tracks when I see them. Remember, the Basket Bazaar is on **Friday, November 14**. Please continue to keep us in mind! More details to follow.

ONE LAST PIECE OF GOOD NEWS! Barnes and Noble (my other employer) has offered our school prime holiday real estate, that is to say Little Lambs is holding a **Holiday Shopping Book Fair on Friday, December 5, 2008**. That means if you can wait to do some holiday shopping until then, ANYTHING (except Gift Cards) someone buys with our Voucher at Barnes and Noble that WHOLE DAY, we will receive 15% in the form of a check. So if you spend \$10 in the store, we will get \$1.50 from Barnes and Noble. If you spend \$100, we will get \$15. If we tell other friends, families, acquaintances to just shop on that day, B& N gives us the money. So please wait to purchase your book and music and DVD gifts until December 5. Even if you just come in for coffee and cake...we get 15% of the bill...What a great tip!

Well...this was going to be a short bit of news but really, have you ever known me to short for words?
Blessings for a beautiful Autumn Season. With Love, Barbara Benson

A FEW NOTES FROM THE SENIOR CHOIR

Miae Park and the Senior Choir have been working on music for the worship service since August 4. They presented as their offering in song, "Instrument of Grace" by Joseph M. Martin on September 7 and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" by Gilbert M. Martin for September 14, Holy Cross Day.

In coming weeks they will sing: "You Are My Light" by Dave and Jean Perry, "I Will Sing Praise" by Joseph M. Martin and "Rejoice, Be Glad, Give Praise" by Dale Wood

Everyone is welcome to join the choir any Thursday at 7:30 PM. Come and enjoy an evening of musical fun and fellowship.

Voice Newsletter Articles

(submitted by Nancy & Clem Hergenhan)

If you have articles or announcements for the Voice please email them to us at the addresses below or call us.

If you wish to receive the Voice via email, please send us your email addresses, or call us.

Home phone 732-946-9084 clem@csfcorp.com nancyh@comcast.net

October

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1 Bible Study 1pm & 7pm	2 Choir practice 7:30 – 9pm	3	4
5 10:00 service	6 Finance cmte 7pm	7	8 Bible Study 1pm & 7pm	9 Choir practice 7:30 – 9pm	10	11
12 10:00 service	13 Council mtg 7pm	14	15 Bible Study 1pm & 7pm	16 Choir practice 7:30 – 9pm	17	18
19 10:00 service	20 Little Lambs Anniversary Celebration 5 – 7:30 PM	21	22 Bible Study 1pm & 7pm	23 Choir practice 7:30 – 9pm	24	25
26 10:00 service	27	28	29 Bible Study 1pm & 7pm	30 Choir practice 7:30 – 9pm	31	

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