

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

April 2013

(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,

I am writing this message to you on March 25. That means that it is exactly nine months to Christmas Day. And why in the world would I even be thinking about that since as of this moment we haven't even celebrated Easter? It is because March 25 (exactly nine months before December 25) is, on the liturgical calendar, the Festival of the Annunciation of our Lord. However, this year because the traditional date falls within Holy Week, the observance of that observance has been "transferred" to April 1, the day following Easter.

From what I have determined from reviewing the upcoming dates of Easter it will be quite some time before there will be again such a close proximity of these two festivals and the parts they play in telling the gospel story of Jesus' life, so I think it worthwhile to draw our attention, however brief, to what the scriptures relative to each proclaims and appreciate how closely they are linked in the telling of the gospel message.

It begins when an angel announces to a young woman named Mary the following:

*"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall call his name Jesus.*

*He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High;
and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,
and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever,
and of his kingdom there will be no end."*

Much later at the dawning of a new day, three women, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James, and Salome are greeted with these words:

*"Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was
crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where
they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is
going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you."*

Thus on the occasion of this one year's arrangement of these celebrations we leave worship on a Sunday morning having experienced the glory of the Resurrection. But then, the very next day we will be reminded of where it all began: with the glory of the Incarnation.

That in summary is what the message of the gospel is about through its telling of God's love revealed in Jesus. Through these images there is conveyed an honest understanding of the human condition, and the recognition that behind it all, in life or death, we worship a living God of grace and power who gifts us with a peace which is beyond all human understanding. Equipped with such knowledge we are provided the strength and courage to face each day with renewed hope and commitment. Good news like that is welcome at any time of the year.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jack

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NARTHEX CLEAN-UP SET FOR APRIL

The Congregation Council has announced a special day set aside to clean and rearrange things in the narthex of the church. Mark your calendar for Saturday April 20 - from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

Everyone is asked to come and help to beautify the entrance area to the sanctuary. Please make a real effort to help with this project.

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Council Minutes 03/18/13

In attendance were the following: Garry Westerweller, Steve Miller, Jamie Antonacci, Mike Carp, Tom Tehve, Pastor Jack, Sharon Oberkehr, Karl Tourjussen, Andy Lichter, Clem Hergenhan, Gayle McKnight, Gil and Patty Vater, Elle Tehve, and Glen Hoffman

Absent: Andy Mathisen

Steve Miller called the meeting to order
Pastor opened the meeting with prayer.
Steve reviewed the agenda for the evening

February minutes were reviewed and it was suggested that the attendees of the meeting be added to the minutes. Present at the February 11th meeting were, Andy Mathisen, Tom Tehve, Karl Tourjussen, Sharon Oberkehr, Mike Carp, Andy Lichter, and Pastor.

Karl then moved and Mike seconded that the minutes be accepted with the additions included. Minutes were then approved.

Treasurer's report was presented by Clem stating that we are on track so far this year. He also mentioned that there was 14,463.00 from last year that has been earmarked for capital improvements. Clem would like to add a summary line of the General Contributions to the voice. Mike moved and Andy seconded the acceptance of the report and report was approved.

The donations received from the Gettysburg Choir Concert were discussed. \$682.00 was collected and there was some misunderstanding as to where the funds should be distributed, Sandy relief or 100 Wells Challenge. Council decided to split the funds between the two groups 50/50.

Narthex Improvements

The remainder of the meeting was spent discussing the presentation of the Narthex improvement committee as to what improvements should be done to the Narthex. A comprehensive list was presented to the council along with estimates for some of the work suggested. As it was generally felt that we could not afford to tackle all of the improvements, much of the meeting was used to discuss prioritizing the list. Jamie and Steve suggested we weigh our current capital needs, (fire alarm replacement, Nursery Hot Water Tank, etc..) as we review these improvements. It was also discussed as to what to do with all the food that gets left in the Narthex for donation. This will be addressed when we clean and determine other possible storage areas for the food.

After much discussion, it was decided that the following action be taken prior to making any formal decisions;

- Glenn Hoffman will present drawings depicting various options for the removal of the small wall in the middle of the Narthex
- Sharon will pick up sample floor tiles at Home Depot for review
- Tom and Andy will tackle the repair of front door to try to prevent leaks from entering the Narthex. Subsequently, Gayle McKnight had the door sill recaulked, and an additional seal added to close the gap between the two front doors.

In addition, April 20th was decided as work day to clean out the storage room and the Narthex so we could get a better look at what our options might be for improvements.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully submitted Garry Westerweller.

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COURAGE IN AGING - Please mark your calendars with the following dates when Courage In Aging will be offered:

May 14, Tuesday at 1:30 and June 18, Tuesday at 1:30. Ruth Elstad and Elizabeth Haggerty are looking forward to seeing you again. Please plan on bringing a friend along to join in our conversation. Feel free to call Ruth at 732 864-0616 with any questions.

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GOOD SHEPHERD CELEBRATES THE RESURRECTION by Gil Vatter

On Sunday March 31, a sunny, bright morning with temperatures in the 40's suggesting that warm weather was coming soon, over 130 friends, relatives and members of Good Shepherd Church crowded into the church to mark the annual celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The altar was decked in lilies provided by 24 families from the parish, giving the sanctuary a further touch of spring and sparkling banners for the season contrasted sharply with the sadness of Maundy Thursday and the stark appearance of the sanctuary during the Good Friday service only two days earlier. Miae Park played her Prelude, "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" , arranged by M. Thomas as the congregation entered the church.

The Choir, Pastor Elstad, and Karl Torjussen, the lay Reader processed from the narthex as the voices of all combined in the Easter hymn, "Christ the Lord is Risen Today". Pastor Elstad welcomed all with the Greeting and Prayer of the Day and a chorus of children from the Sunday School, led by Sharon Oberkehr, (*Isabella Antonacci, Michael Antonacci, Bella Miller, Hannah Oberkehr, Leah Oberkehr, Matthew Oberkehr, Logan Wilgus and Tim Wilgus*) set the tone for the day with a presentation of "Alive, Alive !". Following the reading of the Lessons, Psalm and Gospel, Pastor Elstad presented his homily, "Resurrection and Restoration, Our Place in the Cosmos". A hymn, "The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done", the Nicene Creed and Prayers led to the choir's musical offering, "Hallelujah" from the "Mount of Olives" by Ludwig Van Beethoven.

The Communion followed and the service ended with the singing of the traditional favorite hymn, "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" and Mia Park provided "Toccata" by C. M. Wider, an exciting Postlude as the worshipers filed into the narthex to greet Pastor Elstad and to enjoy fellowship and coffee after a wonderful worship experience.

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AROUND THE PARISH

by Gil Vatter

*In Joseph's lovely garden, the Lord Christ's tomb was made
And there his broken body, to rest was gently laid.
A great rock was rolled over it that death might have full sway,
But God sent down His angel to roll the stone away.*

1. After a long absence, we were delighted to have *Ruth Elstad* worship with us on Sunday March 3. Welcome back Ruth.

2. Hope you heard *Pastor Jack's* children's sermon on Sunday March 3 - "We all make mistakes".

Age is not important, unless you're a cheese. (Grace Brinkman)

Ole - "Hey, Lena, are we eating out tonight? I dont smell anything burning."

3. *Bill Wehrli* is still the airlines best customer. He flew back to New Jersey again on March 7 (And, boy, are his arms tired). He's back to Florida again in early April.

4. *Diane and Andy Mathisen* spent part of March with the Wagner College Alumni Chorus in Austria and Germany. *Ach du lieber!!!*

BOB HOPE (On turning 100) "I don't feel old. In fact, I don't usually feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap". (Ruth Elstad)

Two cannibals were eating a clown. One turned to the other, "Does this guy taste funny to you?"

5. HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY to *Patty Vatter, Andy Lichter, George Groh, Brian Dunn and Jean Taylor*, all of whom celebrate in April. Many happy returns.

6. *HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD - We will celebrate our 46th year this month.*

Ole - "Doctor Olsen, you've got to help me. I think I'm a kleptomaniac.
Dr. Olsen - "Don't worry, I have something you can take."

7. Happy Wedding Anniversary to *Bunny and Herb Kuhl, Pat and Steve Miller, Diane and Andy Mathisen and Randi and Bob Stetz.*

8. In March, the *Ladies Luncheon Group* dined at the Molly Pitcher Inn in Red Bank on Friday March 15. For future activities, see *Barbara Hafer.*

After the big revival meeting, three pastors were discussing the results. The Methodist pastor said, "It worked out very well for us. We got four new families." The Baptist pastor said, "We did even better. We got six new families." The Lutheran pastor said, "Well, we did pretty good too. We got rid of our ten biggest trouble-makers."

9. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd beret to everybody who contributed EASTER LILIES to beautify the altar. It was lovely. Thanks also to those who helped with the Easter egg hunt for the kids.

10. We are happy to say that *Elaine and Lou Medici* had no additional damage from the big nor'easter in March.

I spent a small fortune on deoderant before I realized that people did not like me anyway. (Bill Wehrli)
Is it me or do buffalo wings taste a lot like chicken? (Bill Wehrli)

11. *Linda Frank* has survived another very tough winter on Cape Cod. She comes from sturdy stock.

12. *Walter Kyle* is still battling sciattica. He's in therapy and using a walker for a while.

A man went into the confessional after years of being away from the church. To his surprise there was a full bar inside with beer on tap and a selection of whiskey and wine. The priest entered and the man said, "Father forgive me, it's been years since I've been to confession, but I must say the confessional is much more inviting than it used to be." The priest replies, "Get out of here, young man, you're on my side." (Lil Nemcik)

13. *Tom Tehve* has been limping around on crutches for the last few weeks.

14. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd tam to *Debbie Blackburn* and everybody who brought food or helped out with the Palm Sunday breakfast. It was delightful.

Did you hear about the guy whose first job was playing piano in a marching band? (Grace Brinkman)

Within this Vale of Toil and Sin
Your Hair Grows Bald, But Not Your Chin. (Burma Shave)

15. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd panama to *Debbie Blackburn* and all the others who helped feed and house the *Gettysburg College Choir* in March.

16. The *Social Ministry Committee* took 93 cans of food to the *Bayshore Lunch Project* (formerly St. Mark's) and 67 cans plus other types of food to the *Calico Cat* (COG) in Middletown in March.

Pencils could be made with erasers at both ends, but what would be the point?

Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

17. Thanks, a tip of the Good Shepherd beanie and a big salute to *Karen Rajala*, who retired from teaching Sunday School after fifty years of service. Thank you Karen.

18. *David Kim*, Miae's husband, returned to New Jersey on March 29 after two weeks in South Korea visiting relatives.

Ole - "By Yimminy, this coffee tastes like mud." Sven - "That's because it's fresh ground."

Ole - "Doctor, doctor, I have the same bad dream every night. First I dream I'm a tepee and then I dream I'm a wigwam., then I'm a tepee, then I'm a wigwam. What's wrong with me?"

Doctor - "It's very simple, Ole, You're two tents."

19. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd stovepipe to the *Gettysburg College Choir* for a wonderful concert and for raising more than \$650 (so far) for charity. *Kurt Mathisen* sings tenor in the choir.

20. A "NARTHEX CLEAN-UP IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY APRIL 20 FROM 10 TO 4. MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW.

I considered going into the ministry, but I just didn't have an altar ego.

She was engaged to a man with a wooden leg, but she broke it off.

Cantaloupe - Gotta' get married in a church.

21. CONGRATULATIONS to *Jo Ellen (Miller) and John Burton* who became the parents of *Lionel Burton* on Thursday March 21. Mother and baby are doing fine. Congrats also to the proud grandparents, *Pat and Steve Miller*.

22. Another reminder - Don't forget the concert by *Jon Kim*,cello, *Euchyum Kim*, violin and *Tommy Choi*, piano, under the direction of *Miae Park* scheduled for Sunday April 14 at 3:00 PM. The concert is being presented to help raise funds to build wells in Africa.

Our church welcomes all denominations, but, mostly we prefer tens and twenties.

If absence makes the heart grow fonder, some people must adore going to church.

23. On Palm Sunday, *Pastor Jack* mentioned that "Hosannah!!!" means, "Now is the time for salvation."

24. *Project Paul* in Keansburg, used Good Shepherd's check for \$2,800 to replace a furnace for a Keyport woman. This is the second furnace, lost to "Sandy", replaced by Good Shepherd.

Ole - "I can't seem to break Lena of her habit of staying up until 5 AM."

Sven - "What does she do at 5 AM?"

Ole - "Well, mostly wait for me to come home."

25. Thanks from the Choir to Jon Kim for his cello accompaniment on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

I had a friend who was a clown. When he died, all his friends went to his funeral in one car.

A young theologian named Fiddle
Refused to accept his degree.
He said, "It's bad enough being Fiddle,
Without being Fiddle, D.D." (Grace Brinkman)

SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

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CONGREGATION STRIVES FOR WELL

by Gil Vatter

I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink....Just as you did to one of the least of these, you did it to me.
Matthew: 25:31-46

The Social Ministry Committee has challenged the congregation to undertake an ambitious campaign to provide enough money to build wells for people who are living in parts of the world where clean, potable water is a luxury few will ever enjoy without our help. The global water crisis doesn't often make the headlines, but, the truth is, unclean water causes millions of people, especially young children, to die from water-related illnesses each year. It claims more lives per year than war or natural disasters. Nearly a billion people (that's one out of seven people in the world today) lack access to clean, safe water. A commodity we take for granted in our society, when brought to an African village, can transform the lives of thousands of people and improve the health of everyone in the area. Imagine the lives of women who must walk many miles each day to a muddy pond to find enough water for laundry, for personal hygiene and for drinking and cooking. Too often, the water they find in the pond is not safe to drink. A well in the village eliminates a long walk and guarantees clean, safe water for everyone, including the children.

Combined, unclean water and poor sanitation are the world's second largest killer of children. Water-related illness results in a loss of 272 million days of school attendance for children, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Close to half of all the people in developing countries are suffering at any given time from a health problem caused by dirty water or unsanitary conditions. With a steady, reliable source of pure water available to a community, the inhabitants can spend their time doing other more productive things that will help the local economy, put food on the table and ultimately, help send their children to school, so that they will have a better future. One water well can open a world of opportunity.

The ELCA has announced that it has already raised over \$500,000 to build more than 200 wells around the world, a much more successful result than expected. Now, the church will be able to support water projects in many parts of the world, such as :

Sudan - Wells will provide clean water for people returning to their homes after decades of war and conflict.

United States - Wells will make clean, pure water available to families in rural areas of Arizona and West Virginia who do not have running water.

China - Rural communities are still relying on irrigation canals for both farming and drinking.

Central African Republic - Spring boxes can supply fresh water to as many as 2,000 people at a time and last for decades.

Here is an opportunity for the congregation of Good Shepherd to really make a difference in the lives of others. Look for activities by the Social Ministry Committee that will enable you to join the campaign to provide clean, pure water for our neighbors throughout the world.

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Thrivent Benefit Concert by Clem Hergenhan

You've heard about projects Good Shepherd takes on and receives financial support from *Thrivent Financial for Lutherans* through our local North Shore NJ Chapter. This year Hope Lutheran church in Freehold is doing a number of events to raise money to purchase a wheelchair accessible van for one of their members, Andrew McGeady. A free concert will be performed on May 5, 2013, 4pm at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Ocean Grove, NJ with freewill offering at the door to which Thrivent will provide matching funds. When Dr Gordon Turk was considering performing for the concert, his one question was "Will there be a Thrivent match?". Even though Gordon plays for the Methodist and Episcopalians, he is the son of a pastor, and he knows about the wonders of Thrivent for Lutherans! You can check out Gordon on his website www.gordonturk.com. Come enjoy the music!!

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A critically acclaimed concert organist, Gordon Turk has performed throughout the United States, Europe, Russia, the Ukraine, and Japan. His international tours have included solo recitals in concert halls, cathedrals, and universities, organ festivals, and concerts with orchestras.

He has been awarded competition prizes for performances of the music of J.S. Bach and also in the national improvisation competition of the American Guild of Organists.

Dr. Turk is Organist of Ocean Grove, NJ Auditorium, which houses one of the largest pipe organs in the United States, and Organist-Choirmaster of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Wayne, PA.

His interest and experience in organ building places him in demand as a consultant for the building of new pipe organs and restorations of older and historic organs.

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Contributions Update by Clem Hergenhan

Here's some info from the monthly Treasurer's Report given to Council at their meetings. The General Contributions are used for our yearly budgeted items. Note this is through February

	Feb 2013	YTD 2013	YTD 2012 (%)	YTD Budget (%)
General Contributions	7,167	22,813	22,540	22,500

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A FEW NOTES FROM THE CHOIR

by Gil Vatter

"Lord, use our voices, Lord use our hands, Lord use our lives, they are an offering."

- March 3 - "Wondrous Love" - Lloyd Larson
- March 10 - "Ave Verum Corpus" - W. A. Mozart
- March 17 - "My Song is Love Unknown" - D. Busaran
- March 24 - "Hosanna !" - D. E. Wagner
- Maundy Thursday March 28 - "In Remembrance" - Ragan Courtney

Jon Kim - Cello Accompaniment
Good Friday March 29 - "Eyes of Heaven" - Ruth Schram
"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" - Gilbert Martin
Easter March 31 - "Hallelujah" - Ludwig Van Beethoven

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Thrivent Night at the Blue Claws by Clem Hergenhan

Once again the North Shore NJ Chapter will feature a night at the Blue Claws, on May 31. Thrivent members may obtain free tickets by contacting Jeff Hunt, jeffhuntfive@aol.com.

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KITCHEN MOVES TO NEW LOCATION

by Gil Vatter

The organization formerly known as **St. Mark's Kitchen, Inc.** has moved from St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Keansburg to the Community Church in Keyport and will now be doing business as **The Bayshore Lunch Program**. BLP began offering a hot lunch at the new location in early February on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11:30 AM. They may be contacted at 732-217-1148 or BLP125@optimum.net.

Since BLP will not be opening a food pantry at this time, their need for food from contributors such as Good Shepherd has been somewhat changed to food that can be used to prepare the lunches offered to those persons using the service. Food needed by BLP includes :

- Cold drink mix
- Pasta sauce
- Pasta (especially ziti and elbow macaroni)
- Canned potatoes
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Sugar (bags are OK, since they have their own dispensers)
- Salad dressing
- Canned gravy
- Tea bags
- Coffee
- Ketchup
- Canned vegetables
- Paper plates
- Paper hot cups
- Plastic utensils
- Napkins
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper

All other contributions will be directed to the Ministerium of Keyport Food Pantry at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Keyport or to some other local food pantry.

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COLLEGE CHOIR SERENADES GOOD SHEPHERD

by Gil Vatter

In a formation reminiscent of the old "Surround-Sound" concept, the Gettysburg College Choir processed into a semi-circle around their listeners to begin an hour and a half of eclectic, entertaining choral music, their third concert in a Spring Tour covering Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut. Under the direction of Dr. Robert Natter, Associate Professor of Music at the Pennsylvania school, the 40 voice, well schooled ensemble signaled to the audience of over 80 people that they were in for a musical treat. Kurt

Mathisen, son of Diane and Andy Mathisen, a sophomore at Gettysburg College, is a member of the group. The opening number, "Prelude" by contemporary composer Ola Gjeilo featured the beautiful unaccompanied ethereal sounds of women's voices chanting a sacred text while the lower voices of the choir provided a base of bagpipe-like drones, a perfect beginning to the program.

Pastor John Elstad had welcomed the singers to Good Shepherd Church and reminded the audience that the tour was being made as a community service by the choir, which spent some time working at the Jersey shore while they were here and who are requesting that a free will offering be given to help those who were impacted by hurricane "Sandy".

The familiar classic, soaring sounds of Palestrina's (1525-1594) "Sicut Cervus" (Psalm 42) followed and was contrasted next with Z. Randall Stroepe's (B. 1953) "How Can I Keep From singing", a lively ode about life and music. "Unicornis Captivatur", a composition by Norwegian-American writer Ola Gjeilo (b. 1978), who penned the opening "Prelude", was an allegory of the death and resurrection of Christ using medieval symbolism. The work began with an introduction by the soprano section in a minor key, followed by the altos and finally the men's voices in Brahms-like passages that moved ever on to the final, triumphant "Sing Alleluia" in a major chord.

A haunting salute to the Civil War by Jeffery Van (b. 1941) was added to the program to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg. The ambitious number was perfectly accompanied on guitar by Dr. Jim Hontz, a member of the Music Department at Gettysburg. Part I - "By the Bivouac's Fitful Flame" began a soldier's story as he prepared himself physically and emotionally for battle. The chilling second movement, "Beat! Beat! Drums!" continued the anticipation of warfare, of excitement mixed with fear of going into battle. The final section, "Reconciliation" reflected the more mature, seasoned veteran soldier's thoughts and regrets for the need for war and the futility of the death of those soldiers who did not survive the battles.

The choir took a break while "The Gettysburg College Camerata", a dozen singers from the group, presented three songs: "Dulaman" by Michael McGlynn (b. 1964), a lively telling of a young woman's thoughts as she prepares for marriage, "Lady, When I Behold" by John Wilbye (1574-1638) a love poem which compares the petals of a rose to the red lips of a woman and an obvious audience favorite, "Butterfly" by the "forty-something" Mia Makaroff (b. 1970), which recreated the feeling of the fluttering motion of a butterfly and the warning that life is short and should be enjoyed whenever possible. Dr. Jim Hontz also played the beautiful "Scherzo" from "Les Soirees d'Auteuil" by Napoleon Coste (1805-1883), a 19th century composer and a veteran of the Spanish army who fought against Napoleon. Dr. Hontz displayed his mastery of the guitar in a lovely number in what we have come to recognize as the style of the Spanish school of guitars.

The choir again took their place at the front of the sanctuary to sing "Twa Tanbou", a Haitian-Creole song by young composer Sydney Guillaume (b. 1982) which tells the story of two drums in a boasting contest who are chided by a third drum and told to work together. The choir reproduced the sounds of the "kata", "boula" and "tambourine" in a fun song that made sitting still quite difficult. In contrast, the beautiful "This Marriage" by contemporary choral composer Eric Whitacre (b. 1970) was a slow, contemplative neo-classic tone poem written by Whitacre as a wedding present for his wife. In an unexpected gesture, Dr. Natter invited all of the Gettysburg students and alumni in the audience to join the choir in their singing of the school's Alma Mater and a dozen or so people accepted the offer. One of my personal favorite choral numbers, "Beautiful Savior" by F. Melius Christiansen (1871-1955) was presented a cappella and featured the nine seniors of the choir in a solo presentation.

The evening ended on a high note as the choir gave their a cappella rendition of "Balleilakka" by A. R. Rahman, an example of the "Bollywood" movie music genre. The Tamil tongue twister was sung in Tamil, an Indian dialect, and it was obvious that the singers were having lots of fun with the difficult words and rocking melody. Signe Carlson and our own Kurt Mathisen provided a drum accompaniment. The audience gave the choir an enthusiastic response for the wonderful evening of music and Dr. Natter described the choir's remaining

activities on the tour, including a presentation at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. He thanked Good Shepherd for its hospitality and, once again, mentioned that all proceeds from the concert would be given to victims of "Sandy". A reception in the narthex prepared by the Fellowship Committee, Debby Blackburn, chairperson, followed the concert.

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Welcome to the world Lionel Everett Burton, born 3/21/13 at Riverview, 8 lbs. 11 oz. Son of Jo Ellen and John Burton, grandson of Steve and Pat Miller.



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Thank You Note received by Good Shepherd submitted by Pastor

The Community Outreach Group, Inc.

96 Kings Highway, P.O. BOX 4041

Middletown, N.J. 07748

A non-profit organization - CH11765300

A Certified United Way Agency

Serving the community for 30 years.

March 20, 2013

Rev. John M. Elstad

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

P.O. Box 452

Holmdel, NJ 07733

Dear Reverend Elstad ,

Please relay our thanks to your congregation for the recent donation of food brought to our *Calico Cat Food Pantry*. It came at a very good time as the client usage that day was very high and our food inventory was getting a little "thin." So again and again we see that God's people does provide for our needs.

Our pantry last year served 4200 adults and children and as things look this year we are experiencing many more families coming to us to receive food. So thank you again for your support. Your blessing of outreach is felt in the hearts of God's people who come to us for assistance and in the hearts of the volunteers with deeply felt gratitude.

We always appreciate donations of food and those items most needed are pasta, mac. & cheese, vegetables, beans and soup.

Our wishes are sent to all for a joyous Easter.

Very sincerely,
Janice Liebenow
Vice President, Community Outreach Group, Inc.
Calico Cat Food Pantry Coordinator

Participating churches; Christ Episcopal Church, Middletown, Holmdel Community United Church of Christ, Lincroft Presbyterian Church, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Holmdel, Middletown Reformed Church, Middletown United Methodist Church, Old First Church, Middletown, St. Catharine's Catholic Church, Holmdel, St. Leo's Catholic Church, Lincroft and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Middletown.

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Thank You Notes received by Good Shepherd submitted by Mike Carp



January 31, 2013

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
112 Middletown Road
P.O. Box 452
Holmdel, NJ 07733

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your gift and support of LSM/NJ programs. I would be happy to visit on a Sunday at shore my thanks. It would also be fun to see everyone again. I keep tabs with the newsletter

On behalf of Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, I would like to express my gratitude to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for your gift of \$650.00 designated to Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey.

Your gift allows us to reach individuals like Kayla, a resident in the Children's Shelter. The holidays are a particularly difficult time of year for children in the shelter. They are away from family and friends. We are able to create a home and a special holiday memory for our residents because of your donation. Thank you for remembering Kayla and children like her.

We are blessed to have partners who understand our mission to serve those who hurt, who are in need, or who have limited choices.

May you be richly blessed for your gift of compassion today and always.

Sincerely,

Beth Gebhart
Executive Director of Fund Development and
The Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ Foundation

February 24, 2013

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
112 Middletown Road
P.O. Box 452
Holmdel, NJ 07733-0452

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$500.00. Your support helps to sustain Family Promise of Monmouth County and continue our mission *to provide food, shelter and comprehensive services to homeless families in Monmouth County*. Since our inception in 2001, over 160 families have benefited from the work you are supporting.

Our staff and volunteers continue to provide help to each of our families as they work towards securing permanent housing. As you may know, this includes helping families to improve their financial outlook, increase life skills, and identify and secure permanent housing opportunities. Each success story is celebrated as a new opportunity for our families. Along with our families, our staff, volunteers and supporters like you are all responsible for every one of these successes.

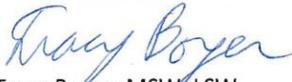
In this difficult economic climate we have seen an increase in the need for our services and your support helps us to continue to meet that need.

Please save this letter which will serve as your receipt for tax purposes.

Again thank you. We like to recognize our donors by listing their names on our website (and newsletter) at www.familypromisemc.org. Currently, we would use the name listed at the top of this letter. If you would like this donation to be recognized under a different name, or to remain anonymous, please call us within the week so we can make those changes.

If you have any questions about our programs, services or volunteer opportunities please do not hesitate to contact our organization at 732-495-1050.

Most Sincerely,



Tracy Boyer, MSW, LSW
Executive Director
Family Promise of Monmouth County, Inc.

*Family Promise of Monmouth County is a 501(c)3 corporation, NJ Charity Reg #CH1690600
Fed Tax ID # 22-3674477*

April 2013

<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
				7:30pm – choir practice		3pm NJ State Youth Orch Concert
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9 – Sunday School 10 – Service	7pm Council Meeting			7:30pm – choir practice		1-4pm NJ State Youth Orch
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9 – Sunday School 10 – Service 3pm – Miae’s Young Musicians Concert		7:30 – 9:00 Compassionate Friends		7:30pm – choir practice	12:30 – Ladies Luncheon Group @ Sono in Middletown	1-4pm NJ State Youth Orch
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 – Sunday School 10 – Service				7:30pm – choir practice		1-4pm NJ State Youth Orch
28	29	30				
9 – Sunday School 10 – Service						