

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

July 2014

(our website good-shepherd.us)

Open Minds ... Open Hearts ... Open Hands

From The Pastor

To all the saints at Good Shepherd,

The one certainty of life is the factor of change. Nothing remains the same forever. Some changes may occur quite suddenly and are readily noticeable while others may stretch out over time before they occur.

Four years ago a change took place in the history of this congregation when you voted to have me serve as your Pastor with the understanding that it would be for a limited period of time. As a result of that decision, Ruth and I have been fortunate in having developed a very positive personal relationship with so many and also to have seen the health and spirit of the congregation remain healthy and active. You all have been tremendously supportive and we have been immeasurably blessed by having worked with you in the projects and programs that have been accomplished over the last forty-eight months.

Now the occasion of another change is about to occur in Good Shepherd's history when on July 28 a period of "transition" will commence and ultimately culminate in the appointment, or call, of a new shepherd to assume the duties necessary to keep the flame of the Gospel's light bright in this assembly of talented and committed people who love their church. I am glad to have learned that as the first step in the transitional process Pastor Rachel Semovoski who is co-pastor with her husband at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Middletown, will be serving as Interim Pastor. I have met Rachel and her husband it is my impression of her that you will enjoy a youthful, energetic and enthusiastic pastor.

For nearly fifty years Good Shepherd has experienced the opportunities and challenges that have arisen as times and circumstances changed and I personally am glad to have had the honor and privilege to have served you for a brief period of this congregation's history. Both Ruth and I find it hard to take leave of a congregation that has become so special to us. You will never be forgotten. God bless you all.

Grace and peace Pastor Jack

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Good Shepherd will have Rev. Rachel Semovoski as Interim Pastor.

In May, 2014, Rev Rachel Semovoski and husband Joshua Semovoski were ordained co-pastors of King of Kings Lutheran, Middletown.

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MINUTES for June 9, 2014 Council meeting

Attendees: Steve Miller, Sharon Oberkehr; Karl Torjussen; Marion Schloemer, Stephanie Dall, Lou Medici ; John Dall, Mike Carp.

Absent: Jamie Antonacci; Tom Tehve

Devotions - Pastor Jack

Approved this agenda

Approved minutes of May 12, 2014 council meeting

Approved minutes of May 19, 2014 special council meeting

Approved May 31 Treasurer's Report, by Clem Hergenhan

As of YTD May 31, 2014, general contributions are 9.6K below YTD May 31, 2013. This is ~ 1K improvement from last month. We discussed the need to review General Giving by individuals in enough detail to identify the

reasons for the lower contributions. **TOM TEHVE and DOREEN HOFFMAN ACTION. Their SECOND action item: create & distribute 1Q2014 contributions reports** - (paper copies to be placed in Narthex for pickup, to save on mailing costs.

Pastor Jack discussed highlights of the NJ Synod conference.

1. The latest Lutheran has an article by the presiding bishop. Historically, small congregations have been the most financially insecure. Now, larger sized congregations are feeling a financial pinch.
2. The spirit/enthusiasm of the 400+ conference participants makes attendees recognize they belong to a community bigger than themselves.
3. Pastor attended a Stewardship workshop with Rev Scott Schantzenbach, Asst to the Bishop on Stewardship issues. He is a dynamic speaker, and should be able to provide good counsel. He recommended adoption of quarterly goals/activities/emphasis, recognize accomplishments, and re-adjustment of goals/activities for the subsequent quarter. See handouts: one ; two ; three ; four Programs include:
 - o Create "Narrative Budgets" - with a narrative of where the money goes, and subsequent explanation of who benefited, and how much was the benefit for each contribution.
 - o Create "Contingency Planning"
 - o Possible program: "Fearless Generosity"
 - o Pastor Jack suggests substitution of "Mission Support" in place of "Stewardship"
 - o **STEVE ACTION: PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION TO ANDY MATHISEN FOR WORKING WITH REV SCHANTZENBACH AS SUPPLY PASTOR**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pastor's report - Pastor Jack

"Creation Care" Environmental Committee - Nancy Fitch -Placed green insert (Styrofoam Recycling) in June 8 bulletin

Social Ministry - Mike Carp (report provided after council meeting)

Property - John Dall - nothing to report

Christian Education - Sharon Oberkehr reported that a traditional summer VBS will not be held. Rather, Good Shepherd children (w/o non-members) will meet 5 days - either one full week, or 1 day per week for a month. Sharon suggests the children could create a Good Shepherd banner, which incorporates the new mission logo.

Spiritual Renewal and OutReach (Evangelism)- Patch Advertising -Karl Torjussen reported the Good Shepherd Patch advertising lapsed immediately after Easter. We did not determine a Good Shepherd new member benefit from the advertising. We discussed following alternatives:

1. advertise on radio 99.1 (\$99/year)
2. create a series of speakers/tpoics/modern musical concerts, and post these activities/events on Middletown & Holmdel Patch; also submit to Holmdel and Colts Neck monthly newsletters.
3. Send newcomer greeting postcards to local move-ins within 1 or 2 mile radius of Good Shepherd. **(Steve Miller to work with Kathe DaGiau)**

Evangelism - Marion Schloemer (cards for the sick) - Marion presently receives names from Pastor Jack. Marion will need other contacts after Pastor's retirement

Mission Support (Stewardship) - Karl Torjussen - no report

Fellowship - Debbie Blackburn/Kathe DaGau/Germaine Scott - planning Pastor Jack's retirement luncheon on July 27 (see "New Business").

Finance - Clem Hergenhan/Dick Alberti/Tom Tehve - no report

Worship and Music -Andy Mathisen - no report

OLD BUSINESS

- **OLD Action Items; (Oct 14 ; Aug 12 ; June 24 ; Nov 11; Dec 9 ; Feb 10, 2014 ; Mar 10, 2014)**
- Apr 14 action items; May 12 action items
- Training of Stephanie Dall to replace Doreen Hoffman (Financial Secretary) by year-end - **begins this fall**
- Good Shepherd Mission -committee meetings March 17, May 18, and June 8.
- Review of Dr. Grafton's adult forum on Islam; feedback?; next steps
- Need to review Pat Dunn's email list: who is missing; who should be dropped?

NEW BUSINESS

- June 8 Mission Committee Minutes. The congregation selected the mission logo with almost 4:1 higher votes than any other logos. On June 8, the congregation voted and settled on a logo. The logo will be placed on the front cover of the June 15 bulletin (Linda Burns will provide the color print bulletin front page - with gold Good Shepherd lettering.. A subset of the council word-smithed the mission statement. The final mission statement will be posted in both the web site, and top of 2nd page of bulletin.
- Additional ideas for displaying the new logo:
 - bumper sticker
 - lapel pin
 - T Shirt
- Luncheon July 27 for Pastor Jack (Pastor & Ruth are available; Debbie Blackburn is organizing)
- Supply pastors must be organized for each Sunday after July 27. (Rev Aaron Richter volunteered for August 3) Andy Mathisen, Music & Worship will manage supply pastors. Pastor has given Andy the ELCA supply scheduling contacts..
- Create action plan for pastoral transition: Steve recommended using the congregation background & resources; and the minutes from May 19, 2014 Special meeting. Andy will invite Rev Scott Schantzenbach, Asst to the Bishop on Stewardship issues, to preach at Good Shepherd (the Reverend's time is very busy in the fall!).
 - Complete "Ministry Site Profile" - **GIL VATTER ACTION**
 - Manage a "Congregation Survey" - 1st 3 weeks of September? **MARION SCHLOEMER ACTION**
 - Pastor Jack contributed the following Stewardship documents:
 - 90 Day Stewardship.pdf
 - Contingency Planning.pdf
 - Fearless Giving.pdf
 - Narrative Budget.pdf
- Results of NJ Synod convention: identify and implement best ideas at Good Shepherd (Pastor Jack, Nancy Fitch, Andy Mathisen) (See Pastor's report, above). Nancy Fitch may have insights from attending a women's workshop.
- change to 9AM service during summer (suggested by Gayle McKnight). COUNCIL discussed, and provided the following input:
 - presently too many things changing- an earlier summer service should be considered next summer
 - add the suggestion to the congregation survey (in Sept, 2014)
 - older people might have issues getting to church earlier

A series of talk/events will be planned for fall (these will be heavily posted). Possible speakers include:

- COG, Middletown
- Lunch Break, Red Bank
- ELCA Speaker from Trenton Sarah ?Lillia? - PASTOR JACK ACTION: get name
- Professor Grafton followup on discussion of Islamic faith

- Rev Scott Schantzenbach, Stewardship issues

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: 7PM, Monday, July 14

ADJOURN with Lords Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Steve Miller, Council Secretary

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AROUND THE PARISH

by Gil Vatter

GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

1. The congregation welcomed *Pastor David Mangiante* on Sunday June 1. His children's sermon was, "Passing the Peace is so much more than just Good Morning."

2. Sixteen families and two organizations are now supporting the Bayshore Lunch Program as "Sponsors" and have been or will be assigned a month in which to send a check for at least \$75 for the local Soup Kitchen. If you and your family are not sponsors, enroll now. Help feed your hungry neighbors.

The pastor at the church attended by Sven and Lena asked the congregation to buy a new chandelier. It was put to a vote and the members voted it down.

Amazed, the pastor asked Sven and Lena on their way out, "Why do you suppose the congregation was against buying a chandelier?"

"Vel", replied the couple, first, we can't spell it, so how can we order it. Second, even if we bought it, no one can play it and third, what we really need is more light in this place." (Grace Brinkman)

3. Members of Good Shepherd have contributed 765 cans of food plus lots of pasta, sauce, coffee, tea, baby food, cereal, rice and other kinds of food to the Bayshore Lunch Program so far this year. Remember your hungry neighbors when you shop for groceries each week.

4. We were all happy to see *Vivian and Bob Sislian* in church in early June. Both are coping with health issues. We hope they come back soon.

A musical chord walked into a bar and ordered a drink. "Sorry, I can't serve you", said the bartender, "You're a minor."

5. The church office has been notified that Bob Stetz' sister died in early June. Our thoughts and prayers go to Randi and Bob. And God will wipe away all tears.

6. The church office was notified that the mother of former member *Teresa Nichols* died in early June. The Nichols family now lives near Baltimore, Maryland. And God will wipe away all tears.

I've learned that the small tools I can't find will be in plain sight as soon as I buy new ones. (Bill Wehrli)

7. *C. J. Miller* (son of Stacy and Jeff Miller) graduated from Jackson Memorial High School in June.

8. *Diane Mathisen* attended Homecoming at Wagner College on June 14 and 15.

I've had amnesia for as long as I can remember.

9. Happy 6th anniversary to *Anne (Rajala) and Scott Medling* who are still in Australia.

10. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd boater to *Jon Kim* who played cello solos, accompanied by his mother (Miae Park) for the June 15 offertory and postlude. Jon graduated from Marlboro High School in June.

A guy walks into a bar with jumper cables around his neck.
Bartender says, "You can stay, but don't try to start something."

11. *Sharon Frank* led the Children's Bell Choir in "Land of God" and "This is the Feast" on Sunday June 15.

12. We highly recommend *Sue Alberti* for the annual "Good Shepherd Endurance Award". She read the First Reading on Sunday June 15 from Genesis. It covered two pages in the bulletin.

Patient - "Doctor, I feel like a pair of curtains.
Doctor - "C'mon man, pull yourself together."

13. Congratulations to *Summer Howard and Natalia Gracia* who received the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time on Sunday June 15.

14. Good Shepherd welcomed the *Gracia* family, *Rikki, Lorenzo, Natalia and Lorenzo, jr.* as new members of the congregation on Sunday June 15.

Sven - "What's this fly doin' in my soup?"
Lena - "Looks like the backstroke to me."

15. The church was notified of the death of former member *Trude Lenz*. Trude and Harold Lenz were charter members of Good Shepherd Church. They are residents of Seabrook Village in Tinton Falls.

16. *Pastor Jack* began a series of sermons based on the words of the Lord's Prayer on Sunday June 22.

A guy walked into a bar with a piece of asphalt under his arm and asked the bartender for a beer and one for the road.

17. *The German School of Monmouth County* had a book sale in Frank Hall on Saturday June 21 and Sunday June 22.

18. *Larry Jackson* was re-admitted to the hospital during the last week of June to recover from a fall at home. Get better, Larry.

Another Burma-Shave sign:

CAR IN DITCH - DRIVER IN TREE
THE MOON WAS FULL - AND SO WAS HE
BURMA SHAVE

19. Congratulations to *Rachel Mathisen* who became engaged to Lieutenant Mike Fink, U.S.Army, the last week of June. They expect to be married in July and will move to Mike's assignment station in Texas, where Rachel hopes to study to be a Nurse Practitioner.

20. *Nancy Fitch* asks everyone in the congregation to recycle expanded polystyrene (#6 stamped on the material).

NOTE - Save Sunday July 27 for Pastor Jack's re-retirement. The party will be held in Frank Hall starting at 11:15 am.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

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OVER THE SUMMER

PLEASE SAVE YOUR EPS "TRASH" FOR SEPTEMBER RECYCLING

How to recycle expanded polystyrene (EPS) commonly known as Styrofoam??

This is a question Karen Rajala posed to Good Shepherd's Creation Care Committee. Her research resulted in locating Foam Pack Industries. This company located in Springfield NJ is committed to help prevent EPS from entering our landfills by offering both commercial and residential foam recycling.

Good Shepherd's Creation Care Committee is planning a one week collection period in September for congregational members to bring in their EPS "trash" to Good Shepherd. The collected items will be transported by our committee to **Foam Pack Industries**

If you are interested in participating in this project follow the guide lines shown below to select and save your EPS items over the summer for our Sept. recycling collection.

GUIDELINES:



- Identify the foam by the recycle symbol #6 stamped on its bottom
- Remove any foreign matter such as tape, stickers, labels and card board
- All block foam EPS is acceptable. General rule of thumb: usually furniture, appliances and electrical fixtures are packed in EPS.
- Food service products such as cups and food shipping coolers. All foam that has come in direct contact with food and/or drink must be washed thoroughly before it is discarded.
- Polystyrene packing peanuts (not marked with a #6) and some supermarket packaging is made from polystyrene – eg. Serving yogurt pots, pre-packaged fruit or vegetable container – look for the #6 stamped on the bottom.
- NOT ACCEPTED foam egg boxes or foam meat trays.

Some examples of items marked with the #6 recycle symbol

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COG's JUNE BOARD MEETING

Dianne Epstein represented Good Shepherd at the Community Outreach Group (COG) quarterly meeting on Wed. June 11th. At this Meeting \$14,000 of the proceeds from the Calico Gift Shop were distributed to other local non-profit organizations who help to expand COG's ability to effectively serve the needy in our community. A large portion of this money, \$6000, was given to Family Promise as they are having difficult money issues. Money was also given to Bayshore Feeding Program, Manna House, St. Anns, Tower Hill School, Scholarships for kids, HABcore and Aslan Youth Ministries.

GOOD SHEPHERDS DONATION TO COG

On June 21st cleaning items and personal care items were delivered to COG's Calcio Cat Food Pantry and Cupboard.for distribution to 27 families. Good Shepherd provides these items once a year to support working low income families in our area.

As your representatives on the COG board Dianne Epstein and Nancy Fitch thank you all for your Feb. through May generous contributions to this endeavor . Also many thanks to Dick and Sue Alberti, Harold and Mac Scott, and Germaine Scarborough for making the final June delivery.

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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. We are an offering.

Sunday June 1 - "Many Gifts, One Spirit" - Mary L. Lightfoot

Sunday June 8 - "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" - Wiliam I. Dawson

The Choir thanks our Director, Miae Park, for the traditional season ending dinner held at her home on Thursday June 5. The food was delicious and a wonderful time was had by all.

Sunday June 8 marks the end of the 2013-2014 season for the choir. They will return in September.

Bill Wherli was admitted to Bayshore Hospital on June 1, suffering from a stroke. He was moved to Riverview Hospital in mid-june for rehab and is making progress at that facility.

Miae Park will visit family and friends in Korea for three weeks in July.

SEE YOU IN THE FALL

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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 that we are considerably behind our 2014 budget expectation and our contributions from last year!!

	Apr 2014	YTD 2014	YTD Budget	YTD 2013
General Contributions	7,845	43,814	56,250	56,161

July 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
			1- Table Talk			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10 - Service			1- Table Talk			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10 - Service	7pm Council Mtg	7:30- Compassionate Friends	1- Table Talk		12:30 Ladies Lunch Oyster Point	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10 - Service						
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
10 - Service						