

# *The Voice of the Good Shepherd*

**November 2014**

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

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

## **Good Shepherd Christmas Party – December 14, 5PM Mark your calendar now!!!**

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**MINUTES** for October 2014 Council meeting

Pastor Rachel led the meeting with devotions, Proverbs 25. She told us about Solomon's reflections on "speaking". Sometimes it is appropriate to do so, for example when the spirit moves us to speak out to "break the bone of a judge". But sometimes we are called to be a listening ear and be silent. Sometimes your presence alone is enough for someone.

The meeting agenda was approved, the previous council meeting minutes were approved, and we moved on to business.

Karl outlined the progress in scheduling the Wagner College concert on 11/8/14 at 7:00 pm.

The group of approximately 60 will rehearse at 3:00 and we will provide dinner for them at approximately 5:15, allowing time for them to change before the concert. A reception will follow the performance. Debbie Blackburn or Kathe Germaine to organize the dinner? (Subsequently, we have learned Diane Mathesen is organizing)

A free will offering will be taken with the suggested contribution being \$15.00

Gary Westerweiler presented his thoughts on the upcoming Christmas party. His sister, who used to cater the event, is moving to Florida, so he suggested we use Jacques Catering in Hazlet and provided quotes on a buffet dinner that would probably total about \$1500, with BYOB. We will not ask members to pay in advance, but take a free will offering to offset the expense. He will reach out to Pat Dunne for a list of members who have passed away this year to acknowledge them and others in his much-anticipated Christmas poem.

The Treasurers report was reviewed and the approximate \$20,000 shortfall was noted. We have scheduled three Sundays of Temple Talks, beginning 11/2, to emphasize our role as good stewards of our blessings, and finishing with Reverend Scott Schatzenbach speaking on Stewardship Sunday, 12/7/14.

Social Ministry- no report

Property Committee- the lights on our front sign need to be adjusted for timing now that daylight is shorter. We had a good "property cleanup day" with more people volunteering and thanks to the participants. There are some small items left to do. Jamie's son will finish them up as part of community service day.

Evangelism- cards were sent to the sick

The Little Chiefs parade will take place 10/30 and 10/31 for 10 minutes each day for Halloween. John will let them know it has been approved by Council, as long as there is no food or drink in the sanctuary.

Pastoral Transition Plan- Lou will complete online.

Congregational Survey- Marion will log responses in a spreadsheet after council reviews the responses at the next council meeting.

Pastoral Call Committee- Diane Mathisen, Mack Scott, Clem, Karl, Marion and Gil will be meeting after the ministry profile and congregational survey is tabulated.

Lou proposed an event that we would sponsor to help protect your children on the internet. Steve, Lou and Sharon will prepare the relevant speaking points, including, for example, how to add parental controls on computers.

Preliminary planning for an end of year joint cultural celebration was postponed until Steve Miller's return.

We adjourned at 8:15 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Marion

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**GOOD SHEPHERD REMEMBERS RICH BARTLETT**

by Gil Vatter

On Saturday October 18, a memorial service was offered by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to commemorate the life of Richard A, Bartlett, Phd, a long time, active member of the congregation, who died on September 22. Music for the service was provided by Miae Park, the church's Minister of Music. The Gathering Song for the morning was, "Here I Am Lord", after which Pastor Rachel Semovoski, liturgist, read the words of introduction and the prayer of the day.

Following the recitation of the 23rd Psalm by the congregation, tributes and remembrances of Rich were given by his daughter, Becky and his brother Robert Bartlett. The sermon, with comments about Rich's home and professional life and his many contributions to the church, was made by the former pastor of Good Shepherd, Rev. John M. Elstad of Toms River, New Jersey. Pastor Jack remarked on Rich's courage and determination during his recent illness and on the many areas of church life in which Rich was involved.

Memorial prayers and the Lord's Prayer completed the service and, after singing the hymn, "On Eagle's Wings", the many friends, relatives and colleagues attending the memorial left the sanctuary during an organ postlude by Ms Park. A brunch, hosted by the Bartlett family, was served in Frank Hall.

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**AROUND THE PARISH**

by Gil Vatter

**GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH**

1. Happy birthday to *Pat Schmidt* and *Pastor Jack Elstad* (77 this month).

2. Here's a pat on the back to the congregation - You have brought more than 1300 cans of food to church for the *Bayshore Lunch Program* through the month of September. Please keep up the good work.

The census taker stopped to see the Jenson family and asked Lena for her age.

"Well", said Lena, "I was 18 when I married Ole and he was 30."

"Ole's now 60, or twice as old as he was then, so that makes me 36." (Grace Brinkman)

3. The BLP "Tricky Tray", scheduled for October 10, was completely sold out. They expect to move the fall fund raiser to a larger venue next year.

4. *Pat and Steve Miller* traveled from Nice to Paris by river boat in early October.

What did the Zen Buddhist say to the hot dog vendor?

"Make me one with everything."

5. Pastors at Good Shepherd for October - October 5 - Rev. Linda Thurston

October 12 - Rev. Carl Browne

October 19 - Rev. Rachel Semonoski

October 26 - Rev. Neil Jagge

6. *Sue and Dick Alberti* spent part of October relaxing in the Pocono Mountains.

I've learned that the gauge of success is not whether you have a tough problem, but whether it's the same problem you had last year. (Bill Wehrli)

7. The whole *Miller Family* had breakfast together in early October when *C. J. Miller* was briefly home from Berklee College in Boston, where he is studying music.

8. *Kelsey Kazmac* was worshiped with the congregation in October during a visit home from James Madison University in Virginia.

Question of the month - Do vegans eat animal crackers?

9. *Miae and David Kim* visited their son Jonathan during Parent's Day at Carnegie-Mellon in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he is studying Biology.

10. The October 19 Children's Sermon by *Pastor Rachel* was "What Belongs to God?"

Bacon and eggs and two pancakes walked into a bar.  
The bartender said, "Sorry, we don't serve breakfast."

11. When it comes to acolytes, *Hannah Oberkehr* is a real "ace". She does her job with a professional touch and makes it look easy.

12. The church has been notified of the death of *Steve Miller's* mother, *Sylvia Van Slyke*. Please keep the Miller family in your prayers. - And God will wipe away all tears.

Ole meets Sven on the street and says, "I just got back from a pleasure trip."  
Sven replied, "Oh. Where did you go?"  
"Well, I took Lena to the airport."

13. Mark your calendar - The Wagner College Choir will present a concert at Good Shepherd Church on Saturday November 8 at 7:00 PM. The music will cover music from 175 years of the work of composers who lived and worked in New York. Tell your friends and neighbors about this exciting musical event.

14. The Creative Care Committee reminds everyone to continue to save styrofoam. A date for collection will be announce later. The Committee is also planning a tour of a Single Stream Processing Facility. For more information see *Steve Miller*.

If athletes get athlete's foot, do astronauts get mistletoe?

15. Congratulations to *Mike DiPiazza* who made his maiden voyage as a reader on Sunday October 26. Good job, Mike!!!

16. After a hectic summer, *Buny and Herb Kuhl* are suffering from empty nest syndrome. No visitors. Even granddaughter Jess has gone home to Austria for a visit.

*Old age is having a choice of two temptations and choosing the one that will get you home earlier!*

17. In October, the Ladies Luncheon Group dined at the Pour House Restaurant in Red Bank. To join the ladies in November, see *Barbara HaHer*.

18. Have you noticed that *Bill Wherli* comes to church every Sunday, he is even able to walk to the front of the church to take communion with the aid of a walker. Way to go Will.

The past, present and future walk into a bar. It was tense.

**SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY**

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**2015 BLP SPONSORS LIST BEING COMPILED**

by Gil Vatter

For when I was hungry you gave me food; when thirsty, you gave me drink. Anything you do for my brothers and sisters, however humble, you do for me.

The Social Ministry Committee has begun to compile a list of families and organizations from the congregation who will help support the *Bayshore Lunch Program* during the coming year. Members of Good Shepherd Church have been involved in the work of the soup kitchen since 1998, when a group of people began serving a monthly meal at the kitchen. In 2008, the church began the monthly delivery of food, contributed by the membership. To date, almost 10,000 cans of food and a large amount of pasta, coffee, rice, baby food, etc. have been presented to BLP.

In 2008, the church began the "Sponsors" program, which provides a cash gift to BLP from one or more members of the church each month. In seven years, 30 families and two organizations (the Sunday School and the Ladies Luncheon Group) have contributed almost \$10,000 to help feed our hungry neighbors. The 2015 Sponsors list is now being prepared and everyone in the congregation is invited to participate in this worthy activity.

To become a Sponsor, please indicate your interest to Patty or Gil Vatter or to any member of the Congregation Council. The need is great. Please sign up today.

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 CREATION CARE COMMITTEE has arranged a 1 hour tour, 1PM, Thursday, Nov 6, at a Single Stream Processing Facility. This is your chance to learn the handling/sorting of your community co-mingled recycling. We tour with a "Waste Management" supervisor of the Northern Recycling Center, Ocean County, 800 Towbin Avenue, Lakewood, NJ (a 30 minute drive from Holmdel and 2 miles off the Garden State Parkway). Further information, map, directions: <http://home.comcast.net/~oak-hill/2014/recycle.html>  
 To join the tour, and/or questions, contact Steve Miller, [stevemiller@comcast.net](mailto:stevemiller@comcast.net) or 732-671-5917

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**A FEW NOTES FROM THE CHOIR**

by Gil Vatter

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!  
 Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.

- October 5 - "Lord, You've Searched and Known Me" - D. E. Wagner
- October 12 - "For Where Love Is, There Is God" - E. Wagner
- October 19 - "Think On These Things" - R. E. Schram
- October 26 - "Our Dwelling Place" - Victor C. Johnson

THE SINGER'S DICTIONARY - Psaltry - An ancient stringed instrument plucked with the fingers.  
 - Timbrel - tambourine

**A NEW YORK ROMANCE**

The 60 voice Wagner College Choir, Roger Wesby conducting, will sing at Good Shepherd church on Saturday November 8 at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. Selections will include an overview of 175 years of musical history by composers who lived and worked in New York.

The 2014 Good Shepherd Choir :  
 Soprano - Pat Miller, Randi Stetz, Patty Vatter, Kim Wehrl  
 Alto - Diane Mathisen, Trudy Miller, Ellen Tehve  
 Tenor - Andy Mathisen, Tom Tehve  
 Bass - Charles Miller, Gil Vatter, Bill Wehrl

Choir practice takes place every Thursday evening at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary of the church - Everyone is welcome to sing.

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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.

	Sep 2014	YTD 2014	YTD Budget	YTD 2013
General Contributions	8,126	77,494	101,250	101,090

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# November 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9- Sunday School 10 - Service				7:30 - Choir Practice		7pm Wagner College Choir
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9- Sunday School 10 - Service	7pm Council Mtg			7:30 - Choir Practice		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9- Sunday School 10 - Service		7:30- Compassionate Friends		7:30 - Choir Practice	12:30 Ladies Luncheon @ Houlihan's Holmdel	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9- Sunday School 10 - Service				THANKSGIVING DAY		
30	1	NOTES				
9- Sunday School 10 - Service						