

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

May 2009

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

From The Pastor

GREETINGS IN CHRIST!

Easter brings signs of hope and new life. Christ is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed! We need to remember that Easter is not just a Day but a Season. During these next few weeks we walk with the risen Christ and His disciples through the 40 days prior to his Ascension. Be sure not to miss the adventure as we move toward Pentecost and the power that the Holy Spirit offers the Church today!

Apr. 26 -- Easter 3

Sermon/Text: **PRAYER POWER: "Eating With the Risen Christ" Luke 24:36-48**

May 3 -- Easter 4 -- GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Sermon/Text: **PRAYER POWER: "Living Out Your Prayers" John 10:11-1**

May 10 -- Easter 5 -- MOTHER'S DAY

Sermon/Text: **PRAYER POWER: "A Part of the Vine" John 15:1-8**

May 17 -- Easter 6

Sermon/Text: **PRAYER POWER: "How To Become Good" Acts 10:44-48**

May 24 -- Easter 7 -- MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Sermon/Text: **PRAYER POWER: "The Promised Presence of Jesus" John 17:6-19**

May 31 -- PENTECOST -- RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Sermon/Text: **PRAYER POWER: "A Sword for the Lord" Acts 2:1-11**

Pentecost is May 31 and is the third major festival of the Christian Church. Coming 50 days after Easter, it marks Christ's gift of the Holy Spirit to his followers. It is the official birthday of the Christian Church. In this way Pentecost should rank in an equal place with both Christmas and Easter. This year Pentecost could lose its impact because for us it is the weekend *after* Memorial Day. So for Pentecost 2009 let's make it special –

Confirmation of 3 young people will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. This concludes our study of Luther's Small Catechism. Include in your prayers Julia Blackburn, Justin DePalma and Hunter Dreuer and join us as these young people affirm the meaning of their Baptism on Pentecost.

Red is the color of Pentecost and represents the fire of the Holy Spirit. *Wear something red for Pentecost.* A red dress, jacket or tie will add to the festive mood of the day.

Prepare now to worship on Pentecost and invite someone to come with you!

Let's glorify Jesus who is Lord of everything! As the Holy Spirit guides us he will teach us the truth about Jesus that we may worship and praise his Holy Name.

As Martin Luther writes in the Small Catechism:

"The Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church day after day he fully forgives my sins and the sins of all believers."

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Ed

Council Meeting Minutes *(Draft copy, not reviewed by council)* **April 14, 2009**

In attendance were the following:

Pastor Ed, Gil Vatter, Lou Medici, Steve Miller, Pat Miller, Mike Carpe, Andy Mathisen, and Karl Tourjesson.
Also, special guest, Kurt Mathisen

Sharon Oberkehr and Tom Tehve were not in attendance.

Gil opened the meeting with prayer at 7:02pm

Pastor continued his devotions regarding the design structure of the letters to the Seven Churches. He spoke of the “Luke Warm” churches. Jesus had to deal with many lukewarm believers during his ministry. There is a new call these days to a commitment to Christ.

Kurt Mathisen presented his Eagle Scout Project to the council. He is proposing cleaning up the old Memorial Garden area, removing dead shrubs, plants, branches, etc. and then building a new Memorial Garden toward the front of the church and to the right of the cross and walkway toward the playground. Council suggested for Kurt to let the congregation know ASAP about this proposed project. Writing an article about the project was also suggested for advertising in the Voice. Fund raising was discussed. Thrivent funds may be available to fund this project also. Motion made to accept Kurt’s outline was made. Approved by all.

March minutes were approved.

Reports

Treasurer’s Report presented by Pat Miller.

- Best month ever, income exceeds expenses.
- Gil suggested to extend world Hunger Appeal till end of April.

Christian Education Report presented by Gil.

- Vacation Bible School will be held either the 3rd of 4th week

Evangelism Report presented by Gil.

- Blue folders were found for distribution to new comers at church.
- Lou has inserts for these folders.
- Gil will send folder to new couple that attended church recently

Finance Committee Report presented by Lou Medici

- Finance committee didn’t meet this past month.
- Focus is going to be more on Stewardship going forward
- Pastor can offer a Sermon Series on Stewardship to start week before Thanksgiving.
- Gil will send an official report to Synod.

Little Lambs Report – no report as Barbara Benson was absent

Property Report was presented by Steve Miller

Completed Projects include the following:

- Repaired sticking of main doors and cabinet doors, repaired sink leaks, replaced burned-out bulbs, serviced furnace filters, furnace belts and oiled pump.

- Replaced Frank Hall center zone heating controller and valve (\$490 parts – purchased at discount). Began re-framing basement replacement window. Raked grounds. Cleaned sanctuary. Installed a reator-type “Knox Box” on outside wall-for out-of-hours entry by fire department. (Inspected and approved by Fire Marshall)

Many on going projects:

- Painting is continuing (Pastor’s bathroom on 4/14/09) Mike Carpe and Bill Nemcik
- Basement replacement window is continuing – Glenn Hoffman + Steve Miller
- Pink House soffit repair (before birds/squirrels/insects enter in spring) Clem Hergenhan + Steve Miller
- Parking lot pre-emergence weed control (by end of April) – volunteer needed - Karl Tourjesson volunteered.

Key Checkout

- Who/Address/Date is kept by Pat Dunn in a file

Room Reservation

- Time/Date/Rooms are recorded on Pat Dunn’s wall calendar.

Steve’s Concerns:

- Presently saving \$2K/year for HVAC service: self-inspecting + replacing filers
- Presently saving \$K/year with self-repair. Can we continue to work this way?
- Good Shepherd has only a few skilled people who work as often as they can on various projects around the church. These members should be recognized for their tireless work to Good Shepherd.

Member Volunteer Recognition:

- Glenn Hoffman for Masonry + Framing
- Clem Hergenhan for gutters and general handyman
- Bill Nemcik for painting
- Paul Kraus for landscaping
- Robert Fulmer for electrical work
- Tom Tehve for brush cleanup
- Gil Vatter for grounds clean-up

Social Ministry Report was presented by Gil

- Thank you note from Calico Cat received.
- Propose an evening Food Drive by month for Calico Cat during this urgent time of need. We are collecting items for the Calico Cat Evening Food Pantry to make 45 sets by June 22nd. Items needed for each set are:
 - 6 rolls of toilet paper
 - 1 dish detergent
 - 1 laundry detergent
 - 2 boxes of tissues
 - 1 bag/box plastic sandwich bags
 - 1 kitchen/bathroom cleaner
 - 1 shampoo
 - 1 tube of toothpaste
 - 3 bars of bath soap
- April is Pasta and Sauce Month – the Social Ministry Committee is collecting pasta and sauce during April for local pantries. Remember your hungry neighbors when you shop for groceries.

Worship and Music Report was presented by Andy

- 15 - 16 people have been attending the Thursday mid week Lenten service. Choir members didn’t participate much. Will address new format devotional for next year and move to possibly Wednesday afternoon/evening Lenten Series hosted by Pastor.

- Copier at church is 10+ years old. We are maintaining this copier but it is also being heavily used by the German School which has caused maintenance problems recently. We are going to propose several copier models for purchase by the German School personnel to reduce the load on our church copier.
- Emergency church closing call list to be developed

Youth and Family Report was presented by Mike

- Retreat at Camp Koinonia to be planned with teenagers at church
- Men's Breakfast Group to be explored further.

Pastors Report

- Chapel Service for Palm Sunday with Little Lambs
- Ephesians Study underway – 20 – 22 attended
- Palms Study almost complete – Sundays 9am between 8 and 10 attend
- New Adult Sunday:
 - Cults – Islam / Cult groups. How to recognize a Cult
 - Will take us until early June
- Conducted Special Services for:
 - Maundy Thursday
 - Good Friday, Tenebrae
- Easter Day – breakfast / worship
- Evangelism Packets found
- Secretary's Day – April 22nd – flowers suggested to council
-

Presidents Report presented by Gil

- Discussion to charge German school for using our facilities was approved by council for the following:
 - Benefit Concert – April 18th, 6 – 10pm, Frank Hall
 - May 16th activity 1:30 – 5pm
 - Tentative Summer Camp – June 29th – July 10th, 9 – 11am
- Table cloths from the 40 Anniversary are missing. Notice to be placed in church bulletin to reminder members.

Old Business

No old business

New Business

Bouquet of flowers along with \$25 Gift Card to Barnes and Noble for Pat Dunn for Administrative Professional's day on April 22nd was approved by council.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:31pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Andy Mathisen

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Risen our victorious head!

Sing his praises! Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!

Lent, Palm Sunday and Holy Week saw fairly good attendance at all the opportunities we had to study or worship at Good Shepherd Church. In addition to the regular 10 AM service each Sunday, there were times offered for bible study with Pastor Ed twice each Wednesday and a midweek lenten service offered for the study of the Lord's prayer each Thursday.

Pastor Ed offered very meaningful services on Maundy Thursday as well as Good Friday and so every member of the parish could follow the path from Ash Wednesday through Good Friday, guided by our shepherd, Pastor Schmidt.

Easter, however, was in a class by itself. It was, by far, the biggest day in the life of our congregation in a long time. If you missed it, you missed something joyful and special. The celebration of the resurrection began at 9:00 AM in Frank Hall with a tasty breakfast, prepared by the members of the parish and served, buffet style by Debbie Blackburn's Fellowship Committee.

By 9:30, a well fed Senior choir was already beginning to warm up, Pastor Ed was making a last minute check of everything and soon, the church was beginning to fill up with what finally totalled well over 100 people. The Altar Guild had done their usual great job of preparing the altar with lilies, provided by fifteen of Good shepherd's families and the front of the church sparkled from the white flowers and the characteristic aroma that filled the air.

Pastor Ed outdid himself with a special Easter sermon and an appreciative congregation responded with gusto in the post-sermon hymn, "Thine is the Glory". The choir made thier musical offering of Ludwig van Beethoven's "Hallelujah", everyone received the Lord's Supper and the service ended with a rousing rendition of the last hymn, "Christ is Risen! Alleluia!".

Looking around the sanctuary, it was a joy to see the smiles and friendly greetings. It was obvious that we felt that we were a part of something special. What a day!

At the beginning of the service, Pastor thanked everyone who had contributed to making the season of Lent and the Festival of Easter a meaningful time. May I add my thanks to all and a special thanks to Pastor Ed schmidt for his planning and guidance. Happy Easter to all.

Gil Vatter

LUNCH BREAK THANKS GOOD SHEPHERD FOR SUPPORT

April 17, 2009

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Lunch Break Board of Trustees, I want to thank you very much for your generous donation of \$1,000.

Your contribution helps us to serve more than 30,000 nutritious hot lunches each year, to provide groceries to over 65 families each month and to hand out clothing in good repair to more than 125 people. We also serve daily meals for shut-ins and sandwich lunches on Saturdays that are prepared by members of St. Leo the Great R.C. Church in Lincroft. During each of the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, we handed out special food baskets with frozen turkeys to over 500 families and Christmas toys to more than 500 children. The success of and the need for our mission is reflected in the fact that the number of clients grew by 20 percent during the past year. However, our expenses have increased as well.

Please, come and visit us; our Director, Mrs Gwen Love, will be happy to show you our facility. We are open between 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM, Monday through Friday and between 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM on Saturday.

Sincerely,

Hans Zweerink, President
Lunch Break Board of Trustees



GOOD SHEPHERD VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH.

Pat Miller

My two biggest talents have always been math and music. When I was working, the music part fell to the wayside for most of those 30 years. Now in retirement, I volunteer several hours a day to both math and music.

In church, I sing in the choir, play the piano and organ, and am church co-treasurer, which involves a lot of math and computers. My volunteer work for Little Lambs is mostly in the money side (I keep track of tuition payments and make bank deposits). But I do enjoy the occasional in-class assisting – the kids are adorable, and I learn a lot from Barbara. Maybe someday I will be able to use it with my own grandchildren!

I also volunteer both math and music talents with Monmouth Civic Chorus (MCC). Besides the singing, which involves weekly 2 ½ hour rehearsals and several performances a year, we have all sorts of behind-the-scenes work, such as fund-raising, selling tickets, setting up and breaking down the stage, and I am the caretaker for the MCC keyboard. My biggest job is MCC treasurer. Last fall, to fund our special free Lincoln concert, I spent a couple of days walking around businesses in Red Bank soliciting donations. We also do small-group goodwill concerts, such as at senior residences and Christmas caroling for shoppers. Our next concert is Sunday, May 3, at 4:00 at the Count Basie, and I would love for people to come and enjoy an afternoon of beauty.

I also volunteer for AAUW (American Association of University Women). AAUW's mission is equity for women and girls, and they carry this out through scholarships, legal advocacy, and educational programs. I attended a program which featured Lily Ledbetter, the namesake of the Pay Equity Act recently signed by Obama. (I got to sit with her and talk over lunch.) I volunteer at the AAUW used book sale that is held every

Saturday at Old First Church to raise money for scholarships. I hold the office of Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) chairman, and run a monthly 50/50 for members to raise money. Last year I organized a group to attend an MCC show and share the proceeds with LAF.

I volunteer because I enjoy and am enriched by it. I believe my music is contributing beauty to the world.

AROUND THE PARISH (submitted by Gil Vatter)

1. Don't miss the BRADFORD PEAR TREE at the side of our "campus". They are reminding us all that spring is here. Check it out!
2. A tip of the Good Shepherd toque to PATTY VATTER for supplying the daffodils at the entrance to the building.
3. DIANE MATHISEN is a newly appointed THRIVENT Coordinator.
4. A tip of the G.S. fedora to MIKE CARP and BILL NEMCIK for the great paint job in Pastor's bathroom.
5. The congregation welcomed the area lodges of the SONS OF NORWAY (3rd Zone) to Good Shepherd for their annual memorial service on Sunday April 19. The service commemorated those members who died during the past year.
6. DEBBIE BLACKBURN and her FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE ask anyone who took a church tablecloth home to launder, to return it as soon as possible. Applause - applause to everyone who helped make our annual Easter breakfast such a success.
7. Happy birthday to HANNAH OBERKEHR, JEAN TAYLOR (former church secretary) and PATTY VATTER.
8. Please welcome our new readers - GARRY WESTERWELLER and ANDY LICHTER. Thanks for volunteering, guys.
9. KURT AND ANDY MATHISEN spent the last weekend in March camping with the Boy Scouts. That's above and beyond the call, Andy.
10. It was "Good shepherd South" in March with BARBARA and JOHN HAHER and PAT and STEVE MILLER all in Florida.
11. A tip of the G.S. panama to DICK ALBERTI who provided piano music for the midweek Lenten services.
12. A sincere thank you to all the families who gave lilies to enhance the altar on Easter. They were beautiful.
13. MOSES AND THE RED SEA - A nine-year-old boy was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school. "Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then, he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. they sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."
"Now, son, is that really what your teacher taught you?", his mother asked.
"Well, not really, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"
14. LONG AND HAPPY MARRIAGE

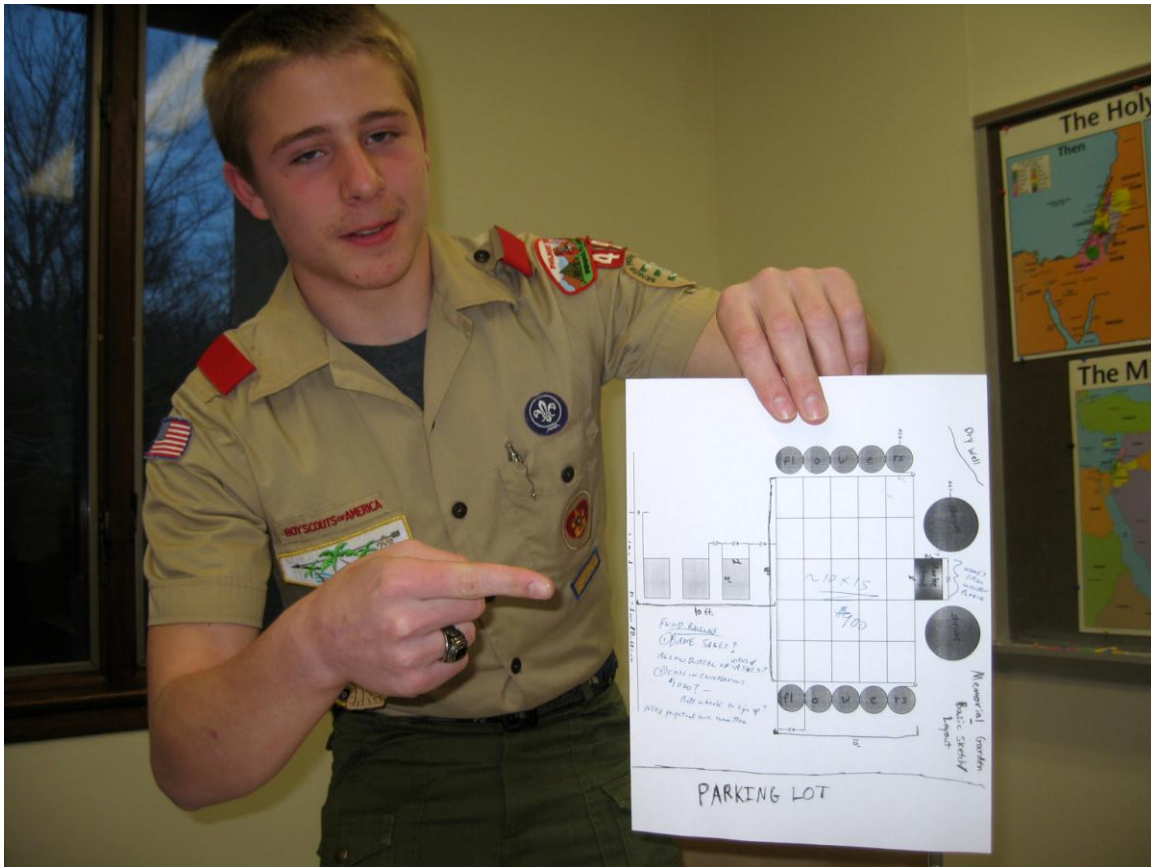
A certain Lutheran church had a weekly husband's marriage seminar. At the session one week, the Pastor asked Sven, who was approaching his 50th wedding anniversary, to take a few minutes and share some insight into how he had managed to stay married to the same woman all these years.

"Vell", Sven replied, I've tried to treat her nice, spend da money on her, but, best of all, I took her to Norway for da 20th anniversary!"

The Pastor responded, "Sven, you are an amazing inspiration to all the husbands here! Please tell us what you are planning for your wife for your 50th anniversary."

Sven proudly replied, "I'm a-gonna go get her."

KURT MATHISEN PLANS EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT AT GOOD SHEPHERD



Kurt Mathisen, Life scout of Troop 49, has planned and had approved an Eagle Project at The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. **He plans to clean up the overgrown memorial garden at the street-view of the church as well as re-locate and construct a new memorial garden on the grassland area between the parking lot and the playground.** Work dates for clean ups and construction will be announced orally at the beginning of services.

This garden will be in memory of those in the Good Shepherd's family who have passed away. **If anyone would like to add a name (aside from the names on the plaque displayed inside the church already) of a family member, friend or someone close to you, come see Kurt any Sunday when he is present or e-mail him at k.mathisen@comcast.net.** He will make an announcement of the cut-off of sign-ups orally at one of the services. He will not be charging anyone who wishes to request a name. However, donations are gladly accepted and are put toward the funding of the project and any additions that are available.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - LUNCH BREAK

March 16, 2009

Dear friends,

As the new Executive Director at Lunch Break, I wanted to both formally introduce myself and express my appreciation for the warm reception I have received from the entire Faith Based Community.

As you may know, last year Lunch Break suffered the loss of its beloved Mrs. Norma Todd, who had been the Executive Director of Lunch Break and community advocate in Red Bank for 25 years.

I'm sure you agree that Mrs. Todd built this organization with a caring and generous spirit. I am truly blessed to have the opportunity to build upon the legacy left by this extraordinary woman and feel confident that we are moving forward with that same helping spirit.

We appreciate your continued support towards our mission. We've even expanded our hours of operations for the pantry to include Saturday hours from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please include this information in your church papers. We are here to help!

God Bless and Keep You,

Gwendolyn O. Love
Executive Director

CALICO CAT FOOD PANTRY SAYS THANKS TO PARISH

April 13, 2009

Dear Friends,

Please thank your congregation for their gift of \$1,000.00 to our pantry. Some gifts are big, others are small. Gifts from the heart are the best of all. It shows how dedicated your members are in helping others.

Our pantry is busier than ever and we continue to fill a critical need in our local communities. I am deeply appreciative for your gift and very grateful for your enthusiastic support.

My sincere thanks,

Robbie Freund
Calico Cat Food Pantry

SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT

The Social Ministry Committee has begun to gather items for the Community Outreach Group (COG) Evening Food Pantry at the Calico Cat in Middletown. Good Shepherd is responsible for 45 orders of these items, once each year, by June 14.

Forty five orders of these items will include the following:

- 270 Rolls of toilet paper
- 45 Containers of dish detergent
- 45 Containers of laundry detergent
- 90 Boxes of tissues

- 45 Bags/Boxes of plastic sandwich bags
- 45 Tubes of toothpaste
- 135 Bars of soap
- 45 containers of kitchen/bathroom cleaner
- 45 containers of shampoo

This is a formidable challenge to our congregation and will require participation by everyone. We will accumulate donations in the "old kitchen" near the narthex and put each order in a heavy duty plastic bag. Please keep this list handy and refer to it each time you shop at the super market, Costco or one of the dollar stores. Everything should be submitted by mid June for collation and delivery to the Calico Cat.

Gil Vatter

MERIDIAN HOSPICE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Meridian Health Hospice Program is looking for volunteers throughout Monmouth County to provide companionship and support for patients and families with advanced disease. Meridian provides training classes free. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age to apply.

The program offers physical, emotional and spiritual support for terminally ill patients and their families, enabling them to spend their last months with dignity and the greatest quality of life possible. Volunteers are important members of the professional team, offering emotional support and companionship to patients and respite for family members. They may assist with errands and light tasks and provide bereavement follow-up after the patient's death.

Volunteers are assigned to a family, based on geographic location, time availability and, whenever possible, common interests or backgrounds,

For more information, call Meridian Hospice at 732-751-3794.

A FEW NOTES FROM THE SENIOR CHOIR

The Senior Choir finished a busy Lent/Easter season with special music for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter:

Palm Sunday - "Hosanna" by Douglas E. Wagner

Maundy Thursday - "In Remembrance" by Buryl Red

Good Friday - "Crucified, Forsaken" by Charlotte Lee and
Douglas Wagner

"Adoramus te, Christe" by Theodore Dubois

Easter - "Hallelujah" by Ludwig van Beethoven

The Senior Choir thanks Miae Park for all her music during this season.

Interested persons are invited to attend choir rehearsal each Thursday evening at 7:30 PM.

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

DEATH OF JENNIFER STEFANIK REPORTED

The church has been notified of the death of Jennifer Stefanik, daughter of Mrs. Paulette Stefanik. She died on Saturday March 28 in Atlanta, Georgia at the age of 37 from heart failure. A memorial service was held at the Peachtree Presbyterian church in Atlanta. She is survived by her mother and two sisters, Maureen and Angela.

The Stefanik family was very active members of Good Shepherd church for several years but relocated to Georgia about ten years ago. Jennifer was active in the Good Shepherd Youth Group.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jennifer's memory may be made to:
Global Ministries of Peachtree Presbyterian Church
American Heart Association

May 2009

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|--------------------|---|--|--|---|------------|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | | 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10:00 – 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 | 7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice 4:00 – 8:30 German School | | 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch 1:30 - 5pm- German school |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 10:00 – Service | 7:00 – Council Mtg | 10:00 -12:00 & 5:30 – 8:00 German School | | 7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice 4:00 – 8:30 German School | | 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 10:00 – service | | 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 | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 10:00 – service | Memorial Day – church office closed | | 1:00 & 7:00 Bible Study 6:00 Conf Class | 7:30 – 9:00 Choir Practice | | 9:00 – 12:00 NJ State Youth Orch |
| 31 | | | | | | |
| 10:00 – service | | | | | | |