

# The Voice of the Good Shepherd

July 2009

( [good-shepherd.us](http://good-shepherd.us) & [little-lambs.us](http://little-lambs.us) )

## From The Pastor

GREETINGS IN CHRIST!

Summer is a wonderful time to be renewed in the Holy Spirit. During the bulk of our summer Sundays we will focus on John 6 - where Jesus affirms, "I am the Bread of Life". In these words we have the assurance that Jesus meets us in the bread and wine of Holy Communion to refresh and strengthen for the week ahead of us. Join us each week -- and it may be a good time to invite that new neighbor to come with you.

Our Summer Sermon Series will focus on the Grace of God -- through difficult (II Corinthians 12:2-10) and uncertain times (Mark 6:14-56) -- and how God comes to reassure us of his love (John 6:1-69). Here is the weekly focus:

July 5 - Pentecost 5 - Independence Day Weekend

"SUFFICIENT GRACE" -- II Corinthians 12:2-10

July 12 - Pentecost 6 -

"SET TO OBEY" -- Mark 6:14-29

July 19 - Pentecost 7

"HEALING THE MULTITUDES" -- Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 26 - Pentecost 8

"IN HARMONY WITH GOD" -- John 6:1-21

Aug. 2 - Pentecost 9

"BREAD THAT SATISFIES" -- John 6:24-35

Aug. 9 - Pentecost 10

"GOD WANTS TO GIVE US MORE" -- John 6:35, 41-51

Aug. 16 - Pentecost 11

"STANDING ON THE PROMISES" -- John 6:51-58

Aug. 23 - Pentecost 12

"THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE" -- John 6:56-69

Aug. 30 - Pentecost 13

"STRENGTH TO FOLLOW JSUS" -- Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sept. 6 - Pentecost 14 - Labor Day Weekend

"FIRM IN THE FAITH" -- Mark 7:24-37

Summer is a good time to get away and get refreshed. It is also a good to be renewed through worship and the Word of God. I look forward to seeing you each Sunday that you are in the area. When on vacation, be sure to worship -- and bring back a copy of the worship bulletin. It is always good for me to see what others are doing. Thanks.

Peace and Joy,

Pastor Ed

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## Council Meeting Minutes *(Draft copy, not reviewed by council)*

There was no Council Meeting in June

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## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Since there were no pressing matters on the Council meeting agenda for June, there is no June meeting on which to report. Instead, here are a few of the things handled outside of a formal meeting.

1. A Treasurer's report for May has already been provided for the congregation as a part of a recent Sunday bulletin.
2. Vacation Church School, under the leadership of SHARON OBERKEHR will be held the second week of August.
3. New Evangelism booklets are being prepared for visitors and prospective members by LOU AND ELAINE MEDICI and ANDY MATHISEN.
4. The broken glass on the coffee server in the narthex has been replaced.
5. Bishop Riley asked all New Jersey Synod congregations to keep their "Mission Support" up to date. Good shepherd has already sent \$1,000 to Synod, through April.
6. Pastor Ed, Pat and Steve Miller and I met with the principal and business manager of the German School and agreed to prepare a formal agreement, which will be signed by both parties.
7. I met with Diedre Arabadjis, the manager of the Resisting Aggression Defensively organization to consider use of a class room by RAD.
8. Copies of the "Memorial Dedication Panel" procedure have been distributed to all members of Council, after a recent request by a member to add a new name to the narthex memorial plaque.

Gil Vatter

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### GOOD SHEPHERD VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH.



**Lou Medici**

Lou has donated much time and been a faithful servant since joining Good Shepherd in 1988. Lou is proud to have been elected to serve on council for a cumulative 15 years (off and on) through Pastors George Frank, Mike Gebhart, David Louder, and Ed Schmidt. His positions have included Evangelism, Finance, Fellowship and Stewardship. Twice he has served as Council President and twice as Vice President.

Lou's hardest term: Pastor Frank retired, and then Lou was elected council President. After the consistency of a long-term pastor, Lou found it "scary" to go thru the next 4 years searching for a permanent replacement pastor. Lou also managed through multiple changes when the church lost the TLC preschool in ~2003-2004., and found itself with a new pastor, but less budget.

Lou taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school for 2 or 3 years. During that period,, "Sex in the life of the Church" was introduced in a new curriculum. Before teaching, Lou successfully gained consent from each parent.

Lou has run 5 or 6 Garage Sale fundraisers for Little Lambs and one fundraiser for a friend with cancer. Prior to each sale, he worked with friends to gather surplus furniture and merchandise (typically from houses being sold). Then after the garage sales, Lou often transported unsold merchandise from the "pink house" to the dump (thank you, Rich Bartlett and others).

Lou has taken food to Advent Church, in Trenton. With the Christmas committee, Lou twice transported toys to Advent and helped with toy distribution.

Lou reconditioned and donated NUMEROUS computers. He acquired and reconditioned 98 surplus PCs, and donated them to handicapped seniors in Tinton Falls. He reconditioned 6 additional for Advent Church, and 5 more to Asbury Park Atonement Church (to be used for skill training for job seekers).

Lou notes he has enjoyed the chance to serve Good Shepherd during the various challenges of his terms in council. He will be going "off" council in 2010. Lou was on the Thrivent board- for 3 years. He plans to again volunteer as Thrivent board member. Lou hopes that others will follow in his footsteps, and serve on church council or Thrivent board, and gain the satisfaction of providing a service to God and helping the church run in a timely fashion.

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## **AROUND THE PARISH** (submitted by Gil Vatter)

1. Three cheers for the three young people who were confirmed on May 31, the Day of Pentecost:

JULIA ANNE BLACKBURN

JUSTIN GENE DEPALMA

HUNTER GARY DREUE

We are all proud of your achievement.

2. Speaking of PENTECOST, the sanctuary was a sea of red as many members responded to PASTOR ED'S invitation to wear something RED for the occasion.

3. The narthex has been loaded with plastic bags full of household goods for the Calico Cat Evening Food Pantry. It should all be gone by the end of June.

4. Our prayers and sympathy go to BUNNY and HERB KUHL, whos' son-in-law died in Florida. And God will wipe away all tears.

5. MIAE PARK'S son JON offered cello solos for the prelude and postlude on June 14, while PAT SCHMIDT sang a solo for the offertory, a day of music.

6. The annual church/sunday school picnic was held in Frank Hall on June 14; indoors because of threatening weather. As always, DEBBIE BLACKBURN and her committee did a super job and everyone reported having a good time with lots to eat.
7. A tip of the Good Shepherd beret to you, the congregation. Giving through May was over \$60,000, higher than expenses and ahead of last year. Keep it up.
8. A tip of the Good Shepherd helmet to SHIRLEY and LARRY JACKSON on their 61st wedding anniversary.
9. A tip of the G. S. tam to PAT and PASTOR ED, who marked 45 years of wedded bliss on June 6. They celebrated with a trip to Williamsburg, Virginia, the week of June 7.
10. A tip of the G. S. garrison cap to all the veterans who stood up and were saluted during the service on May 31.
11. Don't forget KURT MATHISEN'S eagle project continues. Another work day is scheduled for Saturday June 20 from 10 AM. to 2 PM.
12. Happy birthday to MAGNOLIA, SARAH AND TOM HARRIS'S daughter (DEBBIE AND JOHN BLACKBURN'S granddaughter), on reaching the ripe old age of THREE.
13. RACHEL MATHISEN, who will be a junior at the University of Pennsylvania will spend six weeks studying in Spain this summer. She also will celebrate a birthday on June 30. Happy birthday Rachel.
14. The Sunday school teacher asked Harry, "Do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the ark?" "No", replied Harry. "How could he, with only two worms."
15. On another occasion, as they were entering the church, the Sunday school teacher asked her class, "why is it necessary for us to be quiet during the service?" One little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

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**Please keep your pledges up to date during the summer months.  
Remember – our bills do not take a vacation!!**

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## **SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT**

1. In May, the food you brought to church was taken to Lunch Break in Red Bank and St. Mark's in Keansburg.
2. As I write this, 37 complete bags of household goods have been prepared for the COG Evening Food Pantry at the Calico Cat. We must fill eight more bags by June 22, when the bags are to be delivered. Most of the things needed for the remaining bags are already in the church kitchen, so we expect to reach our goal. Thanks to all who participated.
3. Robby Freund of the Calico Cat called to tell us that the check for \$1,000 sent by Good Shepherd will help pay for a new, desperately needed freezer, which arrived at the food pantry on June 5. She thanks Good Shepherd for its generosity.
4. On June 4, Good shepherd also sent checks to ELCA World Hunger (\$1,300) and Project Paul in Keansburg (\$1,000), with the help of the North Shore, NJ Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, which added \$500 to the original \$1,600 contributed by the congregation.

5. The Red Bank Area Crop Walk, which sponsors "Walk for the Hungry" has presented Good Shepherd with a Certificate of Appreciation for our participation in the Hunger Walk on October 19, 2008. Thanks to MIKE CARP and ANDY MATHISEN for their leadership for this event.

Gil Vatter

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## **REV. ROBERT Z. WUCHTER DIES AT AGE 88**

Reverend Robert Wuchter, who was frequently substitute pastor at Good Shepherd, died on Monday May 25 at Jersey Shore Hospital. He was 88 years old.

Pastor Wuchter earned his bachelors degree from Muhlenberg College and then studied at the Philadelphia Theological Seminary, where he received his Bachelor of Divinity and his Master of Sacred Theology degrees. He was ordained in January 1945 and began his ministry at Grace Lutheran Church in Somers Point, N.J. He then moved to Holy Trinity in Manasquan in 1950, where he served as pastor until he retired in 1985.

He is survived by his wife, Eleanor, his two sons and fourteen grandchildren.

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## **PROJECT PAUL BENEFITS FROM GOOD SHEPHERD GIFT**

The Good shepherd congregation recently sent a check to Project Paul, 211 Carr Avenue, Keansburg, New Jersey 07734 as part of the World Hunger campaign. Here are a few facts about this local charitable organization.

Currently, Project Paul operates the largest food pantry in Monmouth County with distribution to approximately 1,600 people each week. They also help hundreds of families stay in their homes by providing assistance with rent and utilities.

Project Paul's thrift shop is open six days a week and is staffed by volunteers. Proceeds from the shop go to support all programs. Clothing, household items and other things from the shop are also donated to qualifying families. During the holiday season, Project Paul coordinates Thanksgiving food and Christmas gift donations.

Project Paul may be contacted at [www.projpaul.org](http://www.projpaul.org)

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## **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](mailto:clem@csfcorp.com) [nancyh@comcast.net](mailto:nancyh@comcast.net)

Past issues of the Voice along with other information can be found at our websites [good-shepherd.us](http://good-shepherd.us) and [little-lambs.us](http://little-lambs.us)

# July 2009

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
				6:30 – 8:00 German school		
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
10:00 – Service				6:30 – 8:00 German school		
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
10:00 – Service				6:30 – 8:00 German school		
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
10:00 – Service		7:30 – 9:00 Compassionate Friends		6:30 – 8:00 German school		
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	
10:00 – Service				6:30 – 8:00 German school		