

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

May 2012

(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,

What I share with you this month is a portion of an article from the website of "The Lutheran" dated March 27. I do this because I think it important that we appreciate it as an example of how our Presiding Bishop, Mark S. Hanson, offers us counsel at times of significant importance. It is rare for the news media to bring to public attention such a voice, and that even members of the ELCA themselves never fully appreciate the fact that their church does have much to offer in terms of ministry.

ELCA Leaders Respond to the Shooting Death of Trayvon Martin

The shooting death of Trayvon Martin in Sanford, Florida, has called ELCA members to engage in the work of being "restoring and reconciling communities, pursuing justice and peace no matter how long the journey or wide the chasm," said ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson.

"The deep sorrow of Trayvon Martin's family has become our shared public lament," Hanson said. "The tragedy of Trayvon's death must move us to ask searching questions. How much longer shall any child live in fear because of their skin? Are we, who are white, ready to confront our power and privilege for the sake of a more just and inclusive society? Are we as a nation ready to reform our criminal justice system?"

An ELCA task force recently released a draft social statement on criminal justice that calls for urgent reform with the areas of the U.S. criminal justice system, such as persistent inequalities and injustices based on race and class. "Now is the time for all in the ELCA to live up to its commitment made in our social statement 'Freed in Christ : Race, Ethnicity and Culture,' Hanson said. In that social statement, ELCA members commit "to model an honest engagement with issues of race, ethnicity and culture, by being a community of cultural conversation, mutual correction and mutual consolation," Hanson said. "And further, we will 'participate in identifying the demands of justice and work with others who would have justice for all.'"

The death of Martin also calls for courage, Hanson said. "Let us have the humility to repent of the sin of racism and the courage to tear down the walls we erect to divide us, turning those walls into tables of conversation and reconciliation."

As I read the above article it brought to mind the wisdom and counsel of St. Paul who wrote these words: "From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view . . . if one is in Christ, he is a new creation . . . the old has passed away, behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is God was in Christ reconciling the world to the world to himself . . . and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation." II Cor. 5: 16-20.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jack

COURAGE IN AGING will be meeting on Tuesday, May 15 at 1:30 in the church library. Elizabeth and Ruth will be facilitating the discussion on the topic of Communications. We will address both spoken and unspoken

ways of communicating, if our communications reflect our belief system and God's love, how to express our differences with others in a healthy way without damaging or injuring the other party and many other issues relating to this topic. Please invite your friends to join us for this very interesting topic.

GOOD SHEPHERD COUNCIL MEETING April 9, 2012

Attendees: Andy Mathisen, Pastor Jack, Sharon Oberkehr, Andy Lichter, Tom Tehve, Steve Miller, Karl Torjussen, Clem Hergenhan, Mike Carp, Jamie Antonacci. Absent: Garry Westerweller.

Note: Action items are in bold and begin with an asterisk (*).

- Opening Prayer & Devotions: Pastor Jack - pastor passed out a summary of church attendance in the 10 churches in our "cluster". All indicate declining attendance and membership. A discussion ensued of causes and changes that might be made. Pastor suggested changing our service format at times. Pastor and Andy will bring this up with the Worship Committee. ***Pastor to look for congregations in NJ with increasing attendance and report back to council.** Perhaps these churches can tell us how they have had this success.
- March 12 meeting minutes. approved
- Treasurer's report approved. A discussion of why giving is generally lower this year resulted in a "wait and watch" to be looked at again next month (after April with Easter giving).

Committee Reports (where discussion followed):

- Property: work date set for Saturday, May 5. Pine trees near parking lot need trimming of lower branches; discussion of upgrading narthex with tile floor and removing carpeting from walls; library and "nursery" room need window trimmings (blinds or valances or something). ***Sharon will purchase valance for library. *Jamie will determine best way to add a dry erase marker board to library. *Jamie will check with Little Chiefs if removing wall carpets is a safety issue and will get quotes for tile floor. *Steve will ask Pat Miller (as Memorial Committee) to see if a picture of Jesus as the Good Shepherd could be purchased as a memorial to hang in the Narthex.**

Karl has explored replacing our front sign with a black-on-white more visible sign. No decision was reached on replacing it at this meeting. A discussion ensued on the fact that the Little Chiefs sign constitutes a second sign which the township has noted is improper. ***Steve will ask Gil Vatter to approach Little Chiefs to point out we need to remove their sign from where it hangs on our sign.** We think we can place their sign back by the lot without drawing any attention and we could put it back out front during times like school sign-up.

Cleaning out the pink house was discussed. ***Sharon will arrange for a "Free-cycle" posting and dumpster to be done on Saturday, June 16.**

- Social Ministry: Mike pointed out that giving to specific social ministry programs like the Souper Bowl of Caring and World Hunger is lower this year. ***Mike will find ways to make this known to the congregation to encourage them to give more.** Nancy Fitch will be having a COG representative give a temple talk soon as an example of making local social ministry more visible to our members.

OLD BUSINESS:

- March 12 meeting action items were all marked complete.
- JCP&L has fixed parking lot lighting (thanks to Steve's efforts).
- Steve has put photos, committee info etc. on good-shepherd.us web site and wants to display some/all of it on the Narthex bulletin board. He's thinking on it.
- Memorial committee's proposed "Potential Purposes for Memorial Funds" approved.
- Memorial committee's proposed "Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund Guidelines" approved with addition of a quarterly report to council of how funds were spent.

- Document “Good Shepherd Policies for Youth Ministry Events” discussed but not voted on; will be brought up for full discussion in May at which time we have to consider how to implement.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Review of Financial Process. Tom Tehve reported no changes are needed to current procedures as long as they are followed. *** Clem will prepare brief letter and give to Pat Dunn for acknowledging visitors gifts (checks in offering plate) each week.**
- Cantor for summer services suggested but decided not to do.
- ***Steve will check with Lil Nemcik to see if she is continuing to write notes to sick members.** Pastor pointed out that the list is small.
- ***Andy and Mike will ask Thrivent for matching funds for our anniversary concert series aimed at funding local food banks.**
- We’d like to keep in touch with members on special days like anniversaries and birthdays. Sharon said she could bring in a perpetual calendar so people could sign up if they wanted to. We would then need a procedure to make sure letters/cards go out.
- Altar Guild has asked that someone (a “host”) be responsible for events that use the church (usually on a Saturday) and especially the Sanctuary. This includes opening (unlocking) doors, turning on heat/AC, resetting sanctuary items moved for the event, cleaning/vacuuming if necessary, turning off heat/AC, locking up and providing Nancy or Marion a time when they can prepare the Sanctuary for Sunday service. Council agreed and set the following list:
 - April 14 – Monmouth Civic Chorus (host – Pat Miller)
 - April 28 - “Singing Boys of PA” (host – Pastor Jack)
 - May 5 – Miae string concert. (host - Steve)

Meeting was adjourned with the Lords Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Clem Hergenhan (substituting for Garry Westerweller, Secretary)

A Thank You to Thrivent Financial

Our collections at our concerts are destined for local food pantries. Once again the Thrivent NJ North Shore Chapter will match \$1 for every \$3 we raise. Thank you Thrivent!!!!

AROUND THE PARISH

by Gil Vatter

GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

1. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd sombrero to *Debbie Blackburn* and her group of women for a delicious breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 1 - *Julie Blackburn* made the pancakes.
2. On April 18, *Diane and Andy Mathisen* left for two weeks in Hawaii to celebrate their 25th anniversary. Congratulations.
- A word to the wise ain't necessary - it's the stupid ones that need the advice. (Submitted by Bill Theune)
- A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory (Submitted by Dick Havill)
3. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd fedora to every family who gave a lily for the altar this past Easter. They were beautiful.
4. Say a prayer for *Bishop Roy Riley* who underwent successful open heart surgery in March.

- Ole - "I'm not going to work today."
Sven - "Why not?"
Ole - "I don't feel well."
Sven - "Where don't you feel well?"
Ole - "At work."

5. *Bill Wehrli* spent five days in BayShore Hospital to have a staph infection in his finger treated.

6. Former member *Joy Zitzman* died on April 8, 2012 in Toms River. And God will wipe away all tears.

- Adult - A person who has stopped growing on both ends and is now growing in the middle (Submitted by Bill Wehrli)

- I've learned that a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. (Submitted by Ernie Brinkman)

7. The Ladie Luncheon Group met at the Colt's Neck Inn on Friday April 20 for lunch. For next months schedule, see *Barbara Haher*.

8. *Pastor Neil Jaggie* filled in for *Pastor Jack* on Sunday April 15 and April 22, while *Ruth and Pastor Jack* were on vacation in North Carolina.

- Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what the heck happened. (Submitted by Dick Havill)

- My last job was working at Starbucks, but I had to quit because it was the same old grind. (Submitted by Dick Alberti)

9. *Joan and Bob Horlacher* worshipped with us on Sunday April 15.

10. *Pat and Steve Miller* will celebrate their 40th anniversary with a trip to Australia. Have fun Down Under and congratulations.

- I've been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone. I have however been in Sane. They don't have an airport, so you have to be driven there.

- No word in the English language rhymes with orange, month, silver or purple. (Submitted by Bill Theune)

11. Congratulations and Happy Birthday to *Ernie Brinkman, Hannah Oberkehr and Jeffrey Miller*.

12. All proceeds from the *Singing Boys of Pennsylvania* concert will go to the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

- One Sunday morning a mother went to waken her son for church. He told her, "I'm not going to church."
"Why not", she asked.

I'll give you two very good reasons why not", he said.

(1) - "They don't like me"

(2) - "I don't like them."

His mother replied, "I'll give you two very good reasons why you MUST go to church today.

(1) - "You're 49 years old."

(2) - "You're the Pastor."

13. Don't forget - May 1 is "World Malaria Day" - In Liberia, malaria accounts for 30% of all deaths seen in hospitals. The ELCA is working to set up a Malaria Project to help reduce this statistic.

14. Use a cloth bag for shopping.

- A blonde called 911 to report that her car had been broken into. She reported that her stereo, the steering wheel, the brake pedal and even the accelerator had been stolen. The dispatcher replied, "Stay calm, an officer is on the way." A few minutes later, the officer radiod the 911 operator, "Disregard the 911 call, she got in the back seat of her car by mistake." (Submitted by Bill Wehrli)

15. *Lou Medici* continues to wear a special tie for every holiday and church festival.

16. Congratulations to *Jo Ellen Miller*, daughter of *Pat and Steve Miller*, who was married to *John Burton* on Sunday April 22 in Manhattan.

- Sven and Ole were heading home from the local bar late at night and they were walking on the railroad tracks. Sven said, "This is the longest flight of stairs I ever climbed in my life." Ole replies, "Ya, but it's not the stairs that bother me so much, it's these low railings."

17. *Walter Keyl* is reading "Calico Joe" by John Grisham.

18. Ask *Pat Nichols* to see his photos of the Space Shuttle Enterprise flying over the Statue of Liberty on its way to JFK.

- When you're older, the five pounds you wanted to lose is now fifteen pounds and you have a better chance of losing your car keys than fifteen pounds. (Submitted by Bill Wehrli)
you have three sizes of clothes in your closet, two of which you will never wear.

19. The Social Ministry has taken over 600 cans of food to Saint Marks Food Bank this year.

20. Three of our younger members, *Michael Antonacci*, *Timothy Wilgus* and *Hannah Oberkehr* are receiving instructions to become acolytes.

21. *Zel Howson* broke her shoulder in three places when she fell at home recently.

22. Congratulations to *Becky Bartlett* who celebrates her wedding anniversary on May 8.

23. Don't forget the Benefit Concert on Sunday May 6 at 3:00 PM for Lunch Break in Red Bank - Miae Park presents - Tommy Choi, Piano - Euihyun Kim, Violin - Jonathan Kim, Cello

SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

CONGREGATION GREETES EASTER WITH MUSIC AND JOY

by Gil Vatter

Beautiful weather cooperated with blues skies and bright sunshine on Sunday April 8 as a joyous crowd filled the sanctuary of Good Shepherd Church for the 2012 celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the end of the solemnity of the Lenten season. Those who came late had trouble finding a seat and the parking lot was jammed.

A special service for Palm Sunday had been observed on April 1 with a processional by the choir singing Hymn 344, "All Glory, Laud and Honor". Lay Reader, Pat Miller, read from the 50th chapter of Isaiah and the second chapter of Philippians, Pastor Elstad presented his homily and the the choir offered "Hosanna to the King" by S. Poorman followed by the celebration of Holy Communion. The Sending Hymn was "O, Sacred Head, Now

Wounded" and Minister of Music, Miae Park's postlude, "The Triumph of the King" by E. Broughton, ended the service.

The observation of Holy Week began on Maundy Thursday, April 5 with a Service of Holy Communion. The service began with the reading of Exodus 12, the beginning of Passover, Matthew 26, the Passover meal of Jesus and his disciples and Pastor Elstad's sermon, "The Last Supper". Hymn 487, "What Feast of Love" introduced the Lord's Supper, presented by Pastor Elstad to those present and gathered around the altar. The service ended with hymn 494, "For the Bread Which You Have Broken".

The Good Friday service was a "Tenebrae Service" (Service of the Shadows), which followed a series of readings describing the activities of the first "Good Friday". The front of the church was lit with a candelabrum containing seven candles and all the decorations had been removed from the altar. Each reading was followed by the singing of an appropriate hymn and the extinguishing of a candle by the acolyte, Abbey Miller. Reading was offered by Pastor Elstad, Clem Hergenhan, Pam Brown, Kim Wehrli, Sue Alberti, Dick Alberti and Garry Westerweller. After the reading of the Scourging and Condemnation from Matthew 27, the choir sang an offering anthem, "Crucified, Forsaken". As the final candle was extinguished and the sanctuary darkened, the choir sang the traditional melody, "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord". Pastor Elstad re-entered the church with a lighted candle, "The Light of Hope", and read from St. John, the first and eighth verses, after which the congregation silently exited from the church.

In contrast, the Easter service began with a bright, joyful atmosphere throughout the newly decorated church, Pastor Elstad's announcement, "Christ is risen" and the congregations reply, "He is risen indeed" and the traditional processional hymn, "Christ is Risen! Alleluia" as the choir processed through the church to the choir loft. The altar, baptismal font and pulpit were decorated with white lilies and their scent filled the air of the sanctuary. Tom Tehve, lay assistant, read from the 10th chapter of Acts and the third chapter of Colossians and Pastor Elstad read the Easter story from the twenty eighth chapter of Matthew, followed by his sermon, "The Easter Message". The choir and Miae Park presented their musical offering, "Hallelujah, Amen" by George F. Handel, followed by Holy Communion. The Pastor and the choir recessed to Hymn 366, "The Strife is O'er, the Battle Won" and the postlude, "Sortie Toccata" by T. Dubois was played by Miae Park at the organ and Rachel Mathisen ringing the bells.

Many from the congregation gathered in the narthex for fellowship and coffee, prepared by Maureen Bartlett, while many others hurried home for family celebrations and another Easter, the 45th in the history of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, was over.

Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund – Going Forward

In last month's Voice was a description of the recently reactivated Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund and an overview of memorial gifts that have been given to Good Shepherd over the years. We have learned of a few updates to that record as follows:

Gifts Purchased In Memorial

Parking Lot Improvements

In memory of George Snow.

Gifts Offered In Thanksgiving

Flat Screen TV

Tam Tammaru.

Paving Stones for Parking Lot

Kathe DaGiau.

The guidelines for the work of the Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund Committee that we submitted to Council were approved, so the Committee (Pat Miller, Sue Alberti and anyone else who would like to join us) will begin working to administer the Fund. We will be consulting with the families to determine how best to use those monetary gifts Good Shepherd has already received, as well as future gifts. We also plan to keep the congregation informed about memorial gifts that are received and the items that are purchased with the funds.

At present there exist funds that were given in the past to memorialize the following individuals:

- Lynden Kibler
- Caroline Wehrli
- Donna Myers
- Allan Brubaker

These funds have not yet been designated for a specific use, except in the case of Allan Brubaker where most of the money was used for the Memorial Garden, and only the remainder that was unspent or perhaps given later is still in the fund. In addition, there are funds given by and administered by the Ladies Luncheon Group and a second amount given for the choir and music program.

The Guidelines mention several areas for which memorial and thanksgiving funds might be put to use. Any funds that are undesignated will be asked to specify a purpose. These are as follows:

- Long-term worship enrichments. Examples from the past are the processional cross or the Paschal candle. One item has been suggested at this time: artwork for the Narthex depicting Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Individuals may have their own ideas.
- Building improvements. Past projects include the Memorial Garden. Current projects include
 - Roof replacement
 - Parking lot improvement
- Social outreach. Examples are
 - ELCA causes such as World Hunger, Disaster Relief, or Malaria prevention.
 - Local organizations such as COG, Lunch Break, or St. Mark's Kitchen.
- Congregational programs. Past programs include the Youth trip to attend the ELCA Youth Assembly. There are no currently ongoing programs that are officially specified.
- Endowment Fund. Amounts of any size may be given at any time to Good Shepherd's Endowment Fund for the long-term well being of the church.

If the family of a person for whom memorial funds have been donated desires, the loved one's information may be added to either the "I am the Vine" Memorial Wood Sculpture in the Narthex or the Memorial Garden Stone Monument, or both. The cost of either will be limited to the engraving cost and will be deducted from the funds available. If the funds available are not enough to cover the engraving cost, the family may wish to contribute the additional amount needed to cover that cost. At present, the cost of engraving a metal plate on the Wood Sculpture is \$35. Engraving a name on the Stone Monument costs \$300 for up to 19 letters, plus \$10 for each additional letter over the limit.

Since there have been no names added to the Wood Sculpture in several years, there is an opportunity at this time for anyone to memorialize loved ones here for the engraving cost, \$35. Applications are available in the church office. Please fill out one and return it to the office, along with payment. The secretary will forward the information to the Memorial and Thanksgiving Fund Committee. For more information, or to update the official record of past gifts, you may either email or phone Sue Alberti (rjasja@earthlink.net) or Pat Miller (patmiller@comcast.net).

COG (Community Outreach Group)
EVENING PANTRY COLLECTION

Good Shepherd has begun its collection for the Calico Cat Evening Food Pantry that supports working low income families. Cleaning items and personal care items NOT covered by food stamps, are given monthly to each family. Please place your contributions on the large table in our kitchen off the narthex. Good Shepherd as one of the 10 local churches that participate in COG has been asked to donate 28 orders of these items for the month of June.

- 6 rolls toilet paper
- 1 container of dish detergent
- 1 container laundry detergent
- 2 boxes tissues
- 1 box of plastic sandwich bags
- 1 container of kitchen/bathroom cleaner
- 1 shampoo
- 1 tube of toothpaste
- 3 bars of bath soap

Thank you so much for any donation you can provide.

Baseball Game at the Blueclaws for Thrivent Members

Event: Blue Claws Minor League Baseball Club

Date: May 11, 2012

Time: 7:05pm

Contact: Andy Mathisen, e-mail: amathisen@njtransit.com, cell# 973-766-4145

All tickets are free to Thrivent members. Food and drink vouchers provided free to Thrivent members at game. FirstEnergy Park is located at 2 Stadium Way in Lakewood, NJ 08701, at the intersection of Cedar Bridge and New Hampshire Avenues.

A FEW NOTES FROM THE CHOIR

by Gil Vatter

Palm Sunday April 1 - "Hosanna to the King" - S. Poorman

Good Friday - April 6 - "Crucified, Forsaken"
"Were You There When They Crucified my Lord/"

Easter Sunday April 8 - "Hallelujah, Amen" - George F. Handel
"Sortie Toccata" - T. D. Dubois - Rachel Mathisen, Hand Bells

Sunday April 15 - "Now the Green Blade Riseth" - John Carter

45th Anniversary Sunday April 29 - "To God Be Joyful" - Wolfgang A. Mozart

The Choir urges everyone to attend a benefit concert, part of Good Shepherd's 45th anniversary celebration, to be presented on Sunday May 6, 2012 at 3:00 PM and offering music by Bach, Beethoven, Debussy and Popper. The concert will feature Tommy Choi, piano, Euihyun Kim, violin and Jonathan Kim, cello, accompanied by Good Shepherd's Minister of Music, Miae Park. All proceeds from the concert will be sent to "Lunch Break", the food kitchen in Red Bank.

Classical Music Concert on May 6th



As part of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church's 45th Anniversary celebration, a concert of classical music will be held on Sunday May 6th at 3pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 112 Middletown Road, Holmdel, NJ. Admission is free. A freewill offering will go to local food pantries and kitchens.

The concert features the Director of Music, organist Miae Park and musicians Jonathan Kim (Cello), Tommy Choi (Piano) and Euihyun Kim (Violin).

Pieces presented will be:

Prelude and Gigue from Cello Suite III - J.S. Bach

Trio Sonata Op. 1 No. 3 - Ludwig van Beethoven

Romance Op. 50 - Ludwig van Beethoven

Allegretto from Piano Sonata Op. 31 No. 2 - Ludwig van Beethoven

Arabesque No. 1 - Claude Debussy

Tarantella - Pablo de Sarasate

Tarantella - David Popper

GOOD SHEPHERD ANNIVERSARY CONCERT BY SINGING BOYS OF PENNSYLVANIA

by Gil Vatter



More than 80 people crowded the sanctuary of Good Shepherd Church on Saturday April 28 at 7:00 PM to hear a concert presented by the Singing Boys of Pennsylvania, conducted by Dr. K. Bernard Schade. Pastor John M. Elstad made welcoming remarks to the audience and introduced Dr. Schade and the chorus.

There were several surprises from the onset of the concert; first of all, The Singing Boys of Pennsylvania was made up of ten young singers, between the ages of six or seven and thirteen and seven of the singers were GIRLS. The second surprise was the volume of the piano accompaniment by Dr. Schade; he played at one volume - loud. The young, treble voices were overpowered by the staccato bass of the piano and the purity of the boy/girl soprano sound was lost in the acoustics of the sanctuary. Still, the youngsters were captivating and the costuming and choreography of each group of songs was hard to resist. I was taken particularly with a small, six or seven year old blonde, who is as cute as a button and who did everything possible to keep up with her older associates. It is difficult not to imagine how these young singers would sound a cappella. Too bad we were never given a chance to find out.

The evening's music began with a medley of songs from the popular show, "The Sound of Music", all of which were very familiar to the audience and made more than one foot tap as the medley unfolded. In contrast, a much more challenging group of sacred works by Zoltan Kodaly (1882-1967), including "Angels and Shepherds", reflected the hours of preparation the children put into the three works by the Hungarian composer. I should also note that throughout the evening, every piece of music was offered by the chorus from memory. No music was used by any child. After a short recess, the children returned wearing black vests and wide brimmed, black hats, the better to be ready to sing a group of Shaker hymns and spirituals, many of which were familiar, such as my old favorite, "Simple Gifts". At this point, Dr. Schade moved the piano from the right to the left side of the room, which allowed the voices of the chorus to better reach those of us sitting on the right. Shaker music has a peculiar yet appealing sound which was handled well by the children.

An alumnus of the "Singing Boys", baritone Erich Christ, sang while the children left the room to change costumes.

My favorite selections of the evening were a series of New England sea chanteys and the group was dressed appropriately in red or blue striped shirts to sing such rhythmic songs as, "Blow the Man Down" and "A Roving". Their bouncy horn-pipe style dancing added to the fun of the chanteys and my tiny blonde friend entered into the dancing with all the enthusiasm a seven year old can muster.

After a brief intermission, the chorus returned wearing cowboy hats and western shirts to sing six songs from a "Western Jamboree", such as "Home on the Range". Erich Christ presented his rendition of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" as the chorus changed, this time returning in Amish costumes to sing "A Pennsylvania Medley", which included "Camptown Racetrack", "Sixteen Tons" and ended with "The Battle Hymn of the Republic". The appreciative audience rose for a standing ovation and the children responded with a South African folk tune to end the evening.

All proceeds from the concert will be given to the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties in Neptune, New Jersey.

GOOD SHEPHERD CELEBRATES 45TH ANNIVERSARY
by Gil Vatter



(Charter members)

On Sunday morning April 27, 1967, the organization meeting of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd was held at Thompson School in Middletown with the President of the New Jersey Synod, Rev. Dr. Edwin H. Knudten and the Assistant to the President, Rev. Edwin Eastman in attendance. Pastor George J. Frank officiated. A Church Council was elected, a Constitution adopted and title to the parsonage at 62 Nedshire Drive was accepted. Eighty two persons were listed on the Roll of Members.

Forty five years later, Sunday April 29, 2012, the congregation of Good Shepherd gathered to celebrate the anniversary of that organization day. The anniversary celebration began with a service of Holy Communion at

10:00 AM in the sanctuary with Pastor John M. Elstad officiating. Pastor Elstad presented a homily, "There are People and There is a Purpose". He listed many of the events that had taken place and the price of things in 1967 and commented on the importance of that day to those of us who attend Good Shepherd Church today. He noted that in 45 years, 190 weddings, 109 funerals, 316 confirmations and 202 baptisms have taken place. Officially, the first baptism at Good Shepherd was for Sharon Frank Oberkehr, who was in attendance today. Several charter members, including Frank Csulak(#32), Nancy Fitch(#74), Bob Fulmer(#33) and Walter Keyl(#58) were present for the service as well as Zelmira(#90) and Louis Howson(#91), who were among the first 100 names on the membership roll.

Two persons, Dianne Epstein(#1189) and her daughter Gabrielle(#1190) were received as the newest members into the church and the choir, under the direction of Miae Park, presented their musical offering, "To God Be Joyful" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Following Holy Communion and Miae Park's postlude, "Sortie Toccata" by T. Dubois, the congregation moved to Frank Hall for refreshments.

A series of remarks about the history of the congregation were offered by Pastor Elstad, Gil Vatter, Walter Keyl, Frank Csulak, Karl Torjussen, Ernie Brinkman and Nancy Fitch. Pastor Elstad closed the gathering with thanks for the past and hope for the future.



Welcome new member Dianne Epstein

Go to the church website www.good-shepherd.us for more photos and a video of the celebration gathering.

SOCIAL MINISTRY and Environmental Tithing by Nancy Fitch

With the U.S. population doubling over the past 50 years, our thirst for water tripling, and at least 36 states facing water shortages by 2013, the need to conserve water is becoming more and more critical. Earth may be known as the "water planet", but even though about 70 percent of its surface is covered by water, less than 1 percent is available for human use. Water supplies are finite and we can all help protect this critical and precious resource.

There are many tips on ways to conserve on water. Below are several which require little effort-

- Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.
- Don't water your lawn on windy days when most of the water blows away or evaporates.

- Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water from the tap
- Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month
- Designate one glass for your drinking water each day or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on the number of glasses to wash.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Install an instant water heater near your kitchen sink so you don't have to run the water while it heats up. This also reduces energy costs.

May 2012

<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
			1pm Bible Study	7:30pm-9:00 choir practice		6:30pm – 8:30 NJ State Youth Orch
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9 – Sunday School 10 – Service 3pm– Miae’s concert			1pm Bible Study	7:30pm-9:00 choir practice	7pm Thrivent Blue Claws Game	1pm – 4 NJ State Youth Orch
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9 – Sunday School 10 – Service	7pm – Council Meeting	1:30 – Courage in Aging 7:30 – 9:00 Compassionate Friends	1pm Bible Study	7:30pm-9:00 choir practice	12:30 – Ladies Luncheon Group @ Fireside Grill in Marlboro	1pm – 4 NJ State Youth Orch
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9 – Sunday School 10 – Service			1pm Bible Study	7:30pm-9:00 choir practice		1pm – 4 NJ State Youth Orch
27	28	29	30	31		
9 – Sunday School 10 – Service			1pm Bible Study	7:30pm-9:00 choir practice		