

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

November, 2008

Council Meeting Minutes (*Draft copy, not reviewed by council*) **October 13, 2008**
(submitted by Garry Westerweller)

In attendance were;

Pastor Ed, Gil Vatter , Mike Carp, Lou Medici, Karl Tourjensen, Andy Mathisen, Garry Westerweller, Tom Tehve, Steve Miller, Sharon Oberkehr, Pat Miller, Barbara Benson, and Clem Hergenhan.

Meeting opened with prayer and devotions led by Pastor Ed.

- Brief discussion ensued regarding the upcoming 45 anniversary of Good Shepherd. Pastor Ed challenged council to envision what we would like to see by the year 2012.
- Main suggestion was to see 20 kids in Sunday school by then

Minutes of the September 8th meeting were unanimously approved.

Clem submitted an outline/preliminary report identifying the goals and progress of the formation of a Mutual Ministry Committee.

Copies of the Treasurer's report were submitted by Pat Miller and reviewed by Council

The following committee's presented their respective reports to Council:

Christian Education Committee: Sharon was hopeful to put together some type of Christmas Pageant.

Fellowship Committee: Debbie Blackburn has a Christmas Party in the works. Pat Miller is going to try to coordinate another Christmas event along with the Party

Finance/Stewardship Committee: Lou had previously presented the budget to council for review. No major changes were discussed or made at this time. Lou discussed his proposal to send out anonymous pledge cards to the congregation in an effort to get a better feel on where the budget can potentially go. Karl composed two letters regarding this which were reviewed and will be revised prior to sending out to the congregation.

Little Lambs: Barbara Benson reported a down enrollment. Several fund raisers are in the works, including a December 5th voucher program at Barnes and Noble, whereby B&N will donate 15% of sales with the voucher to the Little Lambs School. Little Lambs is having a "Birthday Party" this Monday, Oct 20th. German School is working well with Little Lambs.

Property: Steve Miller reviewed repairs that were made and are in the process of being made to the Church and property. Work days were successful. With the help of a donation from Gayle Mcnight the Church Lettering will now be more visible.

Social Ministry: Food pantries continue to be in serious need of donations. Currently we are dividing our donations between local food banks. October is canned vegetable month.

Worship and Music: Andy reported on the crop walk progress. 3-4 will be walking. Continue to need ushers and lay readers.

Youth and Family: Mike reported that he is trying to get Jason Reed to come in to talk to the youth and their families. (Jason is the youth director from the Synod)

Pastor's Report: Pastor Ed has met with the Little Lambs Children. His study groups have been having very good attendance. So far, there are 3 children in Confirmation Classes. There was no first communion response.

President's Report: Gil reported that our new stationary was in and is currently in use. Andy was charged with submitting names for council nominations. Gil also reported that our mission statement now appears weekly in the bulletin. Gil is also considering forming an AD-HOC committee to consider sprucing up the Narthex.

New Motions and Updates:

- Pastor asked that we consider sending \$100.00 per month to Synod between now and the end of the year. After deliberation, council decided to postpone this proposal and re-introduce at next month's meeting
- Gil asked about inviting The Counseling Centers for Human Development to set up an office at Good Shepherd. The motion was approved.
- Lou moved that the Little Lambs user fee be suspended and the garbage fee removal be taken over by the church. This motion was approved.
- Gil moved that a \$100.00, one time gift be given to the memorial fund for Al Acer, deceased minister at Reformation. This motion was also approved.
- Pat Miller is looking to set up a benefit concert for Little Lambs with the Youth Orchestra. Probably sometime around Jan 10th or 11th.
- Council discussed involving Little Lambs children as well as the children from the German School in upcoming services. (Singing, Performing, etc..)

The Meeting Closed with the Lord's Prayer

MISSION STATEMENT

In the month of October, the Congregation Council unanimously agreed to adopt a mission statement for the congregation, to be printed in the weekly bulletin.

The Lutheran Church of the Good shepherd is a Christian community empowered by the Holy Spirit to witness to the good news of Jesus Christ through worship and service, in faith and with love, to all people.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Raise the song of harvest home.
All be safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin.
Come ye thankful people, come;

God our maker doth provide
For our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come;
Raise the song of harvest home.

Thanksgiving Day is traditionally a time to celebrate, and, at the same time, count all the many blessings which

God has given us. On November 27, before you take your place at this year's Thanksgiving Day feast, please set an extra place at your family's table for your less fortunate neighbors. Hunger knows no holidays. Need has no joy.

The Foodbank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties is making a special effort to set a place at our tables for as many needy families in our area as possible. The extent of thier outreach depends on how many of us remember our neighbors.

Almost 70,000 people are served each year by the Foodbank each year, including 19,000 children. Send a check today, in time for Thanksgiving. Make someone else's holiday a time of joy and thanksgiving.

The Foodbank of Monmouth and ocean Counties
3300 Route 66
Neptune, NJ 07753

Gil Vatter

Special Reminder → BRING SOME FOOD TO CHURCH THIS WEEK!!!

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE (submitted by Gil Vatter)

We remind you, once again, that the food pantries in our area are running out of food. Nationwide, 800,000 more people fell into poverty between 2006 and 2007. The largest subgroup was children under six years old. Roughly, one in five American lives below the poverty level. The need is desperate. We urge you to buy canned vegetables and canned meat and bring them to the church for distribution to our local food pantries. Remember the needy when you shop for food.

In August, all the food you brought to church was taken to Lunch Break in Red Bank and St. Mark's Pantry in Keansburg and in September, to Lunch Break and Calico Cat in Middletown.

AROUND THE PARISH (submitted by Gil Vatter)

1. Welcome to the Counseling Centers for Human Development, which will be setting up shop at Good Shepherd over the next few months. CCHD is a non-profit organization, which offers advice and counseling to people in our area for a reasonable fee.
2. Thanks again to Debbie Blackburn and her Fellowship Committee for the great luncheon they presented after church on October 5. The food was delicious and the fellowship lots of fun. Hope we can do it soon again.
3. Work Day activities continue on the campus and inside the building. Thanks to Bill Nemeik for the inside painting, to Bob Fulmer for replacing the batteries in the church organ, to Tom Tehve for hauling away a ton of brush, to Barb Haher for cleaning up the narthex. Thanks to all who pitched in to improve the appearance of the church.
4. Thanks to everyone who continues to bring badly needed food for the local food pantries.
5. Happy fifth birthday to the Little Lambs of the Good shepherd. May you have many, many more.

Special Reminder → IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE RECEIVING "THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE", PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE.

Special Christmas Fellowship Event with Handel's *Messiah* – December 21

(submitted by Pat Miller)

When was the last time you heard the full, glorious *Messiah* sung with an orchestra? The Monmouth Civic Chorus has been doing portions of the *Messiah* every year, but not the whole thing. (And it's been several years since we all went to hear Jo Ellen!) Sure, you could go to Carnegie Hall for their annual *Messiah*, but you would have to go all the way to NY late at night on a week night and pay up to \$100 for a ticket.

This year the Monmouth Civic Chorus will be doing the whole thing in concert on the afternoon of Sunday, December 21, at the Count Basie. It will be just as good as the Carnegie Hall version. Plus, it is in the daytime, and you only have to drive as far as Red Bank.

And then, we will all come back to the church afterwards for pot luck dinner and fellowship. (This is not the same as the Good Shepherd Christmas party; that is on a different date.)

Here is what the Asbury Park Press had to say the last time MCC did *Messiah* in 1998:

“Mark Shapiro, a gifted musician and conductor, led this performance Saturday at Red Bank's Count Basie Theatre before a sold-out house. ... This "Messiah" was blessed with fine soloists and some truly magic moments. ... And finally, there was this wonderful chorus. Purity of tone, excellent clarity of line, subtle dynamic changes...a beautiful collaboration between a conductor and his singers.”

We are looking forward to a similar experience. Won't you join us? The concert will be at 3:00pm the afternoon of Sunday, December 21 at the Count Basie Theater in Red Bank. Tickets are \$20 and \$30 with the group discount. And don't forget the Count Basie will soon reopen with a majestic, completely redecorated interior. This is your chance to see it.

There will be a signup in the Narthex, or contact Pat Miller at 732 671-5917, or patmiller@comcast.net for tickets.

As we in MCC like to say, “It won't be Christmas without it!”

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

THE COUNSELING CENTERS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

At the regular meeting of the Congregation Council on Monday October 13, it was unanimously agreed that we will welcome the Counseling Centers for Human Development, Inc. to Good shepherd Church.

The CCHD will be offered space in our building to use for counseling sessions on an "as needed" basis. Ms. Linda Van Fossen, Executive Director, will oversee all activities of the organization and will be responsible for scheduling all activities.

CCHD has several offices in the state of New Jersey, including one at Hope Lutheran Church in Freehold, where they have been successfully operating for many years. CCHD, combining the tenets of spirituality and psychology, aims to help people in their life struggles by offering individual counseling, marriage counseling, family therapy, group therapy, psychiatric evaluation and medication, etc.

Anyone interested in exploring the services offered by CCHD may find out more by contacting Ms. Van Fossen

at 908-276-0590 or write to:

CCHD
201 Lincoln Avenue East
Cranford, New Jersey 07016

A CALICO CAT CHRISTMAS

The Calico Cat at Old First Church, 69 Kings Highway, Middletown, will present a Calico Cat Christmas for the benefit of their ongoing charity work. The gift fair will be held on Saturday November 29, Sunday November 30, Saturday December 6 and Sunday December 7 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM.

This year, the Calico Cat will offer tax-free shopping, cash sales only, to benefit their Emergency Assistance Fund to help the poor overseas and those in need in our own neighborhoods. Shop for holiday gifts at the Calico Cat Christmas.

A FEW NOTES FROM THE SENIOR CHOIR

Senior Choir rehearsal is every Thursday from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. All are welcome. Try it, you'll like it.

On coming Sundays, the Senior Choir will sing:

"Think on These Things" by Ruth Elaine Schram

"How Firm a Foundation" by Dale Wood

"When Thou, My Righteous Judge, Shall Come" arranged by Michael Bedford

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

November 2008

						1 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch
2 10:00 Service	3 7:00 Fin Cmte Mtg	4	5 1:00 & 7:00 Bible Study 6:00 Conf Class	6 7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice	7	8 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch
9 10:00 Service	10 7:00 Council Mtg	11	12	13 7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice	14 7pm Little Lambs Gift & Basket Bazaar	15 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch
16 10:00 Service	17	18 7:30 Compassionate Friends	19 1:00 & 7:00 Bible Study 6:00 Conf Class	20 7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice	21	22 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch
23 10:00 Service	24	25	26	27	28	29 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch
30 10:00 Service						