

# *The Voice of the Good Shepherd*

**October 2014**

(our website ..... good-shepherd.us )

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

**MINUTES** for September 8, 2014 Council meeting (DRAFT)

**Council members present:** Steve Miller, Sharon Oberkehr; Marion Schloemer, Stephanie Dall, Lou Medici ; John Dall ; Karl Torjussen ; Pastor Rachel; Guest: Mike Carp

**Absent:** Tom Tehve; Jamie Antonacci.

Devotions - Pastor Rachel. TOPIC: "Be a Witness". Think about how to apply to Good Shepherd. For instance: apply to congregational survey (to commence 9/14/2014). Compile the results to reflect all findings - both good and bad

Approved this agenda

Approved minutes of August 11, 2014 council meeting

Approved Aug 31 Treasurer's Report, by Clem Hergenhan

(Cumulative general contributions Aug 30, 2014, total \$19K less than Aug 30, 2013).

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Pastor's report** - Pastor Rachel

**"Creation Care"** Environmental Committee - Nancy Fitch: Styrofoam collection planned last 2 Sept Sundays; single stream recycling tour will be held ~Nov 1

**Social Ministry** - Mike Carp (left early for a Crop Walk meeting; planned to have more information on milkweed plantings to aid monarch butterflies)

**Property** - John Dall has arranged a Property Work Day on Sept 13, 9AM to 3PM. Frank Hall AC was repaired. Additional kitchen cabinet room was created for Little Chief. Satisfied several requests by Little Chief for the 2014-15 school year.

**Christian Education** - Sharon Oberkehr needs additional Sunday School teachers. Lou Medici volunteered. Andy will teach older children some Sundays; Fred Oberkehr will teach beginning later in fall; Sharon will teach the youngest. (Sharon prefers communication via text messages instead of email)

**Spiritual Renewal and OutReach** (Evangelism) -Karl Torjussen

**Evangelism** - Marion Schloemer (traveling; cards not distributed last week)

**Mission Support** (Proposed Stewardship pledge ; letter ; program ) - Karl Torjussen

1. Karl will revise the Stewardship letter
2. Pastor Rachel asked that Stewardship "Temple Talk" speakers focus on spiritual church speakers who describe their love of their particular ministry.
3. Proposed Stewardship speakers: Gil Vatter (Karl to talk to Gil); Karl Torjussen; & Marion Schloemer. A special Stewardship Sunday will close Stewardship on Sunday, Dec 7, led by Pastor Scott Schantzenbah, Asst to the Bishop on Stewardship issues.
4. Temple talks will request 10% increase in giving through year-end, and request completion of an optionally signed pledge card
5. Council discussed strategies to increase the usual 33% returned pledge cards. Possibilities:
  - o Doreen Hoffman to be asked to prepare 2014 giving statements through end of September & to include 2013 contributions. The statements would be placed in envelopes in Narthex for pickup. Steve Miller asked for the 2013 and 2014 giving statements to coincide with the pledge request, in order to immediately complete the 2015 pledge. Doreen subsequently agreed: "We will be able to get the statements out by 2nd Sun. in October, Clem and Stephanie Dall will help
  - o the pledge cards could be laid on the altar for an extended period in 2015 - and the contributor could revise as economics dictated.

6. Pastor Rachel discussed a NJ Synod Stewardship program/poster "Generosity as a Safe Practice". A film/DVD will be available shortly, and could be shown to congregation

**Fellowship** - Debbie Blackburn/Kathe DaGau/Germaine Scarborough (no report)

**Finance-Stewardship** Aug 20 minutes (Marion Schloemer) recommended a number of next steps, including:

1. formalize stewardship program; inform membership about GS finances; encourage 10% higher giving through year-end
2. grow membership: gain more public visibility; include more well-publicized social and musical events. Possible events might include Crop Walk, other service missions, Gettysburg choir (Karl to discuss with Andy), Keyport Kitchen, etc. We will ask Miae to help with advance information to publicize her special performances (such as the cello during last several services). Best way to increase membership is via personal invitation. Lou suggested Good Shepherd create a program to attract neighbors/friends to a "Friendship Sunday"

**Finance** - Clem Hergenhan/Dick Alberti/Tom Tehve. Pastor Rachel requested more information on designated funds (Sharon said the youth have not yet had an opportunity to spend the \$7K reserved money). Pastor Rachel will also look at the 2014 budget (stored at the Council's web site).

**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; May 12 ; Jun 9; Jul 14 ; Aug 11
- **RALLY DAY:** On 9/4/2014, Steve Miller mailed (USPS) postcards to 100+ new neighbors in Holmdel and Middletown (cost ~\$80 after discount). Pat Dunn emailed postcard image to GS members; Steve emailed postcard invitation to JoAnn Hickman, Little Chief, Dorothea Drew and Michaela Greco, German School, and Tarek Sharaf & Hesham Orabe of the Muslim Mosque. On Sept 11, Pat Dunn subsequently emailed a reminder to congregation.
- Karl paid (~\$99) for advertising on \*99.1 However, Karl reported he subsequently found his Good Shepherd material was difficult to find in the \*99.1 web site.
- **PASTORAL TRANSITION PLAN:** See congregation background & resources; plus minutes from May 19, 2014 Special meeting.
  - Complete "Ministry Site Profile" - **LOU MEDICI ACTION** - to complete on-line
  - Manage a "Congregation Survey" - 1st 3 weeks of September? **Marion Schloemer prepared 100 copies of the survey. JOHN & STEPHANIE DALL will** distribute and provide instruction to each Sept 14 attendee; The same process will be followed the following 2 Sundays.
  - Convene "Pastoral Call Committee". Nominees(from August 11 council meeting): Mack Scott (youth); Diane Mathesen (choir); Gil Vatter (past president); Clem Hergenhan (Asst Treas); Marion Schloemer (church Council); and Karl Torjussen (church Council). **LOU MEDICI will confirm with each nominee.**

## NEW BUSINESS

- Worship assistant process must be improved! four out of five people didn't show on Sept 7 (no layreader, no assistant, no acolyte, and only 1 of 2 ushers were present) STEVE MILLER will ask PAT DUNN to email and phone a reminder, on Thursday, to each worship assistant. SHARON will ensure a future list of acolytes.
- Rally day is Sept 14. Sharon anticipates 50 attendees. Debbie Blackburn is closing on a house on Sat Sept 13 and is unable to help Sept 14. Steve will provide email copy for Pat Dunn to email invitations to

all congregation members. STEPHANIE & JOHN DALL to provide 2 charcoal grills (instead of the propane grill which Steve is unable to transport)

- Steve Miller volunteered to try to staff a table at Holmdel Harvest Festival, Oct 4-5. (Creation Care bulletin inserts). Steve plans to learn from Linda Burns, who staffed her Temple's table at Red Bank "Alls Fair", Sept 7. Nancy Fitch subsequently contacted Holmdel Parks & Recreation, and found the Oct 4-5 was reserved for food and craft vendors. Instead, Good Shepherd should plan a table at the Holmdel's Community Day in April, 2015 at Cross Farm.
- Church doors will now be opened Sunday mornings by Sunday School teachers (and/or by choir members who attend Sunday practice)
- Pastor Rachel is unable to serve on Oct 12. She subsequently swapped with another supply pastor, and will serve on Oct 19. (Council members felt it important to have continuity). Later this week, Andy Mathisen expects to have the Supply Pastors identified through year-end. (the 4Q2014 list was subsequently received and stored here)

**ADJOURN** with Lords Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Steve Miller, Council Secretary

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**RICH BARTLETT DEAD AT AGE 67**

Richard A. "Rich" Bartlett, a long time, active participant in the life of Good Shepherd Church died on Monday September 22. He was 67 years old and had been battling Parkinson's disease since 1995. He was born in New York City but was a resident of Monmouth County, New Jersey since childhood. After graduation from Christian Brothers Academy in Lincroft, he received a bachelor's degree in Engineering Physics from Cornell University and a master's degree and doctorate in Engineering and Operations Research from the University of Pennsylvania.

Because of the debilitating effect of Parkinson's disease, he was forced to retire from the Bell System where he had had a long and varied career. He then worked with Call Sciences, a small start-up company for a short while until his failing health made it impossible to continue.

Rich was a very active member of Good Shepherd Church, with special interest in the church's Social Ministry programs. He served on the Social Ministry Committee and the Congregation Council and was elected President of the Council in 1987.

He is survived by his wife Maureen, their daughter Rebecca of San Francisco and his three siblings; Robert Bartlett, Donald Bartlett and Jan Bartlett. A memorial service is planned for Saturday October 18 at the church in honor of Richard's life on earth and to celebrate his passing into eternal life.

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**AROUND THE PARISH**

by Gil Vatter

**GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH**

1. Happy birthday to *Kirsten* and *Kurt Mathisen* who turn 22 this month, *John Haher* who will be 94, *Dick Alberti* who will be 72, *Bunny Kuhl* who will be 39 and yours truly who is older than dirt. Many happy returns to all.

2. *The Bayshore Lunch Program Sponsors* have contributed over \$1,750 this year, through September. Thanks for your help to feed our hungry neighbors.

Some people do wonderful things with leftovers. They throw them out. (Grace Brinkman)

3. Through the month of September, the congregation has sent 1,130 cans of food to the Bayshore Lunch Program, plus lots and lots of other boxed and bagged food. Thanks for your generosity. Please continue to help the soup kitchen provide a hot meal for those in need.

4. Did you know-----*Thrivent Financial* and its members gave away \$182,700,000 to charity in 2013.

I've learned that those who ask, "Can you keep a secret?" can't. (Bill Wherli)

5. *Grandma Pat Dunne* tells me that her twin granddaughters are growing like weeds.

6. *Bayshore Lunch Program* is presenting a "Tricky Tray" Fall Harvest on Friday October 10 at 7:30 PM at the North Centerville Fire House, 372 Middle Road, Hazlet. Admission is \$20 (Adults only).

Lena - "Our new neighbor always kisses his wife when he leaves for work. Why don't you do that?"

Ole - "Are you kidding? I haven't even met her yet."

7. Preachers at Good Shepherd in September - September 7 - Rev. John Hansen - "Can We Talk?"  
September 14 - Rev Rachel Semovski - "Forgiveness"  
September 21 - Rev. Dallas Dorward - "The Parable of the

Landowner"

September 28 - Rev. John Hansen - "Laboring in the Vinyard"

8. *The Ladies Luncheon Group* dined at Windansea in Highlands in September. For their plans for October, see *Barbara Haher*.

Old age is when you have stopped growing at both ends and have begun to grow in the middle.

9. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd derby to everyone who participated in Property Committee Work Day on Saturday September 13.

10. The *Creation Care Committee* collected a lot of Styrofoam for recycling on Sunday September 21 and 28. The response from the congregation filled up *Bob Fulmer's* truck at least once. Thanks to the Committee members for a very good job.

What do you call a fake noodle?

An impasta.

11. The *Kazmac family* recently adopted a female coon hound named "*Magnolia*" ("Maggie"). Maggie has only three legs but makes up for her loss with enthusiasm.

12. *Walter Kyle* is reading "Blood feud" by Edwatd Klein about the relationship between President Obama and the Clinton family.

Pastor Lindquist - "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city but his wife looked back and was turned to salt."

Ole - "What happened to the flea?"

13. In September, *Pat and Steve Miller* went to Minnesota to attend Steve's 50th highschool class reunion. Steve was shocked at how much more his classmates had aged than he had. (It's an optical illusion, Steve).

14. It was a pleasure to greet *Bill Wherli* in church on Sunday September 7. It's Bill's first time back for over three months. Welcome back old pal.

What do you call a fat psychic?  
A 4 chin teller.

15. The *Rajala family* will journey to California to have a reunion with *Anne (Rajala) and Scott Medling*, who are flying from Australia so that Anne can present a lecture at Cal Tech. this month.

16. The congregation welcomed former member *Andy Lichter* on Sunday September 14. Andy returned to New Jersey from North Carolina to close on his former home.

Doctor Swenson - "Ole, you'll live to be 60."  
Ole - "But Doctor Swenson, I am 60."  
Doctor Swenson - "See! What did I tell you."

17. *Diane and Andy Mathisen* went to Allentown, Pennsylvania on Sunday September 28 to attend a College Band Festival. Both Kirsten (University of Delaware) and Kurt (Gettysburg College) played in the Festival.

18. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd beany to *Sharon Oberkehr* and all the others who provided everything for the September 14 Sunday School picnic. (Thanks for grilling, John). It was a wonderful day and a great party.

Why do watermelons have fancy weddings?  
Because they cantaloupe.

19. Hope you didn't miss *Pastor Rachel's* children's sermon on Sunday September 14, "Does God Keep Score?" It was worth the price of admission.

20. The church has been notified of the death of *Ed Schloemer's* mother. Please remember the Schloemer family in your prayers. And God will wipe away all tears.

One of the perks of being my age is that I can sing along with elevator music. (Bill Wehrli)

21. Don't forget the Red Bank Area CROP Walk scheduled for Sunday October 19 at 2:00 PM - Walk or be a sponsor.

22. Volunteers are needed for MEALS ON WHEELS - call Diane Madsen - 732-775-5155, ext. 227.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

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**Funding Available from Thrivent** by Clem Hergenhan

Thrivent is phasing out the Chapter project funding that has been used for years. Good Shepherd has benefited in the amount of about \$2,000 each year under this program. Their new approach is to make funding **directly available to members** and the program has started! So if you're a Thrivent member you can request up to \$500 every year for projects you want to do. With the number of Thrivent members in the congregation this significantly increases the amount of funding for Good Shepherd and our local ministries. For more info see me or go to [www.thrivent.com/actionteam](http://www.thrivent.com/actionteam).

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**PASTOR ED SCHMIDT DEAD FROM ACCIDENTAL FALL**

by Gil Vatter

On September 22, 2014, he Rev. Edward C. Schmidt, Interim-Pastor of Good Shepherd Church from July of 2008 until June Of 2010, died as the result of an accidental fall at age 72. He was born on December 2, 1941 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and was a graduate of Muhlenburg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. He was ordained on May 29, 1966 and became developer and then pastor of Holy Counselor Lutheran Church in Vernon Township, where he served until 1974. He was Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Maywood from 1974 until 1984. On September 1, 1985, he accepted a call as pastor of Trinity Lutheran church, Runnemede, where he remained until his retirement in August of 2005. In addition to acting as Interim for Good Shepherd, he also was interim for Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Maywood, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Wildwood and, most recently, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Audubon. He was also the Chaplain for the Runnemede Fire Department.

He is survived by his wife Patricia to whom he was married for over 50 years; a son Marc A. Schmidt; four grandchildren, Tyler, Sherry, Selena and Marc E. and two sisters, Dorothy Shields of Deptford, N.J. and Karen Schmidt of Charlottesville, Virginia.

A memorial service for Pastor Ed was held on Monday September 29 at 11:00 AM at Trinity Lutheran Church in Runnemede with the Rev. Dr. G. Andrew Engelhart III, Pastor conducting the service. The Rev. Tracie Bartholomew, Bishop of the New Jersey Synod and Bishop Dan Herzog from Albany, a personal friend of Pastor Schmidt, participated in the service, remembering Pastor Schmidt's contribution to the church. Thirteen members of Good shepherd Church also were at the service which was attended by more than 300 persons, including many area clergy. Interment was private.

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**A FEW NOTES FROM THE CHOIR**

by Gil Vatter

*Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee. (Hymn 685)*

- September 7 - "I Worship You Almighty Lord" - J. McDonald
- September 14 - "Within This House of Worship" - L. Larson
- September 21 - "Sound the Full Chorus" - G. F. Handel
- September 28 - "Rejoice in the Lord" - Stan Pethel

Choir practice is held every Thursday at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary - Everyone is welcome to sing.

Three benefits from singing in the choir (Bill Wherli)

- 1. You don't have to dress up - the choir gown hides a lot.
- 2. The ushers never pass the collection plate in the choir loft.
- 3. You get a guaranteed seat on Christmas Eve.

Soprano, Pat Miller will sing with the Monmouth Civic Chorus on Wednesday November 8 at 4:00 PM as they present "Over There" at First Presbyterian Church in Red Bank.

The Wagner College Choir, under the direction of Dr. Roger Wesby, will present a concert at Good Shepherd Church on Wednesday November 8 at 7:00 PM.

Thanks to Jessica Hong, cello and Eui Hyun Kim, violin who provided the Prelude and Postlude music in September.

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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.

	Aug 2014	YTD 2014	YTD Budget	YTD 2013
General Contributions	8,158	69,368	90,000	89.857

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# October 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
				7:30 - Choir Practice		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9- Sunday School 10 - Service				7:30 - Choir Practice		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9- Sunday School 10 - Service	7pm Council Mtg			7:30 - Choir Practice	12:30 Ladies Luncheon	10- Memorial for Rich Bartlett
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9- Sunday School 10 - Service		7:30- Compassionate Friends		7:30 - Choir Practice		
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9- Sunday School 10 - Service				7:30 - Choir Practice		