

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

July 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,

Personally speaking the last few weeks have been quite a challenge due to medical problems which occurred but which have now been successfully taken care of. Now I am in the process of healing and getting back to a normal life. It is my intention to resume preaching on July 7th, and then to gradually pick up on the other matters of ministry. I am most grateful for all of your prayers, cards, phone calls and notes. Each of them conveyed a much appreciated sense of love and comfort.

It is increasingly evident that as we move further into the 21st century that our style of living must move from ever increasing consumption to the discipline of conservation. Christian theology is designed to assist us in this important act of lifestyle change first and foremost by its gospel of resurrection, and by so doing looks always to the future. But what will the future be like? The answer to that question depends upon what we commit to doing now. We can either continue the pernicious lifestyle course we have followed for generations, and make matters even worse the longer we do so or we can begin consciously to choose a healthier and life-enhancing manner of living.

When it is what it should be at its best, the Christian faith is always an expression of hope , healing and the mending of brokenness so as to make all of life a place of peace and well-being. Such is simply stated in the third article of the creed where as we confess our belief in the Holy Spirit we include these words: *“I believe in the forgiveness of sins.”* I take that to mean that we can salvage our individual shortcomings and failings and we can also salvage the damage we have done to God’s creation. This is what is meant by the term **restoration** being used more frequently in theological literature.

This spring, after thirty years of maintaining our lawn by doing what I had always done and not being really satisfied, Ruth persuaded me to hire a professional. He came and went to work using an all-natural program of fertilizing and weed control. What a restoration.! The lawn had never looked better and it really enhanced the appearance of our house. It was a true investment for the future.

So it can be on a much larger scale as more and more people –especially Christians- take on the responsibility of doing now what will make a better future for our children and grandchildren.

Peace and love, Pastor Jack

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June 9th, 2013 Special Congregational Meeting _____ minutes by Garry Westerweller

This meeting was a special meeting called to seek the congregation’s approval for the proposed Narthex Improvements, specifically the addition of tile and the replacement of the wall inside the Narthex area with Columns.

Steve Miller declared a quorum to be in attendance with the official count being 42 people

Steve then proceeded to explain the scope of the work and proposed improvements seeking the congregation's approval to spend \$14,000.00 for the tile replacement and up to \$6,000.00 for the center wall replacement with columns. Steve continued to explain that there would be two separate votes, one for each project.

Steve told the congregation that the Council had commissioned a Narthex improvement committee to come up with not only improvements to the Narthex but also any improvements that would enhance Good Shepherd's overall appeal. This committee was open to any congregational member who wished to be on it. After many months of meetings and discussions, the committee reported back to council with a scope of long term and short term improvements that they felt would benefit Good Shepherd. Two of the short term goals were the replacement of the carpet in the Narthex with tile, and the removal of the center wall, replacing it with 2 columns.

Steve then called for a motion to vote on the replacement of the rug with tile which would then be followed by a general discussion and a paper ballot vote. Ernie moved to open the voting and Karl seconded it.

A discussion then ensued whereby many pros and cons about replacing the rug with tile were discussed. As the discussion progressed, the pros and cons of replacing the wall were also discussed. After a lengthy discussion of both projects and when all pros and cons were heard, ballots were passed out for the vote on whether or not to replace the carpet with tile. Members were asked to vote yes or no on the proposal and if they wished to cast a no vote, to add a different suggestion.

The results of this vote were 33 members voting to replace the carpet with tile and 8 members casting a no vote. It was also suggested to look into a tile that looked like wood, which Steve said we could check into.

The meeting then progressed to the second vote which was to replace the center wall in the Narthex with two columns. The congregation was asked to vote yes or no on this proposal. Garry moved that the vote be opened and Bill Wehrli seconded.

The results of this vote were 24 yes votes and 17 no votes.

Lou Medici motioned for the meeting's adjournment with Bill Wehrli seconding.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Council Minutes 06/24/13 from Garry Westerweller

In attendance were the following: Garry Westerweller, Steve Miller, Mike Carp, Tom Tehve, Karl Tourjussen, and Andy Lichter

Absent: Andy Mathisen, Sharon Oberkehr, Jamie Antonacci and Pastor Jack

Steve Miller declared a quorum to be present

Steve Miller led us in devotions quoting from James and Proverbs. Theme of devotions was to Take advantage of the day.

Council approved the night's agenda
Council approved last month's minutes

Treasurer's report was presented. Mike Carp had some questions about amount of funds that were reported for Sandy Relief and the Well Challenge. **He will ask Dick for explanation on discrepancies between his records and the treasurer's report.** Treasurer's report was approved subject to verification of these discrepancies.

As Pastor was recuperating from his recent surgery, there was no Pastor's report presented.

The environmental committee asked council to adopt a no Styrofoam cup policy for Good Shepherd. Steve moved this be done and Mike seconded it and Council officially adopted the following: "Effective 6/24/2013, The Good Shepherd Council officially bans the use of Styrofoam cups for Sunday coffee and all church functions."

Social Ministry presented its report. A request was presented to council to donate \$500.00 to COG for its back to school program. Garry moved and Tom seconded this. Council unanimously approved. In addition there was a discussion about food drop off as the amount of food being dropped has gone down since the drop off point was moved out of the Narthex. Council elected to defer this discussion until after the Narthex improvements are complete.

Christian Education report was presented. Sunday School Picnic is being scheduled. VBS is on track for July. Sharon expressed the desire to start a Bell Choir.

Worship and Music report was presented. Results of the Mission Statement Flyer questionnaire were read:

Q- What one word describes Good Shepherd to you?

A- Spirit, Friendliness, Family, Home, Lutheran, Belonging, Safe Haven

Q- What is it that brings you to Good Shepherd?

A- Faith, to thank God, Always feel welcomed and accepted, worship service, Pastor, Music, spirit.

Q- What do you think would enhance your experience at Good Shepherd?

A- Small groups both social and purpose driven to strengthen interpersonal relationships of members, content with the way things are, to write down during the service things we are thankful for, writing helps, a "traditional" communion once in a while, sing more appealing hymns and less of the hits you missed from the 1800's, reduce the human interpretations of what is required by God.

Andy reported that his small mission committee would digest this data and reconvene in the near future to discuss.

OLD BUSINESS

The action items from the last council minutes were reviewed. Below are the action items that still remain from that list;

- **Andy Lichter will contact Paul Kraus for planting ideas** – This item has been temporarily put on hold
- **Property Committee will review a potential solution for rotting RR ties in parking lot**
- **Jamie following up on quote from alarm company to update our fire alarm system**
- **Steve continuing to work on drafting a policy for designated hosts at concert events, etc...**
- **Council members need to continue to reach out and take an active role in recruiting people to assist on various projects and committees** - ongoing
- **Still need to firm date for Sunday School Picnic**

The following action items were addressed and closed:

- Steve received and circulated an answer on last month's question about April expenses.
- Andy Lichter did contact the architect for wall removal and column design and is progressing with this project
- Tile choice for flooring was finalized by the Narthex improvement committee and we are proceeding with this project
- Steve Scanned Karl and Michael's marketing report for council to access on line

NEW BUSINESS

- Mike suggested that before we proceed with the Narthex tile project, we contact our insurance adjuster to report changes to our church. Steve said that Ernie Brinkman is doing this.
- Karl working on the marketing of VBS
- Suggested special council meeting for 7/8/13, to discuss Good Shepherd's next steps, was deferred as summer meetings were difficult to get people to attend. Suggestion was made to have Andy Mathisen come up with dates he was available as he is spear heading the mission statement committee.
- Request was made to have wall space available for displays and announcements. Suggestion was made to possible do this electronically. Topic was deferred until we see how the Narthex improvements look.
- Security audit by Holmdel Police department has been completed. Waiting for feedback from Little Chiefs.
- Council meetings will resume in September.

Adjourned meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

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AROUND THE PARISH

by Gil Vatter

GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

1. **Pastor Jack** is resting at home after undergoing treatment for two abnormal hemangioma at Ocean Medical Center. He also had eye surgery on May 30. Keep him in your prayers.

2. Cover art for the June 2 bulletin, "Save Faucet Water", was provided by **Katey Howard** from our Sunday School. Good job Katey.

Wife to husband - "I made two lists of New Year's resolutions. Here's yours." (Grace Brinkman)

3. The church has been informed of the death of **Richard Thomas**, the father of **Cynthia Kazmac**. Our sympathy goes out to Cynthia, Chris and Kelsey. And God will wipe away all tears.

4. Hope you noticed the beautiful white rhododendron blooming near the entrance of the church.

Doctor - "What's your date of birth?"

Ole - "September 23."

Doctor - "What year?"

Ole - "Every year."

5. **Pastor Ed Schmidt** reports that he is recovering well from a mild heart attack caused by a 100% blockage in an artery. The hospital put in a stent and things have gone well ever since. He has returned as interim pastor at Holy Trinity in Audubon, NJ. You can't keep a good man down.

6. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd coonskin cap to Thrivent and all those who contributed to the dig-a-well campaign. Good Shepherd sent \$2,500 to the ULCA for wells, \$300 for irrigation and \$440 to Project Paul for Hurricane Sandy Relief. Way to go gang!!!

A man was walking along a country road, when he came upon a farmer working in his field. "How long will it take me to walk to the next town?", the man asked. The farmer looked up but did not reply. The man waited a few minutes, shrugged and resumed walking. He had gone only a few steps when the farmer yelled, "About 25 minutes." The man stopped and said, Thanks, but why didn't you tell me that when I first asked?" "I didn't know how fast you could walk", the farmer replied. (Bunny Kuhl)

7. **Walter Kyle** just finished volume #5 of President Lyndon Johnson's biography and has begun "An Act of Congress" by Robert F. Kaiser.

8. **The Social Ministry Committee** has already delivered more than 800 cans of food to local kitchens and food pantries this year, plus lots and lots of other food, such as pasta, pasta sauce, baby food, cereal, gravy, napkins, paper towels, peanut butter, jelly, etc. How much they deliver depends on how much you bring to church. Remember your hungry neighbors when you shop for groceries this week.

PASSING SCHOOL ZONE
TAKE IT SLOW
WATCH OUR LITTLE
SHAVERS GROW
(Burma Shave)

9. Congratulations to **The German School of Monmouth County** and **The Little Chief Learning Station** for another year of successful operation.

10. **Pastor Neil Jaggi** has been filling in for Pastor Jack during most of June with sermons such as, "How do I stack up?" and "Clothes Make the Man". Pastor J is always welcome.

Broken pencils are pointless.

11. Did you know - **Steve Miller** is a board member of the Lincroft Senior Citizen's Housing Corporation.

12. July 4 will mark the **third anniversary** of **Pastor Jack's** arrival at Good Shepherd. Time flies when you're having fun.

On a bus, a girl was reading a newspaper article about the statistics on life expectancy. Turning to the man sitting beside her, she asked, "Do you know that every time I breathe, someone dies?" He looked at her for a moment and replied, "Have you ever thought about using Listerine?" (Grace Brinkman)

13. Happy birthday to **Grace Brinkman**. Get back to church soon Grace. We all miss you.

14. Happy fifth wedding anniversary to **Anne (Rajala) and Scott Medling** and happy 58th anniversary to **Ernie and Grace Brinkman**.

A man walked into a bar and said, "Quick, give me a beer before the trouble starts." A few minutes later he orders another beer and says, "Quick, give me a beer before the trouble starts." After the fifth or sixth beer,

the bartender is totally confused and asks him, "When are you going to pay for all those beers?" The man replies, "Now the trouble starts."

15. Former members **Sunny and Mac Romeiser** (Prescott, Arizona) and **Jackie and Bill Theune** (Scranton, Pennsylvania) recently stopped to see former members **Joan and Bob Horlacher** near Hazelton, Pennsylvania. Bob is recovering from a fall at home and is doing well. Mac and Sunny also stopped at the church on June 10.

16. **Andy Mathisen** hiked nine miles of the Appalachian Trail on June 5, carrying a 40 pound pack.

Judge - "All your responses to my questions may only be oral. OK, where do you live?"
Ole - "Oral."

17. **Viv and Bob Sislian** attended the graduation of their granddaughter in Michigan in early June.

18. **The Ladies Luncheon Group** met at the Danish Pastry Restaurant in Red Bank on Friday June 21. For information about future meetings, see **Barbara Haher**.

An old man lay sprawled across three entire seats in a movie theater. A young usher ran to the man and said, "Sorry sir, but you're allowed only one seat." The old man groaned but didn't budge. The usher became more impatient. "Sir, if you don't get up from there, I'm going to have to call the manager." Again, the old man just groaned. The usher marched briskly back up the aisle and in a moment returned with the manager. Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move the old disheveled man, but to no avail. Finally they called the cops.. The policeman surveyed the situation briefly then asked the old guy, "OK buddy, what's your name?" "Bob", the old man groaned. "Where ya from Bob?" asked the cop. With terrible pain in his voice and without moving a muscle, Bob replied, "The balcony." (Ernie Brinkman)

19. **Bill Wehrli** and I have something in common. We both celebrated our 60th anniversary of graduation in June. Bill from Wagner College and me from Franklin & Marshall College.

20. **Kathe DaGiau** brought her granddaughter **April Bokay** to church on Sunday June 23.

Psychiatrist - "And what was the first thing he said to you when he woke up this morning?"

Patient - "He said, Where am I Lena?"

Psychiatrist - "And why did that upset you?"

Patient - "My name is Shirley."

21. **Ellen and Tom Tehve** brought their grandchildren, granddaughter **Ryan** and grandson **Owen**, who live in North Carolina, to church on Sunday June 23.

22. **John Haher** is recovering at home from surgery. Keep him in your prayers.

Lena - "What's the difference between Swedes and Norwegians?"

Ole - "The Swedes have wonderful neighbors."

23. Sunday June 23 was the last Sunday for **Teresa and Pat Nichols** before they relocate to Glen Burnie, Maryland. They settled on their new house on Thursday June 27. We will miss them.

24. **Bill Wehrli** finally got the sand from Hurricane Sandy shoveled out of his beach house.

Ole stepped on a scale. It gave his weight along with a small card. The card read, "You are a brave, strong leader of men, endowed with creative powers and a striking appearance." Lena took a look at the card and said, "It's got your weight wrong too." (Grace Brinkman)

25. Mark your calendar - Sunday September 8 is the 25th anniversary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The church has 4,000,000 members and nearly 10,000 congregations. The ELCA's motto is "God's work, Our hands".

26. *Jonathan Kim, Miae's* son will take his driving examination the last week of June. Good Luck Jon.

SEE YOU IN CHUCH ON SUNDAY

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A Note from Patrick & Teresa Nichols

Here is our new address and contact info. You are all more than welcome to visit and stay with us anytime. We would be honored to host. We are located south of Baltimore and close to Annapolis.

Patrick & Teresa Nichols
1311 Berni Ruth Lane
Severn, MD
21144

Patrick - ptnic@aol.com. 856 371 2298
Teresa - tnichols1028@aol.com 856 381-7649

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COG (Community Outreach Group)

June Contribution Delivered

Good Shepherd's June contribution to COG's Calico Cat Evening Food Pantry was delivered on June 22. Special thanks to Pat Dunn, Sue and Dick Alberti, Dianne Epstein and daughter Gaby, Barbara Hahe's granddaughter Carissa DeJulio and her friend Samantha. These folks helped in the packing and the delivery of the contributed Personal Care Items as well as the packing of food at the Pantry. Both the food and the care items are provided at the pantry on a monthly basis to working low income families.

Also a big thank you to Good Shepherd's Congregation for providing the cleaning and personal care items! As mentioned several times in the bulletin these care items are NOT covered by food stamps. A rough estimate of the cost of our delivered items is \$950. Thanks for your support!!

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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. We need about \$11,000/month to meet our budget.

	May 2013	YTD 2013	YTD Budget	YTD 2012
General Contributions	6,924	54,009	56,250	56,530

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NATIONAL HONORS FOR GSMC

by Gil Vatter

Michaela Greco, Principal of the German School of Monmouth County and the school's board of trustees have published a list of students who have passed the National German Language Examination. Each student received a "German Language Diploma" as well as books from the German Consulate annual awards program. "We are very proud of the more than 80 students currently enrolled in our classes", said Principal Greco. "We know that learning a second or third language helps students with their native language development, grammar and comprehension, as well as prepares them for the global community where they will live, work and play."

The National German Examination, administered annually to more than 23,000 high school students by the American Association of Teachers of German (AATG), recognizes verbal and written proficiency in three levels of the German language. The examination tests comprehension, reading and conversational skills as well as the applied structure of grammar and idioms in context. GLSMC, a partner school with the German Federal Republic's "Agency for German Schools Abroad", also tests students in six levels of proficiency to earn the German Language Diploma. Those student who demonstrate higher levels of comprehension and communication are eligible to study at universities and technical schools throughout the German speaking nations of Europe.

The non-profit German School of Monmouth County provides weekly language enrichment classes for pre-school through high school students, as well as adults, with programs geared to native and non-native speakers. The GSMC also hosts year-round cultural events and fosters global understanding while preparing students for the 21st century workforce. Classes are held at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. For more information, visit the school's web site www.germanschoolmc.org.

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NJ IS SECOND MOST GENEROUS

by Gil Vatter

Second only to Maryland, New Jersey was recently announced as among the more generous states in the union. In 2011, 36% of New Jersey tax payers gave \$4,100,000 to charity, with the typical Garden State tax return listing gifts of \$2,181. Many of the 36% of tax payers' deductions were listed for churches but main-stream charities also shared in the gifts. Only Maryland was more generous, with 40.1% of all returns including a deduction for charitable deductions.

Among New Jersey corporate doners, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Merck and Company's Foundation had an important impact on the state's charitable activity. Merck, alone, gave out almost \$1,300,000 in cash and products during 2011 in an effort to get its medications into the hands of those who otherwise couldn't afford them.

July 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
						1-4pm NJ State Youth Orch
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10 – Service						1-4pm NJ State Youth Orch
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10 – Service r		7:30 – 9:00 Compassionate Friends			12:30 – Ladies Luncheon Group @ Windandsea in Highlands	1-4pm NJ State Youth Orch
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10 – Service	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 - Vacation Bible School	1-4pm NJ State Youth Orch
28	29	30	31			
10 – Service						