

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

August 2011

(our website good-shepherd.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

To all the saints at Good Shepherd,

Four times during the course of a year the New Jersey Synod sends out what is known as a Mission Support Report which provides information as to the level of financial support each congregation is providing. The most recent report for the period January 1 2011 – June 30, 2011 shows that for Good Shepherd our Annual Commitment is \$2800 and that our total giving toward that amount at present is \$1800 or 64%, which ranks third in that regard among the eleven congregations that make up the North Shore Cluster. Thanks be to God we are moving in a positive direction in this important aspect of supporting the work of the greater church.

Your faithfulness in giving is encouraging especially during this time when the economy is so precarious. It would be easy for any congregation to forego generosity and to let fear or hard times limit both heart and checkbook. And yet we and each of the other congregations of the Synod have not allowed this to be the case.

It is important for all of us to remember that through our giving we are literally supporting the extension of evangelical mission in our Lutheran tradition. As Pastor Scott Schantzenbach, Assistant to the Bishop – Stewardship Advocate, stated in his letter accompanying the Mission Synod Report, *“Last month the mission of the New Jersey Synod received a big boost through the sharing of our congregations with contributions in excess of \$180,000. These gifts bring us on track with our projected spending in 2011. The impact of your gifts in creating a hope-filled future for this church is easily documented. When you send an offering in care of this Synod’s office, it immediately goes to fund ministry in New Jersey, throughout the ELCA, and through our global partners. Thousands of other congregations from all around the ELCA have also shared generously, and some of it returns to this Synod.*

Presently Mission Support gifts held in the synod provide “partner support” with the ELCA to foster mission initiatives, new starts, and congregational redevelopments on the territory of New Jersey. They are: *Elect Saints*, Hamilton; *Nava Jeevan*, Kendall Park; *Pilgrim Journey*, Elizabeth, *Santa Isabel*, Elizabeth; *Waterfront Mission*, Jersey City; *Alive in Christ*, Jackson Township, *Lutheran Ministries*, Camden, *St. John*, Passaic; *St. Paul’s South Asian*, Jersey City; *Holy Trinity*, Hasbrouck Heights, and *Lutheran Church of the Redeemer*, Maywood.

I have provided you with this information so that you may realize just how important your financial support is and that through such giving we are evidencing what it means to be members of a local communion of saints which is intimately connected with the whole body of the greater Church.

Thank you for you for all you do to make this congregation a growing one.

Pastor Jack

On Sunday, August 7 we will take time in the service to give recognition to our four recent high school graduates who will be commencing their college education and wishing them success in their studies. They are: *Kurt Mathisen*, Gettysburg College; *Kristin Mathisen*, University of Delaware; *Amanda Westerweller*,

Monmouth University, and *P. J. Benson*, Montclair State College. We hope you will be present as we offer prayers and wish them God's blessings
Grace and peace, Pastor Jack

Courage in Aging will again begin on September 6 at 1:30 p.m. in our church library. Our topic will be "SAYING NO-WHY IS IT DIFFICULT AND WHEN IS IT APPROPRIATE." Attendance at all the sessions is not a requirement. We will be meeting on the first Tuesday of every month. Feel free to bring a friend. Future topics will be:

10/6/11 – "IF ONLY I HAD ... (TIME, MONEY COURAGE, RELATIONSHIPS, ETC.)"

11/1/11 - "ANGER"

A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex in August. Please call Ruth Elstad at 732-864-0616 with any questions. Elizabeth and I are hoping to see you at our first session.

VBS 2011!!! COME JOIN US!!!

Vacation Bible School will be held August 15th-19th from 9:00-11:30am at Good Shepherd. Children ages 3-10 are welcome to come. The theme this year is "God's Beautiful Garden". Registration forms are in the narthex. Questions? see Sharon Oberkehr, or call the church office and speak to Pat Dunn 732-842-4596.

GOOD SHEPEHRD SUPPORTS COG CHARITY

by Gil Vatter

In April Michael Carp and the Social Ministry Committee began a drive within the congregation to accumulate personal and household items for the COG (Community Outreach Group), Calico Cat Evening Food Pantry at Christ Episcopal Church in Middletown. Good Shepherd is one of twelve local churches and charitable groups which have agreed to underwrite this important service each year.

Piles of soap, toothpaste and tissues were soon appearing on the large table in the old kitchen as members of the church began to bring bags of items to the church and by the middle of June, a tremendous number of things had been received and sorted. On Monday June 27, Pat Dunn, Church Secretary, volunteered to transport everything to the Calico Cat in more than thirty large plastic bags. Each bag contained:

6 Rolls Toilet Tissue
1 Bottle Dish Detergent
1 Bottle Laundry Detergent
2 Boxes Tissues
1 Box Plastic Sandwich Bags
1 Bottle Kitchen/Bathroom Cleaner
1 Bottle Shampoo
1 Tube Toothpaste
3 Bars Bath Soap

Additional bags beyond the original 30 were also taken containing all the extra toothpaste, detergent, tissues, soap, etc. provided by members of the congregation. Everything taken to the Evening Food Pantry is given to needy, local families on one evening each month as part of COG's continuing outreach to the needy in Monmouth County.

Thanks to everyone who brought items to the church and a special thank you to Pat Dunn for delivering everything to the Calico Cat.

CAROL SEIP SCHEDULED TO EXHIBIT IN ART SHOW

by Gil Vatter

Carol Seip, a member of the "Blend of Art Society" will participate in an art show from August 6 to September 7 at the Ocean Township Library. She will be exhibiting photography, pastels, watercolors and colored pencil drawings. Other members of the Society who will provide art for the show include, Ernie Antholis, Helen Antholis, Mary Christenson, Sol Hara, Rose Korman and Marie Monahan.

The Ocean Township Library is located at 701 Deal Road in Ocean. The art show may be viewed on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 9 pm, Wednesday from 9 am to 5 pm, Friday from 1 pm to 5 pm and Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm. The Library is closed on Sunday.

A special reception will be held at the library on Sunday August 7 from 2 pm to 4 pm. Carol invites all her friends from the congregation to attend.

AROUND THE PARISH

by Gil Vatter

GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

1. The Social Ministry Committee has taken 670 cans of food to St. Mark's through June.
2. Babysitting is available in the church nursery every Sunday at 10:00 AM.
3. Why do we buy hot dogs in packs of 10 and buns in packages of 8? (Bill Wehrli)
4. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd beanie to PAT DUNN for delivering the personal and household goods to the COG Evening Food Pantry on Monday June 15.
5. The WOMEN'S LUNCHEON GROUP met at the Windansea Restaurant in Highlands on Friday July 15. To join the group in August, see BARBARA HAHER.
6. Church sign - CHURCH PARKING ONLY - TRESSPASSERS WILL BE BAPTISED (Carol Seip)
7. Many Happy Returns to LARRY JACKSON who celebrates in August.
8. RUTH AND PASTOR JACK celebrate a wedding anniversary in August.
9. Protons have mass? - I didn't even know they were Catholic. (Carol Seip)
10. Life Line Screening held a clinic at Good Shepherd on Tuesday July 19. About 50 persons participated.
11. Congratulations and best wishes to RACHEL MATHISEN who passed the "Boards" and became a Registered Nurse in June.
12. Three boys were in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first said, "My dad writes a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem and they give him \$50." The second boy said, "That's nothing. My dad puts a few words on paper, calls it a song and they give him \$100." The third boy said, "I got you both beat. My dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a sermon and it takes four people to collect all the money." (Lil Nemcik)

13. Did you know - We still have "Charter Members" attending Good Shepherd? - Ines Csulak.....Bob Fulmer.....Walter Keyl.....Nancy Fitch.....Tam Tammaru.

14. PASTOR JACK spoke about the "Montreal Protocol" on Sunday July 24 and urged everyone to "Plant a tree".

15. Is it me ---- or do buffalo wings taste like chicken? (Carol Seip)

16. WALTER KEYL is reading "The Nuclear Family".

SPONSORS ARE NEEDED FOR ALTAR FLOWERS - AVAILABLE SUNDAYS ARE LISTED IN THE NARTHEX

17. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the MATHISEN FAMILY on the death of Andy's aunt. He plans to fly to Norway to attend the funeral.

18. You will not find anyone who can give you a clear and compelling reason to observe Daylight Savings Time. (Bill Wehrli)

19. The church welcomed GEORGE LAVIGNE of FAMILY PROMISE on Sunday July 24. Family Promise is now caring for three homeless families in Monmouth County (A man and his wife and six children, a mother and two children and a mother and one child). If you would like to volunteer to work with Family Promise, see Pastor Jack.

20. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held the week of August 15 to 19.

21. My mother taught me hypocrisy - "If I told you once, I told you a million times - don't exaggerate". (Grace Brinkman)

22. The famous Monmouth County BABOON was finally tranquilized and captured on Fairfield Road in Howell on Thursday June 30. The baboon was found sitting on a fence at a Fairfield Road horse farm just a short way from BOB FULMER'S home. Bob did not get involved in the monkey business.

23. BOB STETZ, President of the local Sons of Norway Lodge, was interviewed in the "Asbury Park Press" on Sunday July 24 in connection with the recent bombing and shooting episode in Norway. "It's hard to explain." said Bob. "Norway is a peaceful, tranquil country with very little crime."

24. In 2011, July has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturdays and 5 Sundays. This happens once every 823 years!!!! (Bill Theune)

SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

WHO DOES WHAT AT GOOD SHEPHERD

by Gil Vatter

"Give thanks everyday for everything..." Ephesians 5:20

This series is provided in order to help the congregation learn who has taken the responsibility for leadership in our church.

THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Andy Mathisen - President-Music & Worship Committee

Steve Miller - Vice President-Property Committee

Garry Westerweller - Secretary
Pat Miller - Treasurer
Mike Carp - Social Ministry Committee
John Crump,Lil Nemcik - Evangelism Committee
Sharon Oberkehr - Christian Education Committee
Karl Torjussen - Finance Committee
Tom Tehve - C0-Treasurer/C0-chair
Property Committee Andy Lichter

August 2011

<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
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10 – Service						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10 – Service	9am – 11:30 Vacation Bible School	9am – 11:30 VBS 7:30pm – 9:00 Compassionate Friends	9am – 11:30 VBS	9am – 11:30 VBS	9am – 11:30 VBS 12:30 – Ladies Lunch Grp. @ McLoone’s in Sea Bright	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10 – Service						
28	29	30	31			
10 – Service						