

# **The Voice of the Good Shepherd**

**July 2010**

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

## **CONGREGATION BIDS FAREWELL TO PASTOR EDWARD SCHMIDT**

Sunday June 27 marked the final day of Pastor Edward C. Schmidt's tenure at Good Shepherd Church. After two years as Interim Pastor, Pastor Schmidt will be replaced by Pastor John Elstad, who will become the church's Half-Time Pastor after a congregational meeting, following the service on July 4, at which Pastor Elstad will preach.

The June 27th communion service featured Pastor Schmidt's sermon, "Putting First Things First", based on Luke 9: 51-62 and was enhanced by Pat Schmidt's offertory solo, "We Have Seen God's Glory" by Driskell and Hudson. She was accompanied by the Pastor. Pat Miller provided music for the liturgy, as substitute for Miae Park, who is on vacation. Mrs. Miller presented "Consecration" as her Prelude and "The Heavens Declare His Glory" as her Postlude, both by Ludwig van Beethoven. Gil Vatter was Lay Assistant and read a short message to the congregation at the beginning of the service concerning the departure of the Interim Pastor and the arrival of the Half-Time Pastor.

Following the 10:00 o'clock service, the Fellowship Committee, under the chairmanship of Debbie Blackburn, served a farewell luncheon. About 60 people met to celebrate the contribution made by Pastor Schmidt to the strengthening of the parish during his tenure. Frank Hall was decorated with seasonal flowers and the serving tables were piled high with a variety of special food prepared by many of the women of the church.

Before the conclusion of the luncheon, Gil Vatter presented the Schmidts with a monetary gift on behalf of the members of the congregation. Pat and Pastor Ed thanked the members of Good Shepherd for the gift and for their support during Ed's stay in Holmdel. The Schmidts then cut the first slices from a special cake which had been appropriately decorated with a farewell message to the Pastor.

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## **GOOD SHEPHERD CONGREGATION WELCOMES PASTOR JOHN ELSTAD**

by Gil Vatter

Bishop E. Roy Riley of the New Jersey Synod has appointed Reverend John M. Elstad as half time pastor for the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. At a special Congregation Council meeting on June 1, 2010, the Council agreed to affirm the Bishop's choice.

Pastor Elstad will preach at the morning worship service on July 4, 2010 and a special meeting will follow at which the congregation will be asked for their affirmation of the appointment.

Pastor Elstad is a graduate of Tufts University and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. He has served churches in Paramus, Edison, Brick, Beachwood, Whiting Freehold and is now at Zion, Barnegat Light. He retired as Senior Pastor of St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Brick in 2004 after 30 years of service. He has been married to his wife Ruth for almost 60 years and has two sons and three grandchildren. His hobbies include golf, gardening and walking.

Come join us on July 4 as we greet Pastor Jack as our new Pastor

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## **Vacation Bible School Set for August**

**Vacation Bible School will be held August 9<sup>th</sup> thru 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 11:30 at Good Shepherd for ages 9 - 13. More info will appear in the weekly church bulletins. Please contact the church office at 732-842-4596 for registration forms.**

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## **Council Meeting Minutes for June 1, 2010**

In attendance were the following:

Gil Vatter, Garry Westerweller, Mike Carp , Lil Nemeik, Andy Mathisen, John Crump, Pat Miller, Steve Miller, Karl Torjussen, Tom Tehve, Sharon Oberkehr, Bruce Ewing, and Pastor John Elstad.

Lou Medici, was not in attendance.

Gil opened the meeting with prayer

After some discussion, Steve moved that we recommend to the congregation that they affirm the Bishop's recommendation of the Reverend John Elstad as our part-time pastor effective on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Mike then seconded and the motion was carried.

## **Reports**

**Treasurer's Report** presented by Pat Miller.

- Report attached
- Approved as received

May's council minutes were approved as written

Discussion then ensued regarding the possibility of Little Chief's as a potential tenant. In conjunction with this discussion, and prior to making any kind of decision, Mike Carp presented his costs comparison between intelligent energy and NJ Natural gas. After calculating a potential bill for comparison, Steve moved that we do not renew our contract with intelligent energy and switch back to NJ Natural Gas. This motion was seconded by Tom and carried by the floor.

Gil then presented a summary of concerns that were discussed regarding the potential rental of the classroom space by Little Chiefs. (attached) Some of the main concerns were;

- Maintenance, costs and responsibility
- Furniture use
- Plowing
- Playground maintenance
- Clarification of needed space
- Xerox machine
- Dumpster
- Do we involve a lawyer in a potential lease?

More items were discussed and can be found on the attached discussion sheet.

Council then gave Gil an "unofficial" yes vote, pending the answer to some additional questions and concerns.

Gil will set up a meeting between Little Chief's and some council members from Good Shepherd.

Council discussed the departure of Pastor Ed. Gil will contact Debbie to set up a small social event to mark the occasion.

Gil also proposed we pay for Pastor Ed's July as his vacation month. Mike Carp seconded this and the proposal was unanimously approved.

We received letters of thanks from the Heifer project and COG for our recent donations.

Garry asked if we could place a bulletin board in the Narthex to recognize past and future youth group activities.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Garry Westerweller

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## **THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER** (submitted by Gil Vatter)

"Consider yourself at home, consider yourself part of the family.  
For after some consideration we can state, consider yourself one of us."  
From the Broadway musical, "Oliver!"

Last month in the "Corner" I talked about change and how it affects our lives and the life of our church. I got more reaction and comments to this piece than any other I have written for the "Voice". Now, just a few weeks later, here we are, saying goodbye to our friend Ed Schmidt and saying hello to a new half-time pastor, Jack Elstad. "Things, they are a changin'!"

On June 27, the Fellowship Committee hosts a farewell for Pastor Schmidt and on July 4, we will have a special congregation meeting to welcome Pastor Elstad. Never a dull moment. Please join us for both these events.

We are now entering the third phase of this congregation's journey from the depths of our situation in May of 2008. Phase One was substitute preachers every Sunday. Phase Two was Pastor Ed, our interim pastor. Next we go to a half-time pastor who we expect to lead us to our ultimate goal - Phase Four - a full-time pastor and a return to what we ought to be, a dynamic suburban parish contributing to the local scene and reaching out to the world.

Thanks to all of you, thanks to Pastor Schmidt, thanks to the Congregation Council. We have made great strides during the past two years. How exciting it is to contemplate the future.

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

1. There will be a tear in many an eye when Good Shepherd bids farewell to our friend and Interim Pastor, ED SCHMIDT on June 27. Thanks for the memories, Ed.
2. Happy birthday to RACHEL (21) and DIANE (39) MATHISEN who both celebrated in June.
3. A short fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large. (Larry Jackson)
4. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd yarmulke to JOHN CRUMP for all the work he did on the sanctuary screens.
5. July 19 is the first anniversary of ABIGAIL GRACE HAFNER'S baptism. Way to go Abby.
6. While working for "Meals on Wheels" a mother used to take her four year old daughter on her rounds. The kittle girl was always intrigued with the various ITEMS used by the elderly. One day she found the child staring at a set of false teeth soaking in a glass of water. As the mother approached, the four year old whispered, "The tooth fairy will never believe this."

7. You may have missed PASTOR ED'S story about Reuben opening a sandwich shop.
8. Congratulations to GRACE and ERNIE BRINKMAN who celebrated thier wedding anniversary in June.
9. Thanks a a tip of the Good Shepherd stetson to PAT DUNN and MIKE CARP for delivering all the accumulated household goods to the COG pantry at the Calico Cat and THANKS AND a tip of the Good Shepherd panama to EVERYONE who brought in items for Calico Cat.
10. Thanks to all who donated food for the St. Mark's Food Pantry last month.
11. CAROL and LARRY SIPE are experts at "tripping the light fantastic". They even compete in dance contests.
12. Have you ever wondered why glue doesn't stick to the inside of the bottle?
13. NANCY and CLEM HERGENHAN have shifted their base of operations to Brick for the summer.
14. MIAE PARK'S family will vacation in Florida the last week of June.
15. PAT MILLER sang at the Metropolitan Opera House in May.
16. FREDDIE OBERKEHR is very excited since he learned that the Super Bowl will be in New Jersey in 2014. Hope you get a ticket, Fritz.
17. The soldier who survived both mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.
18. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd coon skin cap to MIAE and the CHOIR for another year of great anthems and musical support at all the worship services.
19. Welcome home to JANICE and PAUL KRAUS, back from Florida for the summer.
20. We needed sun glasses to observe LOU MEDICI'S patriotic shirt on May 30.
21. PLEASE KEEP YOUR PLEDGES UP TO DATE OVER THE SUMMER MONTHS.
22. A woman walked into a church and was greeted by a very friendly usher. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked.  
"The front row please", she replied.  
"Your really don't want to do that", the usher said, "our pastor is rather boring."  
"Do you happen to know who I am?", the woman said. "No", he answered.  
"I'm the pastor's wife", she said indignantly.  
"Do you know who I am?" the usher asked.  
"No" she said.  
"Good" he answered.

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## **GOOD SHEPHERD SUPPORTS ELCA WORLD HUNGER - HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
8765 West Higgins Road  
Chicago, IL 60631

Dear Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$955.00 to ELCA World Hunger and \$2,455.00 to ELCA International Disaster Response: Haiti Earthquake Relief. Gifts like yours are already at work, efficiently and effectively, in all 50 of the United States, in more than 60 countries and with our partners who have served the people of Haiti for years.

To children who go to sleep hungry, your gift brings nutritious meals. To villages where women must walk for hours to fetch water, your gift brings wells of clean water. To small-scale farmers who struggle to feed their families, your gift brings irrigation, improved seed and livestock and technical training. To families and communities torn apart by disease, your gift brings care and education.

In the capital city of Port-au-Prince, gifts to ELCA are helping students with their school supplies and helping the Lutheran Church in Haiti provide thousands of people who took refuge on church grounds with shelter, food and water, health care and spritual and psychological care.

Your gifts bring help and hope for the future. Your faithful generosity makes it possible for us to stay with our brothers and sisters in Haiti over the long haul and brings us a step closer to ending hunger in the world.

Together in Christ's service,  
The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director  
ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

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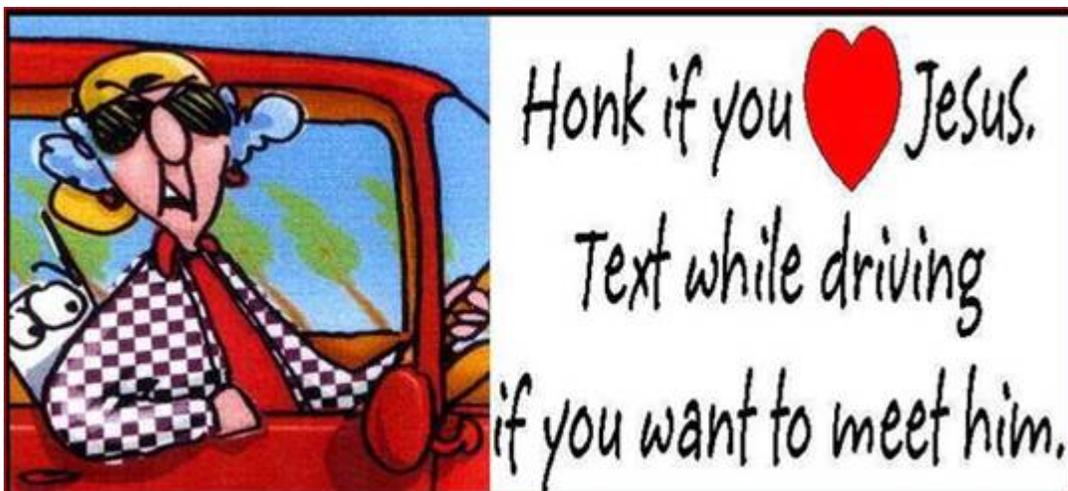
### **2010 RED BANK CROP HUNGER WALK SET FOR OCTOBER**

The officials of the Red Bank CROP Hunger Walk has scheduled the 30th annual five mile walk through three towns for Sunday October 17, 2010. The yearly "Walk" will again provide funds to help "overcome poverty in communities near and far". Organizations participating in the project include churches, schools, temples, civic and service organizations and local business people. The goal for 2010 is \$130,000, locally and \$2 million nationally as the CROP crew continues to better the lives of those who need our help.

Nationally, the CROP Hunger Walks are the community appeal of Church World Service. Locally, all funds collected benefit 15 partners working in the greater Red Bank area from Keyport to Asbury Park, including pantries and housing programs for families needing assistance. CROP funds reach out across the world through global partners in 80 countries, including disaster relief efforts this year for victims of earthquakes in Haiti, Chile and China.

For additional information on how you can help Good Shepherd continue to support the CROP Walk, go to [www.redbankcropwalk.com](http://www.redbankcropwalk.com) or speak with Mike Carp or Andy Mathisen about walking on October 17, sponsoring a walker or making a contribution to this worthy cause.

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**PROJECT PAUL OF KEANSBURG HELPED BY GOOD SHEPHERD**

Project Paul  
211 Carr Avenue  
Keansburg, NJ 07734  
June 1, 2010

Dear Members of the Church of the Good Shepherd

In this time of high unemployment and need, the clients of Project PAUL are forever grateful for your support. 100% of the funding we recently received will go directly to helping the needy in our local Bayshore area. We pray that this year, our 30th year, will be a better year for the thousands of families that your generosity will help us support.

Thank you for walking with us in our struggle to serve so many needy people in these difficult times. It is only with your help that we can try to do God's will and assist so many of our neighbors.

Lionel Menard  
Executive Director, Project PAUL

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**GIFT PROMPTS THANK YOU FROM CALICO CAT FOOD PANTRY**

June 3, 2010

Dear Members,

On behalf of the Calico Cat Food Pantry, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my thanks to all for your most generous gift of four hundred forty dollars.

Thank you for helping us with the fight against hunger and for your dedication. So much of everything we do each and every day of our lives is guided by our desire to help and give to others.

We are most grateful. May God be with you. We deeply appreciate your support and kindness.

Robbie Freund  
Calico Cat Food Pantry

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT PAYS OFF FOR HEIFER INTERNATIONAL**

Heifer International  
1 World Avenue  
Little Rock, AR 72202

Dear Friends,

It is with deep gratitude I thank you for the kindness and support that your congregation has provided to Heifer International. By choosing an alternative gift through Heifer International, coupled with our special Pass on the Gift cornerstone, your generosity will transform countless lives and communities.

With your gift, we will be able to continue to provide hope and a new way of life for more struggling families. Passing on the Gift creates a living cycle of sustainability that develops community and enhances self-esteem by allowing project participants to become donors. And it all starts with your congregations selfless giving.

Thank you for believing that selfless giving coupled with sustainable agriculture practices can change futures forever! Your continued prayers and support of our mission means so much.

Sincerely,  
Charles O. Stewart  
Interim Chief Executive Officer

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**RED BANK'S LUNCH BREAK THANKS GOOD SHEPHERD FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT**

Lunch Break  
121 Drs. James Parker Blvd.  
P.O. Box 2215  
Red Bank, N.J. 07701  
May 24, 2010

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$440.00 to Lunch Break and for believing in our mission. Your donation truly helps us to make life easier for the many families that we serve each year. In 2009 alone, we served over 38,000 meals to individuals, most of whom reside right here in the Two Rivers Area. We expect even more requests for assistance in 2010. With statistics like this, a small organization like ours needs the community's help to exist. What is humbling to me is to know that when we needed you most, you were there and for that we are grateful.

If you are ever in the area during our lunch hour, please stop by, have lunch with us and view our operation. We would love to have you as a guest.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [crystian1@verizon.net](mailto:crystian1@verizon.net) or 732-345-8350.

Memone Paden Crystian  
President, Board of Trustees

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**HEARTS OF REMEMBRANCE CHILDREN'S DAY - A CELEBRATION OF LIFE**

The Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey Hospice program is sponsoring the 6th annual Hearts of Remembrance Children's Day - A Celebration of Life, a free grief support camp designed for children ages 6 - 12 who have experienced the death of a loved one.

It is scheduled for Saturday July 24, rain or shine, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Thees Home, 2 Allencrest Road in Rumson. Children will enjoy a summer day filled with meaningful, uplifting activities and positive reflection.

VNACJ Bereavement Support Services provides a creative outlet that encourages children to express their feelings and learn to cope with and accept the death of a loved one.

For more information about the camp and to request an application for a child, you may contact the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey at 732-493-2220. All registration and reservations must be submitted by July 13.

# July 2010

<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>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
9- Adult Forum 10 - Service	7pm – Finance Cmt Mtg					
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
9- Adult Forum 10 - Service	7pm – Council Mtg					
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
9- Adult Forum 10 - Service		7:30 – 9:00pm Compassionate Friends				
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
9- Adult Forum 10 - Service						