

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

March 2010

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

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.

From the Pastor

GREETINGS IN CHRIST!

Lent 2010 is upon us and the Lenten Season is a wonderful time to renew the meaning of our faith and life. You are invited to have an encounter with Jesus as your living Lord and Savior.

Mid-Week Lenten Services are Wednesdays, 1 and 7 p.m. We will continue with the series on The Tabernacle through Holy Week.

Our Sunday series will continue with the texts from the Gospel of Luke, as we continue to deepen our relationship with the Lord Jesus. Our weekly themes will be:

Mar. 7 - Lent 3 -

"HANDLING A DILEMMA" -- Luke 13:1-9

Mar. 14 - Lent 4 -

"THE REST OF THE STORY" -- Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Mar. 21 - Lent 5 -

"AN EXAMPLE OF TRUE WORSHIP" -- Luke 1:46-55; John 12:1-8

Mar. 28 - PALM SUNDAY

"LISTEN TO THE DETAILS" -- Luke 19:28-40

HOLY WEEK will include the following services:

PALM SUNDAY - March 28. Procession beings in Frank Hall. Palms distributed to all.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 1 - 7 p.m.

Sermon: Final Part of THE TABERNACLE:

"CHRIST OUR SUBSTITUTE" -- Hebrews 9:11-14

Service includes Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 2 - 7 p.m.

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

Lent is a good time to introduce a friend to Good Shepherd. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you into a deeper trust and walk with Jesus in Lent 2010.

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Ed

GOOD SHEPHERD CONGREGATION COUNCIL REORGANIZES FOR NEW YEAR

At the regular meeting of the Congregation Council, Monday February 8, the officers and committee chairs for 2010 were appointed as follows:

President - Gil Vatter

Vice President - Andy Mathisen

Secretary - Garry Westerweller

Treasurer - Pat Miller/Tom Tehve

Financial Secretary - Doreen Hoffman

Christian Education Committee - Sharon Oberkehr

Evangelism Committee - Lillian Nemcik

Fellowship Committee - Debbie Blackburn

Finance/Stewardship Committee - Lou Medici/Karl Torjussen

Mutual Ministry Committee - Clem Hergenhan

Property Committee - Steve Miller/Tom Tehve

Social Ministry Committee - Michael Carp

Worship and Music Committee - Andy Mathisen

Youth and Family Committee - Elizabeth Westerweller

The 2010 Congregation Council was installed by Pastor Schmidt at the beginning of the service on Sunday February 14.

Congregational Meeting Minutes On 1/24/10

The meeting opened with Gil declaring a quorum to be in attendance.

The meeting then opened with prayer.

48- 50 congregational members were in attendance

Last year's minutes were approved as written.

The following is a brief synopsis of all the reports that were submitted at the congregational meeting. A copy of each report, in detail, was handed out as part of the annual report.

Treasurer's Report

- Report presented by co-treasurer, Pat Miller
- Overjoyed with the general giving of the congregation.
- Ended the year 37K better than we started in 2009
- Contributions were up 20% over 2008
- Returning 35K to "Parsonage Fund" (ELCA Mission) for the year
- Stock Gift of 5K was received at the end of 2009 that will be moved into checking
- 5K was given from congregational funds to missions such as ELCA, NJ Synod, and local organizations such as St. Marks and Lunch Break
- Nearly 10K additional was given by members and designated for mission ministries and GS projects, such as sanctuary Bibles and Memorial Garden.

Pastor's Report

- Submitted by Pastor Ed
- Wonderful year spiritually as adult classes on Sunday and Wednesday Bible studies continues
- Worship focused on lectionary cycles of Mark and John, and starting in Advent, Luke. Music program continues to excite as its many variations and volunteers add joyful sounds to the Sunday worship
- During 2009 there were 2 Baptisms, 3 Confirmations, 3 New members, 2 First Communions, and 2 Funerals. (Michael Ganz and Marion Garrigan were called into the Church Triumphant.)
- Thanks to the staff, especially Patt Dunn, and Miae Park
- Thanks to Pat, Pastor's wife, for her many gifts and talents, and assistance in the ministry of the church.

President's Report

- Submitted by Gil Vatter
- What a year!!! Progress on many fronts with significant support of our outreach programs
- Pastor Ed's contract has been renewed for an additional 6 months
- Currently working on the congregational profile
- Request was made about German School info. Gil read highlights of agreement between Good Shepherd and the German School
- Special thanks to the following groups;
 - Interim Pastor Ed Schmidt
 - The Church Council
 - The education leaders, Pastor Ed and Sharon Oberkehr
 - The music leaders, Miae park and the choir
 - The Altar Guild and other Worship and Music Committee, (Andy Mathisen), volunteers
 - Council Committees led by the following:

- Property – Steve Miller/Tom Tehve
- Finance/Stewardship – Lou Medici/Karl Torjussen
- Evangelism – Lil Nemcik
- Youth and Family – Mike Carp
- Council Officers:
 - Vice President – Andy Mathisen
 - Secretary – Garry Westerweller
 - Treasurers – Pat Miller/Tom Tehve
- Pat Dunn
- The Shepherd’s Voice Editors, Nancy and Clem Hergenhan
- Fellowship events led Debbie Blackburn and all her many helpers
- All the people in the congregation

Christian Education

- Report was presented by Sharon Oberkehr
- Enrollment and staff doubled. We now have 7 children in Sunday school broken up into two age groups.
- Over 60 Children attended VBS

Evangelism

- Report presented by Lil Nemcik
- Recently completed a description of each council member and position
- “Blue Book” being put together for visitors to take with them
 - Thumbnail sketch of the congregation

Fellowship

- Presented by Debbie Blackburn
- Special thanks to a congregation that always says yes, whenever asked and never says no.

Finance/Stewardship

- Report presented by Lou Medici
- Special thanks to members of the committee, Pat Miller, Andy Mathisen, Karl Torjussen, and Bill Nemcik
- Pledges received total more than last year
- Little Lambs is no longer the result of which is lower expenditures budgeted for 2010
- Pledges in will cover current budget.

Property Committee

- Report submitted by Steve Miller
- Thanks to all who lend their time and talent
- Encourage every able member to help out on quarterly property work days.
- Pet peeve is that Steve is never informed of problems. Please be sure all problems are reported so that they can be repaired.
- Reminder to turn off lights and lower thermostats

Social Ministry

- Presented by Gil Vatter
- Listed 15 social programs that the congregation responded to.
- Estimated roughly 10% of Church’s total income went to these programs, roughly 15K
- Upcoming opportunities are as follows;
 - Heifer project
 - Souper Bowl of Caring
 - Crop Walk
 - ELCA world Hunger
- Good news / bad news – wonderful response in 2009 means we need to do it again in 2010

Worship and Music

- Submitted via written report by Andy Mathisen as he was not in attendance
- Adult Choir has approximately 12 active members with Miae Park doing an outstanding job directing and challenging the group
- Looking to start up the bell choir again and we are looking for volunteers.
- Altar Guild continues to work diligently with a small group of volunteers. Help is needed to lighten the load
- Sunday school led by Sharon Oberkehr continues to thrive as well. Great success with the Christmas play that was presented at the first of our two Christmas Eve services.
- Bible Study groups continue to be well attended
- 3 New members added to our fold this year
- Mike Carp added that Andy had mentioned to him that a benefit concert was being planned by Miae and her students with the proceeds going to help Haiti.

Youth and Family

- Report presented by Mike Carp
- Jason Reed, Synod’s youth ministry specialist, visited us this past year to discuss the youth group and its opportunities
- Youth helped to assist with Souper Bowl of Caring and World Hunger

Detailed reports were made available as part of annual report packet

General discussion of 2010 budget was put forth to the congregation with some of the following points being brought up;

- Not much discussion as budget showing great improvement over last’s year’s budget numbers.
- Pledges turned in are enough to cover budget as written
- Expenditures less due to the fact that we are no longer subsidizing Little Lambs.

Mike Carp moved that the budget be approved as written, Dick Albeirti seconded, and the budget passed without dissent.

New Business

Lou mentioned that Hope Lutheran has a Youth Group that is well attended. He will try to get them to combine some events with us and have the events forwarded to Amanda Westerweller.

Election of Council Members were discussed with the following nominees named; Lou Medici and John Crump

Clem moved that the nominations be closed and Bill Werhli seconded. This was unanimously passed.

A special thanks was voiced by Clem to Gil Vatter for his exemplary work as Council President.

Ernie voiced his thanks to Pastor Ed echoing the fact that we are all happy to have him as our Pastor.

Gil opened the floor for suggestions for the good of the congregation and none were put forth.

Karl moved that the meeting be closed, Mike seconded. Motion carried without dissent.

The meeting was closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Garry Westerweller
Council Secretary.

Council Meeting Minutes For 2/8/10

Called to order at 7PM by Gil Vatter

- Attendees: Mike Carp, John Crump, Lou Medici, Steve Miller, Lil Nemcik, Pastor Ed Schmidt, Tom Tehve, Karl Torjussen, Gil Vatter

- Absent with excuse: Garry Westerweller, Amanda Westerweller, Pat Miller, Andy Mathisen, Sharon Oberkehr

- John Crump was welcomed as a new council member. Lou Medici was congratulated for his re-election.
- Gil Vatter opened with prayer; Pastor Schmidt led devotions which centered on Luke 5:1-11.
- The Jan 11, 2010 minutes were approved, with one change in the pastor's report: Wednesday 1PM and 7PM services are held ONLY during Lent.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Tom Tehve presented the treasurers report. The Treasurer's Report was approved.
- Gil Vatter will ask Clem Hergenhan to head the church audit, and ask Clem to pick a committee to complete the audit (3 non-council audit members are required).
- Pat asked Good Shepherd to send the Youth Orchestra a letter setting the 2010 usage fee. Gil Vatter reported he wrote a letter last year, and will again write the letter to assess a per-student usage fee (\$20 annual, or \$10 bi-annual)
- Pat reported that Good Shepherd continues to receive an overdue Little Lambs bill from Yellow Pages. Lou stated he had settled the arrangements with Yellow pages earlier in 2009. Lou will call Yellow Pages to determine the problem.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Mike (for Sharon)

- Heifer Project: children will be dressed, Sunday, Feb 14
- Souper Bowl of Caring: Feb 14 will be the final Sunday for donations. Mike will ask Clem Hergenhan to email an announcement.

EVANGELISM: Lil Nemicik.

- Gil read the list of committees and functions (described in Lil's revision of the evangelism "Blue Folder"). The Bell Choir will be added.
- Pat Dunn is working on the material, and will update with 2010 council members, and 2010 leadership positions.

FELLOWSHIP (no report – committee is to meet Feb 9.)

FINANCE/STEWARDSHIP: Karl reported results of the congregational survey. 49 people completed the survey (given over 3 Sundays). Gil Vatter will forward survey "as is" to Bruce Ewing. Gil will add a note about Good Shepherd concerns and questions regarding the survey results. Lou reported that 79 or 80 responses were received on an identical survey a few years ago.

PROPERTY:

- Steve reported repair of one sanctuary furnace (replaced thermocouple), repair of the Frank Hall hot water circulating pump (replaced a broken coupler), and installation of the basement window. Glenn Hoffman will install exterior window trim, and Tom Tehve volunteered to install the interior trim.
- Lou reported the cleaning service cleans every 2 weeks. Areas cleaned: the sanctuary, narthex, all restrooms, and the secretary's office. The German School is responsible for cleaning all their classrooms (per the German School contract)
- Lou suggested changing Christmas eve wax candles to electric candles to avoid wax drips on the chairs. The cleaning service reported they were not able to remove the wax from the chairs. Steve is looking for a volunteer to attempt wax removal with a hot iron and paper towel.
- Mike observed the baseboard had been left "on" in the library. Steve will add a "turn off" sign to the baseboard, and will appropriately modify the church close-up process.

SOCIAL MINISTRY:

- Gil reported delivery of 177 food cans (plus "lots" of baby food and peanut butter/jelly) to St Marks.
- The Midweek Service Offerings will be donated to the World Hunger Appeal

- The January treasurer's report shows that Good Shepherd members donated \$275 for Haiti relief (good Shepherd forwarded this money to the ELCA. Pastor Ed reported that ELCA is the lowest overhead manner to get money to Haiti. ELCA charges NO salary, and charges only 5% administration for brochures/advertising.
- John reported the 1st page of Feb 8 "Holmdel Happenings" printed Steve's photo and story of Larry Jackson presenting Good Shepherd's \$1K donation to Lunch Break, in Red Bank.

WORSHIP & MUSIC:

- Pastor Ed described Lenten service changes for a total of 6 weeks, including Palm Sunday, "to do something a little different". During Lent, the choir will practice at 7:45PM immediately following the Wed eve service.

Andy plans to make posters and invite local churches to the following two benefit concerts:

1. A concert to benefit Haiti on Sunday, April 11, 4PM by Miae Park's students. Steve will ask Miae to approve a video recording.
2. A concert to benefit local food pantries on Saturday, May 22 at 5PM, by a Christian Rock band. Gil will ask Andy to verify there are no restrictions on recording the Christian Rock band.

YOUTH AND FAMILY: Mike stated the only on-going group is the "Womens group". He requests the group report their ministry goals for Good Shepherd and the community. Recent projects were the coffee service and cleaning the sanctuary chairs. Also, the Women's Group asked Tom Tehve to enclose the closet area of the Narthex "cry room".

- Mike is looking for a volunteer to lead a Mens Group.

PASTORS REPORT:

- Confirmation class has 3 children. Pastor is pleased with the way all the children are contributing.
- After Easter, the Wed bible study will begin Letter to Hebrews.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Gil led the council in discussing what we learned from the January, 2010, Congregation Meeting that could be used to improve the January, 2011 Congregation Meeting:
 1. Have copies of the proposed budget be available prior to meeting start.
 2. Improve the council selection and nomination process. It was decided that possible council candidates will be identified in September. The nominating committee will discuss with the candidates, and then invite finalists to "sit in" a council meeting. (John Crump said this helped "sell" him to run for 2010 Council.)
- Monday, Jan 25 "Lifeline Screening" used the narthex and Frank Hall. Pat Dunn said the process was "Smooth as Silk".
- Gil proposed an "Ad - Hoc" committee to ensure that all Good Shepherd members are notified in the event of an emergency (such as church closing on Feb 7 due to snow). Gil will discuss this with Andy Mathisen.
- At the congregation meeting, Marian complained about rotten food in one stove of the old kitchen. Gil announced he had emailed the German School to remind them to remove food from all ovens. Lou stated the rotting food actually came from the church summer picnic. Gil will talk to Debbie Blackburn, and will report back to Marian with his findings and action.
- The church Council will be installed Sunday, Feb 14, near the service beginning, after the announcements.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion (by Mike Carp): As required by the church by-laws for undesignated year-end money, transfer the following to the church general fund: \$350 presently in the general (non-specified) memorial fund., and \$200 presently in the Michael Ganz memorial. Seconded by Lou. Unanimous approval.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Gil Vatter was elected President. Andy Mathisen was elected Vice President

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Mike Carp will assume leadership of the Social Ministry Committee
Gil Vatter will find a replacement for Youth & Family. (possibly Amanda? Gil will talk to Garry).
All other committee heads agreed to continue unchanged in 2010.
Pat Miller and Tom Tehve will continue to co-chair the church Treasurer position.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Steve Miller

KNITTING CHINESE (submitted by Ernie Brinkman)

Many years ago, my wife was to knitting what Peyton Manning is to football. She designed exotic patterns with ease.

There was an occasion when we had a lunch in a real Chinese restaurant (only one person spoke a bit of English; all the menus were in Chinese). When my wife saw the handwritten menu, she was so impressed with the calligraphy, she tucked it into her purse.

Six months later, I saw the result - a stunning white sweater with the Chinese symbols hand-stitched down the front.

She received compliments galore until one night, when we met a distinguished Chinese physician who asked my wife where she got the symbols. He then wanted to know if she knew what they meant.

"I'm afraid to ask", she said, "but tell me anyway."

Even she had to laugh when he told her they read, "This is a cheap dish-but good."

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER (submitted by Gil Vatter)

Rather than wait until future issues, I want to bring several matters to your attention in this edition of the "Shepherd's Voice".

First of all, I want to repeat a suggestion I mentioned to you last year at this time. It's quite simple: DON'T GIVE SOMETHING UP FOR LENT, ADD SOMETHING ON FOR LENT. If you feel it is necessary to stop using things like alcohol, tobacco, sweets, movies or red meat for the next six weeks, don't let me stop you. What makes a lot more sense to me, however, is finding your Lenten discipline by taking on responsibilities which the season and our faith requires us to consider anyway.

Think about adding one of these to your routine for at least the next few weeks:

1. Come to church every Sunday in Lent. Try for perfect attendance from now until Easter.
2. Attend the mid-week Lenten services on Wednesday. You have two options each Wednesday, 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Sixty of our members attended the Ash Wednesday service on February 17. A great start.
3. Make a special gift to one of your church's activities or charities.
There are plenty to consider.
4. Take on a task which needs to be done in the life of your church.
There are also plenty of these to consider.
5. Pray for the growth and success of our congregation. I hope we are all already doing this.

If you decide to try one or more of these suggestions, you will find that the extra effort you make will be rewarding and a proper response to God's many gifts to you.

Next, I want to elaborate on something I mentioned at the congregation's annual meeting in January. Near the end of the meeting, I said that the Council had decided that 2010 will be the year we devote extra attention to the youth of our parish, the year we make a special effort to resuscitate activities and programs for the children and young adults of our church.

This will be done.

We are already actively seeking a person or persons from our congregation to assume the responsibility for organizing and leading this very important segment in the life of our church. Once this has been accomplished, we will also require interested adults to advise, present and monitor these youth activities. We have also determined that a larger portion of our funds must be used to structure and enlarge the scope of this program in order to make it attractive to the people involved and in order to attract new people from outside the church.

A new, invigorated youth program has the potential to be a major step in the return of this congregation to its full and proper place in the New Jersey Synod. It also, obviously, means a great deal to the continuing life of the parish. We are fortunate that Sharon Oberkehr has already started a Sunday School program and a Vacation Bible School for the younger children of the parish. Now we must turn our attention to our young adults. These young people are the Good Shepherd of the future. We will be telling you more about the development of the youth program as things fall into place.

Finally, I want to tell you that I have turned over the chairmanship of the Social Ministry Committee to Mike Carp. With the amount of my personal involvement in the day-to-day activities of the church, I feel that Social Ministry requires more attention than I can give it. Mike will do a good job.

This does not mean that I will no longer participate in any Social Ministry programs. Patty and I will continue to deliver canned food to local food pantries each month, I will also supervise the "St. Mark's Sponsors" program as before and I will offer Mike whatever assistance he asks for to make the congregation's outreach to others successful.

AROUND THE PARISH (submitted by Gil Vatter)

1. Many thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd turban to GLENN HOFFMAN, assisted by STEVE MILLER and DICK ALBERTI for installing a new window in the basement. Looks great!!
2. The Council welcomes JOHN CRUMP as the newest member of that august body. Good to have you on board, John.
3. MAKE THE MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE A PART OF YOUR DISCIPLINE FOR LENT.
4. Congratulations to ANDY MATHISEN, who was recently awarded the "Order of the Arrow" by the Boy Scouts of America. Now both he and KURT are members of the Order.
5. What do you get when Federal Express and United Parcel Service merge? Fed Ups. (Thanks Randi Stetz).
6. Despite terrible weather, more than 60 people used the services of Life Screening on Monday January 25 at Good Shepherd.
7. Can't come to Pastor Ed's Lenten service on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM? Can't drive at night? You can worship at 1:00 PM on Wednesdays instead, during Lent.

8. From a church bulletin: The Youth Group will be presenting Shakespeare's "Hamlet" in the church basement on Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy. (Dick Alberti)
9. BILL WEHRLI is in Boynton Beach, Florida until March 2, enjoying the temperatures, the hot tub and, I'll bet, the key lime pie. A nasty job, but somebody has to do it.
10. Why do we say that something is "out of whack"? What is a "Whack" anyway?
11. DON'T FORGET TO BRING CANNED FOOD TO CHURCH FOR YOUR NEEDY NEIGHBORS.
12. The OBERKEHR kids, in appropriate costumes, helped kick off the "Heifer Project" on Sunday January 24.
13. Another church bulletin: The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.
14. Congratulations to JON KIM, MIAE'S son, and our very favorite cellist, who was chosen to be a member of his District Orchestra. Way to go JON.
15. Great to see TRUDY and CHARLIE MILLER back in church on Sunday January 31.
16. Happy birthday to former pastor GEORGE FRANK, ANDY MATHISEN and ELLEN TEHVE.
17. A final church bulletin: Don't let worry kill you off - Let the church help.
18. The WESTERWELLER family went south for part of February.
19. Send a card to ALLEN BRUBAKER, who is in rehab recovering from a fall at home.
20. Why do "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing?
21. If you give to the ELCA World Hunger appeal, 95% of your gift will go toward easing hunger somewhere in the world.
22. For the second time this winter, Sunday service on February 7 was cancelled because of heavy snow. In the event of heavy snow again or any other emergencies, please check your e-mail. Information about postponement, rescheduling or cancellation will be sent as soon as possible.
23. More than 175 cans of food were delivered to a local food pantry in January.
24. Want to learn the cha-cha? Talk to ANDY LICHTER. He and the Missus are semi-pros.
25. Did you see the picture of LARRY JACKSON presenting a check to LUNCH BREAK on the front page of "Holmdel Happenings"?
26. After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and washed her hair. When she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. Finally, she threw a towel around her head and stormed into their room, putting them back into bed with stern warnings. As she left the room, she heard the three-year-old say with a trembling voice, "Who was THAT?"

Beware of Terrorist Groups in Church (submitted by Steve Miller)

Latest news reports are that five terrorist cell groups have been operating in many of our churches. They have been identified as: Bin Sleepin, Bin Arguin, Bin Fightin, Bin Complainin, and Bin Missin.

Their leader, Lucifer Bin Workin, trained these groups to destroy the Body of Christ. The plan is to come into the church disguised as Christians and to work within the church to discourage, disrupt, and destroy.

However, there have been reports of a sixth group. A tiny cell known by the name Bin Prayin is actually the only effective counter terrorism force in the church. Unlike other terrorist cells, the Bin Prayin team does not blend in with whoever and whatever comes along.

Bin Prayin does whatever is needed to uplift and encourage the Body of Christ. We have noticed that the Bin Prayin cell group has different characteristics than the others. They have Bin Watchin, Bin Waitin, Bin Fastin, and Bin Longin for their Master, Jesus Christ to return.

NO CHURCH IS EXEMPT!

(However, you can spot them if you bin lookin and bin goin.)

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE PLANS SPRING CONCERT SERIES AT GOOD SHEPHERD

Andy Mathisen, chairman of the Worship and Music Committee, has announced a series of musical events to be presented at Good Shepherd this spring.

The first concert will feature students of the congregation's Minister of Music, Miae Park, and will take place on Sunday April 11 at 4:00 PM in the sanctuary. A free-will offering will be received with all money benefitting Haitian relief.

A second concert, scheduled for Saturday May 22 at 5:00 PM at the church, will feature a local Christian rock band. Proceeds from this concert will be given to local food pantries.

The possibility of a third concert, to be presented in June and featuring the New Jersey State Youth Orchestra, is under discussion.

More details about each concert will be provided in the coming weeks.

SOCIAL MINISTRY REPORT (submitted by Mike Carp)

Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent for Christians, but it also starts Good Shepherd's ministry to the world. We will be collecting offerings from our mid-week services and donations from the Sunday services to support World Hunger.

Last year I learned that over 300 million children will not have enough to eat today and a person dies every 7 seconds due to starvation. These facts have been multiplied by the earthquake down in Haiti. Now is the time for our family at Good Shepherd to help our neighbors down the block and around the world.

I will ask the church council to split our collections into three parts:

1. To help the people of Haiti.
2. To minister to the world.
3. To help our neighbors in Holmdel and Middletown (Project Paul).

Due to the snow storm on February 6, we did not reach our goal for the SouperBowl of Caring, so we will continue to take donations to help our local food pantries, like St. Mark's, Lunch Break etc.

With all we need in the world, please do not forget the Sunday school's "Heifer Project".

A FEW NOTES FROM THE CHOIR

Weekly choir rehearsal has been moved from the usual Thursday evening to Wednesday evening, immediately following the mid-week Lenten services (about 7:45 PM). This schedule will continue until after Easter, when rehearsal will return to Thursday night at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to join the choir during Lent and on Easter. Try it, you'll like it.

- Thanks to JONATHAN KIM for accompanying the choir on Sunday February 21 in the anthem: "Beneath the Shadow of Almighty God" by T. Fettke. JON also played the prelude for the day, "A Lenten Meditation" by Schubert.

- Remember, for Lent, a hymn will be sung in place of the Kyrie and "This is the Feast", "They that Wait Upon the Lord" replaces "Lord to Whom Shall We Go" and "The steadfast Love of the Lord" replaces "Let the Vineyards be Fruitful, Lord".

- The choir is preparing special music for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.

- Watch for a "concert series" coming in the spring and sponsored by the Worship and Music Committee. The first concert will feature MIAE PARK'S students, the second a local Christian rock band and the third the New Jersey State Youth Orchestra. Details will be given to you soon.

DISCOVER THE JOY OF BEING A VNACJ HOSPICE VOLUNTEER

-SHARE A MEMORY - HOLD A HAND - LEND AN EAR - TOUCH A HEART-

The Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey is inviting members of the community to join a team of hospice volunteers. All you need is a warm heart, a listening ear and the gift of compassion. You can make a difference in the life of a hospice patient or family member.

VNACJ is providing training for anyone interested in becoming a hospice volunteer in Monmouth County. The preparatory courses are taught by members of the VNACJU hospice team on Thursdays, February 25 through March 11 from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM at VNACJ Hospice Headquarters, 1100 Wayside Road, Tinton Falls. To be accepted as a volunteer, you must attend all three training sessions.

To register or for questions, please call Pauline De Palm, BSW, Manager of Volunteers at 732-224-6933 or visit www.vnacj.org.

"In gently caring for the dying, we can more peacefully and wisely care for the living and for life itself."

GOOD SHEPHERD RECEIVES THANK YOU FROM ST. MARK'S KITCHEN

The Kitchen at St. Mark's, Inc.

P.O. Box 193

Keansburg, NJ 07734

February 7, 2010

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$300 and for the groceries you donate to the food pantry every month. Your gifts are helping us fulfill our mission of meeting the needs of all those who are hungry in the Keansburg community.

Thanks again for your kindness to our neighbors in need.

Sincerely,

Nancy Mester & Doreen Minutella , Co-Directors

NOTE: The donation of \$300 represents four checks for \$75.00 sent by members of the congregation on the St. Mark's "Sponsors" list.

March 2010

| <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 | 5 | 6 |
| | 7pm – Finance Cmt Mtg | 10am - noon & 5:30 – 7:30pm German School | 1pm & 7pm Lenten Service 6pm Confirmation Class | 7:30 Choir Practice 4:00-8:30pm German School | 9:15 -11:45 German School | 9-12 NJ Symphony Youth Orchestra |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 9- Adult Forum 10- Service | 7pm – Council Mtg | 10am - noon & 5:30 – 7:30pm German School | 1pm & 7pm Lenten Service 6pm Confirmation Class | 7:30 Choir Practice 4:00-8:30pm German School | 9:15 -11:45 German School | 9-12 NJ Symphony Youth Orchestra |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 9- Adult Forum 10- Service | | 10am - noon & 5:30 – 7:30pm German School 7:30 – 9:00pm Compassionate Friends | 1pm & 7pm Lenten Service 6pm Confirmation Class | 7:30 Choir Practice 4:00-8:30pm German School | 9:15-11:45 German School | 9-12 NJ Symphony Youth Orchestra |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 9- Adult Forum 10- Service | | 10am - noon & 5:30 – 7:30pm German School | 1pm & 7pm Lenten Service 6pm Confirmation Class | 7:30 Choir Practice 4:00-8:30pm German School | 9:15-11:45 German School | 9-12 NJ Symphony Youth Orchestra |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |
| 9- Adult Forum 10- Palm Sunday Service | | 10am - noon & 5:30 – 7:30pm German School | | | | |
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