

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

April 2009

(good-shepherd.us & little-lambs.us)

From The Pastor

Greetings in Christ,

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on April 5 and I hope this will be a time of renewal for us all. The events of Jesus' life are not just to be commemorated but reproduced in our lives. Thus, having died to self, we are raised to new life in Jesus. Here is our schedule of services for Holy Week:

PALM SUNDAY - April 5 10 a.m.

Procession begins in Frank Hall. Palms distributed to all.

Sermon: "**OBEDIENCE AND VICTORY**" --

Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 11:1-11

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 9 - 7 p.m.

Sermon: "**AN ATTITUDE OF SERVICE**" John 13:1-17

Service includes Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 10 - 7 p.m.

TENEBRAE - The Service of Shadows - includes the reading of the *Passion according to St. John*. Various people will take part in the reading.

EASTER DAY - APRIL 12 - **THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

9 a.m. Breakfast

10 a.m. WORSHIP THE RISEN LORD.

Sermon: "**NOT FOR EASTER ONLY**" I Corinthians 15:1-11 and Mark 16:1-8

Join us for our Holy Week and Easter Services. And - why not invite someone to come with you?

Peace and Joy,

Pastor Ed

Council Meeting Minutes (*Draft copy, not reviewed by council*) **March 9, 2009**

In attendance were the following:

Pastor Ed, Gil Vatter, Lou Medici, Garry Westerweller, Tom Tehve, Barbara Benson, Lil Nemcik, and Karl Torjesson.

Pat Miller, Steve Miller, Mike Carp and Sharon Oberkehr were not in attendance.

Gil opened the meeting with prayer

Pastor continued his devotions regarding the design structure of the letters to the Seven Churches. The Churches that are growing are the ones that are asking something of their congregations.

February's minutes were approved as amended

Reports

Treasurer's Report presented by Tom Tehve.

- Spending for the month was higher than what we received

Finance Committee Report presented by Lou Medici

- Audit was conducted of Good Shepherd's financials.
- Lou handed out a letter to council explaining how audit was conducted
- Believe Good Shepherd's 2008 financials to be sound.
- Gil will send an official report to Synod.

Little Lambs Report was presented by Barbara Benson

- Enrollment remains small
- We passed the Holmdel Board of Health visit
- Issues concerning space utilized by the German school, They wished to mix into the Little Lambs population and were denied their request for health risk reasons / immunization issues. (It was suggested that the heads of the German School be invited to a future council meeting to address these issues.
- Science Festival will be held on Sunday 3/29/09. Volunteers are needed. Festival will follow the Church Service and lunch will be provided.
- Discussion of utilization of Little Lamb space for next year. Letter was sent to Shawn Mc Neill at Middletown Township. There may be a possible interest in utilizing our space. Mr. Mc Neill has requested an opportunity to visit.

Property Report was presented by Tom Tehve

- Tom handed out a lengthy report that was prepared by Steve Miller
- Report will be attached to the minutes
- Next work day will be April 1st, 9 AM to 4 PM.
- Request that announcement be made in the next Voice as well as the next three Sunday Bulletins
- Sharon to make a Narthex poster announcement.
- Steve wrote a procedure for getting keys and for properly opening and closing the facility. Copy to be submitted at the April Council meeting for approval
- Barbara reported a faulty fire alarm. Fire department could not gain access to building. We will need to invest in a Knox Box.
- Alarm Company scheduled for a March 10th visit to check out alarm system.

Social Ministry Report was presented by Gil

- Final total for the Souper Bowl of caring was \$3732.00
- Proceeds to be distributed to local food banks.
- Moved that funds be distributed as follows; \$1000.00 to Calico Cat, \$1000.00 to St Marks, \$1000.00 to Lunch Break, and \$732.00 to IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) Motion was approved unanimously
- ELCA world hunger appeal has started.
- Notices will be put in Voice regarding upcoming COG's efforts to collect about 40 sets of toiletry items. This is a June event.
- Life line screening report was sent to us for critique. Gil will fill out the questionnaire and return
- Relay for life fund raiser for cancer is Thursday 7-9PM at the Holmdel Fire Co.

Worship and Music Report was presented by Gil

- 8 people have been attending the mid week Lenten service.
- Copier discussion will be tabled till next meeting

Pastors Report

- Met with Worship and Music Committee
- Met with Newman Family for Baptism
- Met with Little Lambs School Board

- Finished Bible Study on Daniel
- Began Bible Study on Paul's letter to the Ephesians
- Had chapel on Ash Wednesday for Little Lambs Children
- Led two Ash Wednesday services
- Confirmation continues with 3 young people
- Confirmation will be Sunday, May 31
- Copy of Pastor's written report will be attached to the minutes

Presidents Report presented by Gil

- Active members list handed to Council for review. Please return edited version back to Pat Dunn
- There was an article in the Asbury Park Press titled, "Collection of Woes," Article stated that the median (mid point) of collections in Churches surveyed was \$200.00. This meant that ½ the congregation gave more and ½ the congregation gave less. This figure is slightly misleading as, on average, 5% of the congregations surveyed gave 60% of the total collected.
- Gil determined the following terms for existing Council Members:
 - Gil 2008-2010
 - Andy 2008-2010
 - Steve 2009-2011
 - Lil 2009-2011
 - Tom 2009-2011
 - Garry 2008-2010
 - Lou 2007-2009 (which means this will be Lou's Last Year)
 - Mike 2008-2010
 - Sharon 2009-2011
 - Karl 2008-2010
- 22nd Annual Assembly of the NJ Synod will be held at the Brunswick Hilton on Friday, 6/5 thru Saturday, 6/6. 2 volunteers are needed. Pricing is \$85.00 per person with a \$5.00 discount if you register prior to April. Included Banquet.

Old Business

Garry reported on results of survey regarding receipt of e mail attachments to Council Members. All surveyed could receive the necessary documents with the exception of Gil. It was determined this was due to his not having excel on his computer. Lou offered to give him a copy to load.

Procedure discussed to get minutes and attachments to Pat Dunn for filing each month. After each council meeting, once minutes are approved, The secretary will leave a copy of the minutes and any attachments for Pat to file.

New Business

It was moved that the Church pay the \$80.00 fee for Pastor to attend the Synod Assembly. This motion was passed.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Garry Westerweller

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

"Always treat others as you would like them to treat you" - Matthew 7:12

I recently read somewhere that every one of the major religions of the world has a "Golden Rule", or something very much like it. I doubt that this is a coincidence or a case of simply copying text from one holy book into another.

On the contrary; it seems to me that wanting someone to treat me in the same manner that they would want me to treat them is just about the most basic feeling a human being can have. Even a substantial part of the animal kingdom operates about the same way on a daily basis. It's a good way to assure that one will get to have a nice day and live for tomorrow.

But, there's more to the interpretation of the "Golden Rule" than simple survival and the hope for a serene existence. The injunction to treat others as you wish to be treated implies that we are obliged to follow all the provisos which are found in the Gospel. You must not only be nice to strangers, your neighbors, friends and family, but also, as we are admonished, share what we have with others, and more to the point feed those who cannot feed themselves.

The Congregation Council has been trying to offer various and continuing opportunities for this parish to respond to the challenge of the Gospel:

1. Food is accumulated and distributed to local pantries on a regular basis. Some of you do this on a regular basis. A can of food is easy to add to your regular grocery list.
2. Money was donated during a special "Souperbowl Sunday" appeal and was sent to four local agencies which care for the needy. Some of you put some extra money in the offering plate. A few dollars can be spared to help others.
3. A special offering is taking place from Ash Wednesday until Easter for the ELCA "World Hunger Appeal". Again, take this opportunity to be included in the way our congregation shows that we care for others. Even a dollar or two will help feed those who may be starving.

In this column today, I have listed food, money and concern for others as things to be remembered. Two require you to reach into your pocket and part with some cash. One, however, simply asks you to remember what you hear in church and read during Bible study.

"I tell you this: anything you did for one of my brothers here, however humble, you did for me." Matthew 25:40
Gil Vatter

GOOD SHEPHERD GEARS UP FOR LENT TO EASTER TIME

Please mark your calendars and take advantage of these opportunities to worship and learn.

Wednesday 4/1 - Bible Study with Pastor - 1 PM & 7 PM

Thursday 4/2 - Midweek Lenten Service

Sunday 4/5 - Palm Sunday Service - 10 AM

Thursday 4/9 - Maundy Thursday Service - "Serving" - 7 PM

Friday 4/10 - Good Friday Tenebrae Service - 7 PM

Sunday 4/12 - Easter Breakfast - 9 AM
Easter Service - 10 AM



GOOD SHEPHERD MEMBER OF THE MONTH.

WALTER A. KEYL

Walter retired from Exxon 15 years ago, and has found it “very gratifying” to continue volunteering 4 hours most afternoons, year round, for two different activities (Medicare drug insurance counseling, and tax preparation). Walter especially enjoys helping Medicare-eligible seniors: “healthcare is so complex that most people can not understand how it operates”.

Walter initially volunteered at Bayshore Hospital. He trained to be a counselor for NJ drug prescription and subsidy plans, in a program called SHIP “State Health Insurance Assistance Program”. A paid NJ dept of insurance group in Trenton coordinates and conducts quarterly training for 10 unpaid volunteers, including Walter.

Walter sees or phones 30 to 50 clients per month. These clients are referred by either Family and Children Services or Social Security. The clients are allotted 1 hour with Walter when they call SCAN (Eatontown) or Office of the Aging (Freehold), where Walter is provided offices. A typical client might be a recent widow, who doesn’t understand Medicare. Inputting the client’s specific meds, Walter uses the internet to choose the best of the 52 available prescription drug programs, and signs up the client on-the-spot.

In 2007, Walter moved to Seabrook Village where he joined several other Good Shepherd alumni: Jack & Irene Cunningham, Harold and Trudy Lenz, Edith Kibler, and Margot Kraemer.

Walter also volunteers as tax consultant for AARP. Two afternoons each week, during the tax season, Walter can be found in the Monmouth County Library, Shrewsbury, providing tax advice and preparing tax returns.

Does Walter take vacations? NO- he takes off days, “but keeps going” year-round.

Why does Walter do this work? “It is very rewarding- people really appreciate and need the help”.

Walter is planning to continue his year-round volunteering “as long as health keeps up”.

WURFFEL FUND COLLEGE AID AVAILABLE

A limited amount of financial aid for college students is available for Lutheran students through the Karl, John, Elizabeth Wurffel Memorial Fund.

Any member of a New Jersey Synod, ELCA, congregation may apply for undergraduate study only. Priority based on activity in the life of the church and on the basis of need.

Assistance is provided on a one-year basis but may be renewed each year.
See Pastor Schmidt or Gil Vatter for more information.

AROUND THE PARISH (submitted by Gil Vatter)

1. BUNNY KUHL continues with rehab for her new hip.
 2. Former member BILL THEUNE has finally decided to retire to his rocking chair as of May 1.
 3. The NORTH SHORE NJ CHAPTER of THRIVEN FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS was chosen as a 2008 "Chapter of Excellence" - Congratulations to all the board members from Good Shepherd.
 4. THE CHURCH COUNCIL for 2009 was installed by PATOR ED on Sunday February 22. Thanks to all who serve.
 5. WOW!!! Did you see PASTOR ED'S newly painted office? Another tip of the old fedora to MIKE CARP and BILL NEMCIK. What's next?
 6. The congregation welcomed LILY ANNA NEUMANN into the fellowship on March 15. LILY is the daughter of BILL AND ELLA NEUMAN and the granddaughter of LIL AND BILL NEMCIK.
 7. THE LADIES LUNCHEON GROUP met on March 20 at Charlie Brown's Restaurant in Tinton Falls. For more information about the group see Barbara Haher.
 8. Don't forget WORK DAY on Wednesday April 1
 9. Come join us for breakfast on Easter Sunday morning April 12 at 9AM.
 10. BEING THANKFUL – A pastor said to a precocious six-year old boy, "So, your mother says prayers for you every night? That's very good. What does she pray?" The little boy replied "Thank God he's in bed!"
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WORK DAY

The board of church properties is having a workday on April 1st, from 9am to 4pm. Can you paint, rake, clean or do almost any of the special projects that need doing. The winter has left us with the usual group of spring cleanup projects and there's always lots to do, indoor and outdoor. Come join us for as much time as you can give. Let's git 'er done.

GOOD SHEPHERD PARTICIPATES IN THRIVENT "CARE ABOUNDS IN COMMUNITIES" PROGRAM

North Shore NJ Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
86 Pinetree Drive
Parlin, NJ 08859
February 27, 2009

Thank you for participating in the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Care Abounds in Communities program.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$3,732 made payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. This represents the amount of \$3,232 which was raised by your Souper Bowl of Caring event, plus the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans matching funds of \$500 which was approved by the North Shore NJ Chapter.

We look forward to partnering with you again in the future in this ministry, to help us help our communities.

Sincerely,

Katherine Antonitis
Financial Director

SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT

A substantial collection of canned meat and vegetables was delivered to Lunch Break of Red Bank by LARRY JACKSON and to the St. Mark's Pantry of Keansburg in February.

The final tally for the Souper Bowl of Caring was \$3,732 given by you on Superbowl Sunday. The money will be to sent to local charities as follows:

- \$1,000 to Calico Cat Pantry
- \$1,000 to St. Mark's Pantry
- \$1,000 to Lunch Break
- \$ 732 to Interfaith Hospitality Network

We have begun the ELCA World Hunger appeal and will continue until Easter.

The COG Evening Food Pantry collection for toiletries will continue until June.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH GROUP CHURCHES – EVENING FOOD PANTRY

Good Shepherd will again participate in the "Evening Food Pantry" on June 23. This program, sponsored by churches in Holmdel, Middletown and Lincroft, provides cleaning items and personal care items for working, low-income families on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

Our parish will deliver 45 bags of goods to the Calico Cat Pantry & Cupboard on the day before it is to be distributed. Include in each bag are the following"

- 6 rolls toilet paper
- 1 container dish detergent
- 1 container laundry detergent
- 2 boxes tissues
- 1 bag or box plastic sandwich bags
- 1 deodorant
- 1 tube toothpaste
- 3 bars bath soap

Please begin to bring these items to church now so that we are able to begin packing bags before the last minute. If have any questions, see Gil Vatter.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL ASSEMBLY – NEW JERSEY SYNOD

The Annual Assembly of the New Jersey Synod, ELCA, will be held at the Brunswick Hilton, East Brunswick, New Jersey, from 8:30 AM Friday June 5 to Saturday June 6, 2009. Registration fee is \$85 for each voting member and includes the Friday evening banquet/ Registration deadline is Tuesday April 21 and fees prior to this date will be \$80 per person.

Our congregation may send one lay voting member. If you are interested in representing Good Shepherd, please see Gil Vatter or Pasto Schmidt. Pastor Schmidt will also represent Good Shepherd at the Assembly.

UNITED WAY OF MONMOUTH COUNTY SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR TAX HELP

The United Way of Monmouth county in partnership with Brookdale Community college, Community Enterprises Corporation, SCAN Learning Center, AARP of Monmouth Count and Monmouth County Workforce Investment Board has announced the beginning of the Monmouth County Financial Stability Partnership.

The partnership will provide low to middle-income residents access to free tax preparation sites throughout the County, staffed with volunteers trained to prepare and file basic tax returns. Free tax preparation sites include Middletown Library (New Monmouth Road).

Qualified people will also be advised how to file for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). For more information, call 732-938-5988.

A FEW NOTES FROM THE SENIOR CHOIR

Former tenor, ERIC KLEMMER was in church February 22. He and STEVE MILLER drove north to Stowe for a few days of skiing.

Coming up soon:

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” - Isaac Watts and Gilbert Martin

“Hosanna to the King” - Berta Pourman and Sonja Parman

“Crucified, Forsaken” – Charlotte Lee and Douglas Wagner

“Hosanna” – Douglas Wagner

The Senior Choir will sing Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. You are invited to join us for rehearsal any Thursday evening at 7:30.

Voice Newsletter Articles

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

Past issues of the Voice along with other information can be found at our websites

good-shepherd.us and **little-lambs.us**

ROBERT E. A. LEE, LUTHERAN FILM MAKER DIES AT 87

It has been reported by Karl Torjussan that Robert E. A. Lee, a long time head of the communications for the Lutheran Church has died in Baldwin, New York at the age of 87. Mr. Lee was involved in bringing two highly regarded films, “A Time for Burning” and “Martin Luther” to the screen.

From 1954 until 1988, Mr. Lee was the executive secretary of the Lutheran File Associates, a collaboration between the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The LFA created and distributed films and television programs on religious subjects since the early 1950s.

April 2009

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2	3	4
			9am-4pm Work day 1:00 & 7:00 Bible Study 6:00 Conf Class	7:00 – Lenten Svc 7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice 4:00 – 8:30 German School		9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:00 – Palm Sunday Service	7:00 – Fin Cmt Mtg	10:00 -12:00 & 5:30 – 8:00 German School	1:00 & 7:00 Bible Study 6:00 Conf Class	4:00 – 8:30 German School 7:00 – Maunday Thurs Svc	7:00 - Good Friday service	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 Easter Breakfast 10:00 – Easter Service	7:00 – Council Mtg	10:00 -12:00 & 5:30 – 8:00 German School	1:00 & 7:00 Bible Study 6:00 Conf Class	7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice 4:00 – 8:30 German School		6pm-10om German school concert
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00 – service 2pm – 4pm German school Sons of Norway		10:00 -12:00 & 5:30 – 8:00 German School 7:30 – 9:00 Compassionate Friends	1:00 & 7:00 Bible Study 6:00 Conf Class	7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice 4:00 – 8:30 German School		9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch
26	27	28	29	30		
10:00 – service		10:00 -12:00 & 5:30 – 8:00 German School	1:00 & 7:00 Bible Study 6:00 Conf Class	7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice 4:00 – 8:30 German School		