

# *The Voice of the Good Shepherd*

**August 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,

Unlike other articles I have previously provided you with in *The Voice* this one is really an invitation to take part in a seven session series of discussions based on the book, *Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith*. Written in 1999, this book is meant to be a resource supporting the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's *Initiatives for a New Century* program developed at that time. Since then a great many congregations have found the use of the material to be very insightful and helpful.

Based upon responses provided from the questionnaires provided worshipers on July 1 and 8, and my personal calendar, I will offer discussion opportunities on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Sessions will meet on the following dates: September 5, 12, 19, October 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31. Participants are urged to purchase a copy of the textbook; the price of which is \$10.00. Signup sheets and a copy of the textbook for you to look at will be available in the narthex beginning Sunday, July 29.

At these initial sessions of the course we will be considering the following Christian denominations which have congregations in our immediate area: Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Reformed, Roman Catholic, Unitarian, and United Church of Christ. After the first of the year I would like to have us discuss the following other communities of faith in our area: Islam, Judaism, Greek Orthodox and Coptic Orthodox. For these I plan to have, if possible, representatives of each group to share with us and answer questions.

The spirit in which this course of study was produced is reflected in these words from its introduction: "*This resource invites us to honor or neighbor's faith. That is, it acknowledges the obvious, that different people – especially in pluralistic America- have different beliefs, and those beliefs are worthy of respect. It is difficult, though, to respect that which we do not understand. Indeed, we have seen all too often, that disrespect, distrust, and fear of other religious traditions often stems from simple misunderstanding*". The more that can be done to rectify these matters is a very positive spiritual undertaking.

I look forward to sharing with you these times together and enjoying the experience of gaining new insight in a subject which is so important to all of us.

Enjoy the remaining weeks of the summer.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Jack

Note: There will be no sessions on September 26. Ruth and I will be on vacation

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**COURAGE IN AGING** will meet on September 11 at 1:30 in the church library. Nowadays, the date on your birth certificate is only one small element affecting how you look and feel. We will explore how the aging process affects the way we really feel about ourselves physically, emotionally and spiritually, valuable lessons life has taught us, people who have been "age mentors" and the importance of connections in our lives. Join us

as we explore the gifts and challenges that come as we move through the aging process. Please mark your calendars and feel free to invite your friends to join us.

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**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** – will be held August 6-10 The theme this year is "Listen to the Wind". Kids will be learning bible stories that include the wind. Art, music, dance and games will all be centered around this theme.

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**YOUTH AND FAMILY PICNIC**

Sunday, Sept 9; conclusion of service until 2PM

HOLD THE DATE for a fun-filled afternoon

Games and prizes for children

Activities will be in Frank Hall, if rain

Aug 5 after church: short meeting of picnic volunteers to plan this event - please attend if you can help.

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**AROUND THE PARISH**

by Gil Vatter

*Good Shepherd - The Friendly Church*

1. The entire month of July was like an evening at Lincoln Center, so, we offer our thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd beret to *Miae Park* and her young musicians, *Na Young Yang*, (violin), *Euihyun Kim* (violin), *Jonathan Kim* (cello) and *Julia Shapiro* (soprano) for all the wonderful music we enjoyed before, during and after the July services. it was like a chamber music concert every Sunday.

2. The *Social Ministry Committee* has delivered more than 975 cans of food, plus lots and lots of baby food, pasta and miscellaneous food to *Saint Mark's Food Pantry* in Keansburg. Thanks for all that you have brought and **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.**

If everything is coming at you, you're in the wrong lane .....Since it's the early worm that gets eaten by the bird, I suggest you sleep late

We could learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have wierd names and all are different colors, but they all have learned how to live in the same box.

3. Talk about contrasts.....We wish a very **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to both *Matthew Oberkehr*, who will be six in August, as well as to *Larry Jackson*, who will be a few years older than that. Many happy returns to both.

4. **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to *Ruth* and *Pastor Jack*, who are celebrating in August.

**It's Been So Hot in July:**

Hot water comes out of both taps.....the birds have to use potholders to pull worms out of the ground.....you realize that asphalt has a liquid stage.....the Baptists are baptising with ice cubes and the Methodists are using wet-wipes.....the cows are giving evaporated milk.....you learn that a seat belt buckle makes a pretty good branding iron

5. *Janice* and *Paul Kraus* can now be considered full-fledged Floridians - Notice the Florida license plates on their car.

6. I hope you were paying attention.....*Pastor Jack* explained **apocalyptic writing** during his July 1 sermon.

Not so long ago, Ole saw that his house was on fire, so he called his friend Sven, the fire chief, and said, "Come Qvik, my house is on fire." Sven said, "Slow down, Ole. How do we get there?" Ole replied, "Dont you have that red truck with the siren anymore?"

7. *Vacation Bible School* runs from Monday August 6 to Friday August 10 this year. The theme will be "**Listen to the Wind**". For more information, contact *Sharon Oberkehr*.

8. We were all happy to see *Nancy Fitch's* son visiting with us on Sunday July22.

A man was speeding down a steep, narrow mountain road, when a woman came hurtling around a corner. He swerved to avoid hitting her, but, as he passed her, she screamed, "PIG!"

Astonished, the man turned and yelled back, "COW!" as he reached the bend and crashed into a pig.

9. REMINDER - **The Annual Church Picnic** will take place on Sunday September 9, after the service. FOOD, FUN AND GAMES FOR THE KIDS are planned. - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

10. *Pastor Jack* added a prelude to the Communion Service on Sunday July 22 with remarks about the Aurora, Colorado shooting spree.

Ole said to his friend Sven, the men's clothing store clerk, "Sven, may I try on those pants in the window?"

Sven replied, "Well, Ole, I'd prefer that you used the men's dressing room."

11. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd sombrero to everyone in the congregation who brought household items for the *Calico Cat Evening Food Pantry* and special thanks to *Pat Dunn*, *Clem Hergenhan* and grandson *Tom Petr*, who packed and delivered everything as well as *Nancy Fitch* who supervised the operation for the *Social Ministry Committee*.

12. The congregation welcomed *Pastor Jaggie*, who substituted for *Pastor Jack* on Sunday July29.

Sven and Ole and Lena decided to go to the costume party at the Sons of Norway. The invitation told them to dress up as an emotion. On the evening of the party, Lena appeared all dressed in red. Ole asked, "Vut are Yew supposed to be?" and she replied, "I'm embarrassed. Why are you dressed in green, Ole?" Ole replied, "I'm green vit envy" They both looked around at Sven who was naked except for a tire around his middle. "Vot in da world are yew supposed tu be", they asked. Sven replied, "I'm in de spare".

13. *Kurt Mathisen* is working at Brooks Brothers this summer.

14. *Walt Keyl* is reading "*The Admirals*", a book that recalls the exploits of four American admirals during World War Two.

Ole and Sven decided to go ice fishing. They were boring a hole in the ice when a voice from above said, "There are no fish under this ice." Surprised and frightened, Ole yelled, "Is that you God?"

The voice replied, "No, you idiot, I'm the manager of this skating rink."

15. *The Blackburn* family spent the fourth week of August at the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland.

16. Have you noticed *Dick Alberti's* golf course tan?

### THINGS WE LEARN FROM OUR KIDS

When you hear the toilet flush and the words, "Uh-oh", it's already too late.

Always look in the oven before you turn it on.

LEGOS will pass through the digestive tract of a four year old.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

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FORTY-FIVE YEARS AT GOOD SHEPHERD - PART 3

by Gil Vatter

1977 - Tenth Anniversary year was observed with special services and a congregational dinner, where Synod President Ehlers was the guest speaker. Pastor Frank attended a ten day "Word and Witness" seminar at Wagner College to prepare for an adult program at the church. Eight people participated in the program on a weekly involvement of Bible study and witness for two years.

December 1977 - George and Lois Frank were honored at a surprise reception, marking the tenth anniversary of their pastorate at Good Shepherd. Gifts and a memory book were presented to them. Steve Sharp resigned as Organist and Choir Master and Dennis Duda was hired to take his place. A bequest of \$25,000 was received from the estate of Loretta Anderson, to be used to pay the second mortgage on the church to the Board of American Missions.

March 1978 - A committee, chaired by Tom Powers, was formed to study the feasibility of expanding the existing Church School facilities. The Church Council voted to use the new Lutheran Book of Worship (the Green Book) as the church's primary worship resource. Introductory workshops for the LBW began in September and Good Shepherd's senior choir was chosen to be the demonstration choir for this area.

January 1979 - The LBW was introduced to the congregation. The Church Council agreed to move ahead with the expansion of the Church School facilities and signed a contract with architect, Charles Surmante. A Building Committee, chaired by Tom Powers and Pam Everett, was formed. A successful fall stewardship program sought funds for both the regular budget and the new building program.

February 1980 - The Congregation Council approved the issuance of "congregational bonds" to help finance the new building wing, the parsonage was refinanced and all cash surplus was funneled into the project. A second (8:15 am) service was begun on a trial basis during Lent.

April 1980 - A contract was awarded to Patock Construction Company of Tinton Falls for a new, two story facility, containing class rooms, a basement, an enlarged narthex and office spaces.

May 1980 - The congregation held a surprise celebration of Pastor Frank's Twentieth Anniversary of Ordination. Service of Groundbreaking for new education wing.

September 1980 - New Education Wing dedicated at the Sunday Communion service and a special afternoon community service. The Rev. Thomas Weber, Assistant to the Bishop represented the Synod in the morning and the Rev. Robert Loucks, Dean of the District attended the afternoon service. Various local officials also attended the afternoon service.

1981 - Rising attendance prompts the Congregation Council to make the 8:15 am service permanent. New, young families provided the largest class of confirmands in the church's history and baptisms also increased. A women's group, Morning Out for Mothers (MOMS) and a young singles group was formed. The fall stewardship drive saw pledges top \$100,000. A Princeton seminarian, John Reutter-Harrah began working in the parish in September, with emphasis on youth activities, teaching a Senior High age Sunday School class and guiding the Youth Group.

1982 - The Fifteenth Anniversary of organization was celebrated in April with a special service of Thanksgiving, followed by a luncheon at the Old Orchard Country Club. A special offering was received and donated to the Designated Advance Gift program of the L.C.A.

September 5, 1982 - Final Sunday for Dennis Duda as Organist and Choir Director. A reception was held for him following the service. He was replaced on September 12 by DeborahMayhew.

October 3, 1982 - Anna Clock, a Junior at Princeton Theological Seminary, began her fieldwork assignment at Good Shepherd.

1983 - Robert Murphy replaced Deborah Mayhew as Organist and Choir Director. Susan Nagle became Good Shepherd's first Seminarian/Intern, part time, at first and, later, full time.

1984 - Matthew Ostrem became Good Shepherd's first full-time, full-year Intern.

1985 - A Parish Life and Ministry Development Committee was appointed with Gil Vatter as Chairman. The Committee's task was to examine every aspect of parish life and to make recommendations to the Congregation Council. The Committee was assigned a two year time period to complete the report.

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### **Church Music by Steve Miller**

If you have missed church service recently, you have missed a special treat.



Throughout this summer, Miae Park, long time organist of Good Shepherd, and several of her exceptionally gifted teenage music students and friends, are sharing their musical talents in nursing and senior homes. The group is also performing at Good Shepherd.

Each Sunday service through August 26, Miae provides piano accompaniment as the group performs 3 or 4 classical compositions by Bach and Mozart, as well as hymn arrangements and contemporary church music. (The performance is high quality, and almost always met by the congregation’s round of applause)



[lower right in photo]

Julia Shapiro (15) soprano, Holmdel High School, started piano lessons at age 5, and has studied classical voice the last 3 years. She “loves to sing in many languages in the classical music”. She sings in her school choir, All Shore Chorus, and All State Mixed Chorus.

[lower left in photo]

NaYoung Yang (16), violin, has studied music for 12 years. She is a student of Biotechnology High School (Freehold), and this fall will be a 4<sup>th</sup> year student at Juilliard Pre-College division in NY City. She is a member of the Good Neighbor Ensemble, a co-founder of the Good Neighbor Quartet, and the concert-mistress of the Bravura Youth Orchestra. NaYoung states, “The true beauty of classical music is that the works allow for manifold interpretations. As a teenager in the 21st century, I am [also] interested in musical works other than those of the classical genre. I listen to pop, country, r&b, techno, etc”.

[upper right in photo]

Jonathan Kim (16), cello, is Miae’s son. He studied music for 10 years, plays in orchestra in Marlboro High School, Region II, and All State Orchestra and is a member of Angelos Mission Chamber Ensemble that plays for charity. He enjoys creating “the different interpretations of classical music that can make the same piece sound different”.

[upper left in photo]

Euihyen Kim (15), violin, has studied music 8 years. He attends High Technology High School, Lincroft, and participates in school, Regional, and All State orchestras. Euihyen enjoys “being good enough to perform for others without any regrets”.

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**SOCIAL MINISTRY and Environmental Stewardship**

**Fracking Concerns**

by Nancy Fitch

Hydraulic fracturing or fracking is a means of natural gas extraction employed in deep natural gas well drilling. Drillers inject 4 million gallons of water laden with sand and chemicals (including carcinogens) at very high

pressures into wells which are often a mile deep and then a mile horizontal in tight shale formations. A new well produces contaminated drilling sludge and millions of gallons of waste water containing a portion of the toxic fracking cocktail, along with natural contaminates brought up from deep below the surface. Typically wells are fracked multiple times.

The toxic wastewater must be treated and disposed of carefully. Currently the natural gas industry does not have to disclose the chemicals used in their fracking cocktail, but scientists have identified volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene and xylene.

New Jersey may not have any drilling going on, but Pennsylvania has a mother lode in the Marcellus Shale and has lifted most barriers to fracking, setting off a gold rush-like pace among drillers. Environment NJ, a green advocacy group, estimates more than 1.3 billion gallons of contaminated wastewater has already been produced in PA. Some drillers have already sent their toxic waste byproducts to NJ for treatment and disposal to South Kearny, Elizabeth and Carteret.

Many environmental groups have stated that this frack waste is highly toxic and will pollute our water and communities, NJ Facilities are not designed to clean these hazardous materials, and there are no federal or NJ treatment standards for how to safely process frack wastewater.

In June of this year our New Jersey Legislature passed a ban on waste produced by hydraulically fracturing of gas wells (S253/A575). The Frack Waste Ban Bill received bi-partisan support, and was passed with flying colors as a surefire way to PREVENT pollution here. The vote in the NJ Assembly was 56-19 and in the NJ Senate it was 30-5.

The Bill now sits on Governor Christie's desk awaiting his signature. In the meantime, frack waste can still be coming into the State and discharged into our waterways or dumped into landfills or other storage areas.

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# August 2012

<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>
						NJ State Youth Orch 1- 4pm
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
10 – Service	Vacation Bible School 9 – 11:30	Vacation Bible School 9 – 11:30	Vacation Bible School 9 – 11:30	Vacation Bible School 9 – 11:30	Vacation Bible School 9 – 11:30	NJ State Youth Orch 1- 4pm
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
10 – Service					12:30 – Ladies Luncheon Group @ Woody’s in Sea Bright	NJ State Youth Orch 1- 4pm
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
10 – Service		7:30 – 9:00 Compassionate Friends				NJ State Youth Orch 1- 4pm
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	
10 – Service						