

# *The Voice of the Good Shepherd*

**February 2015**

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

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

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**MINUTES** for Jan 12, 2014 Council meeting. (DRAFT- Ver 1)

**Council Members Present:** Sharon Oberkehr; Tom Tehve; Marion Schloemer, Stephanie Dall, Lou Medici ; John Dall ; Steve Miller; Pastor Rachel

**Excused:** Karl Torjussen (bad cold): Absent: Jamie Antonacci

**ALSO PRESENT** for first few minutes: Rev Aaron Richter, Asst to the Bishop, reported further delays in assigning a permanent pastor to Good Shepherd..

Devotions: - Pastor Rachel. discussed "15 Things the Church Needs to Do in 2015"

**COUNCIL ACTION:** Examine 1 "Thing" per month, beginning with the Feb 9 Council Meeting. First explore "2014- What worked? What didn't?"

The agenda was approved

Dec8, 2014 council meeting minutes were approved

Approved the Dec31 Treasurer's Report, & explanation

It was noted there is a \$14K increase in "Total Funds", as reported in dec31, 2013 treasurer's report, to dec31, 2014 treasurer's report

Dick Alberti reported part of Good Shepherd's assets are with Wells Fargo Small Business "High Yield Savings"

Pastor Rachel reported she will be at Good Shepherd two Sundays per month, Jan - April 2015

**COUNCIL DECIDED** to hold "Ash Wednesday" Service at 11AM, Wed, Feb 18, followed by soup lunch.

**SHARON** action: create signup sheet for attendance & food

"Creation Care" Environmental Committee initiatives were described:

- A bulletin insert will describe how to reduce unwanted paper mail
- Collection of EPS (Expanded PolyStyrene - "styrofoam") will occur Feb 1 and Feb 8
- A "Carbon Footprint" survey will be conducted in late February

Good Shepherd Social Ministry activities are described in January Sunday bulletins:: COG Christmas (Nancy Fitch); and Bayshore Lunch Program (Gil Vatter)

John Dall discussed several property projects. Highest priority is an upgrade to the church fire alarm system.

Sharon Oberkehr discussed children's Christmas activities (described in Sunday bulletins).

Good Shepherd is invited to send delegates to the March Synod Assembly: **LOU MEDICI** action

Marion Schloemer (Head of nomination committee) discussed possible council candidates. The end of 2014, 6 current council members reached the end of their term. Some have agreed to be renominated; Candidates are being sought for a vote at the Jan 25 congregation meeting.

Stewardship survey results were presented by **JOHN DALL** and is an input to Tom Tehve to help refine the 2015 budget.

Ministry Site Profile" - **LOU MEDICI** will complete and electronically submit the survey data to ELCA.

Council quickly reviewed analysis of the "Congregation Survey" -(held during 1st 3 weeks of September). Marion provided a summary, and John Dall provided further analysis

Supply Pastors are lined up through April, 2015 (Thank you, Andy Mathisen!)

**TOM TEHVE: proposed a 2015 budget**, and will shortly distribute a revision for a congregation vote on January 25.

Gil Vatter is interviewing staff and providing reviews. Raises/bonuses/year-end donations were proposed by the Executive Committee and settled by Council. Council authorized the Social Ministry committee to distribute \$2475. in previously bugeted undesignated funds.

A Jan 25 Congregation meeting was further planned. Meeting announcements are already in Sunday bulletins. Email to congregation will go out soon. Committee annual reports are due almost immediately.

Status of Little Chief and German School was briefly discussed.

Steve Miller requests frequent review of the Good Shepherd web site. Suggestions are requested on changes and opportunities to improve appearance.

Next council meeting will be 7PM, Feb 12.

Council was ADJOURNED with Lords Prayer

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**GRACE BRINKMAN DIES AT 86**

by Gil Vatter

Grace Ekeland Brinkman, a long time member of Good Shepherd Church, died on Saturday January 17, at home. She was 86 years old. She was born in Staten Island, New York and lived there for the early part of her life. In 1956 she married Ernest Brinkman, a native of Brooklyn, New York. They were married for almost 59 years, until Ernie's death in May of 2014. The Brinkmans lived in Long Island, in the Chicago area and in Lincroft and Howell Township, New Jersey, where they moved after Ernie retired. As a young woman, Grace worked as a nurse in a hospital in Norway, for a lawyer in Staten Island, and for Catholic Charities and American Express in New York City before she became a mother and homemaker for her growing family.

The Brinkmans were long-time, active members of Good Shepherd, where they served on several committees and participated in many of the church's social activities. Grace worked on the Fellowship Committee, was a Sunday School teacher and was well known for the baked goods she provided for the Sunday morning "coffee hour" for many years. She was a faithful attender at Sunday services until failing health prevented her from travelling in recent months.

She is survived by four children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A memorial service was held for Grace at Good Shepherd on Monday January 26. Interment followed at Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Cemetery in Arnetown, New Jersey

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**AROUND THE PARISH**

by Gil Vatter

***GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH***

1. We am sorry to lose one of the regular contributors to "Around the Parish". My friend *Grace Brinkman* had a great sense of humor and sent a series of jokes to us on a regular basis. Grace's memorial service took place at Good Shepherd on Monday January 26, just as the "Blizzard of '14" was beginning. Despite the awful weather, about 70 or more people were there to say goodbye to Grace. Pastor Rachel and Pastor Jill Collict (a friend of the Brinkman family) led us in a very meaningful service.

2. Special Birthday Congratulations - to our former pastor *George Frank* who has joined the "Older Than Dirt" Club; he turns 80 on February 10. Many happy returns of the day, old pal.

*Old accountants never die.....they just lose their balance.*

3. Happy birthday to *Tom Tehve, Pam (Everett)Bagliere and Andy Mathisen.*

4. Happy **62nd** Wedding Anniversary to *Barbara and John Haher.*

I've learned that there are only two classes.....first class and no class (Bill Wehrli)

5. HOORAH!!!! The folks at Good Shepherd provided over 1,750 cans of food for the **Bayshore Lunch Program** last year and close to 10,000 since we began to collect food for the soup kitchen.

**6. ARE YOU A BLP SPONSOR?**

Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for 10 minutes.....come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller.  
(Bill Theune)

7. It's tough to keep track of who is staying at *Bunny and Herb Kuhl's* house these days. During the first week of January a granddaughter arrived from Austria and the following week another grand daughter left for Austria. I think the Kuhls need a "front desk" and a concierge. (Do you take American Express?)

8. *Walter Keyl* is reading "The Innovators".

After a shipwreck, a sailor washed up onto an island. He noticed that the sand is dark red, the sky is dark red, the grass is dark red, there are dark red birds in the sky and dark red leaves on dark red trees. He is shocked to see that his skin is starting to turn dark red too. "Oh, no", he says, "I've been marooned."

9. Substitute Pastors in January - Rev. Dale Selover, Rev. Rachel Semovoski and Rev. Gordon Huff.

10. Before returning to the University of Delaware, *Kirsten Mathisen* visited her sister *Rachel* in Texas (along with her mother and dad *Diane and Andy*) and brother *Kurt* made a quick trip to Germany before returning to Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania.

The kids text me "plz", which is shorter than "please", when they need money. I text back "no" which is shorter than "yes".

11. Ok gang, here's the February "mitzvah,,,,,Send a "get-well" card to Marian Williamson  
851 Center Street  
Red Bank, New Jersey 07701-6251

12. The **Ladies Luncheon Group** met at Houlihans Restaurant in Holmdel on Friday January 16 for lunch. For February plans, see *Barbara Haher.*

Ole asked Sven for a cigarette. Sven said, "I thought you resolved not to smoke in 2015."  
"Oh", he replied, "I'm in the process of quitting. I'm in phase one."  
"What's phase one?" asked Sven.  
"It means I've already quit buying them."

13. *Brian Dunn* has been in the hospital since the last week of December. Pat hopes to have him home very soon.

14. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd fedora to *Kim and Bill Wehrli*, who donated eighteen cases of canned food in January for the Bayshore Lunch Program. That's 216 cans of food, folks. Bill reminds us that he bought four cartons (48 cans) for only \$15.84. That's about the cost of buying flowers for the altar. Thanks and another tip of the Good Shepherd fez to *Garry Westerweller and Mike Dipiazza* for bringing all that food from Bill's car into the church.

More signs of getting old.....Your knees buckle but your belt won't.....Your little black book contains only names ending in MD.

15. *Pastor Rachel* will now be with us on two Sundays each month - the second and the fourth. In January, her children's sermons were "Seeing What's Going On" on January 11 and "Follow Me" on January 25.

16. *Joan and Bob Horlocher (Debbie Blackburn's parents)* moved back to Middletown in mid-January. Unfortunately, Joan dislocated her shoulder soon after and has been in re-hab ever since. We hope to see them in church soon.

A Sunday School teacher asked her class to draw a picture of their favorite Bible story and was puzzled by Willie's drawing of people on an airplane.

She asked him which Bible story his drawing represented. "It's the flight to Egypt" he said. "I see", replied the teacher. "And that must be Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus. But who's the fourth person?" "Oh", said Willie, "that's Pontius, the pilot."

17. Congratulations to Miae Park's son David, who won the "best performance" prize, playing his cello at the Viva International Music Competition at Carnegie Hall in New York City, on Friday January 16.

18. *Pastor Gordon Huff*, who was substitute Pastor at Good Shepherd on Sunday January 18, arrived at the church as the last horn blew because of the ice on the New Jersey roads that morning. Our area had almost 2" of rain, but no ice.

Ole was walking down a country road when a farmer approached on a loaded wagon.

"Wharcha' got in yer wagon", Ole said.

"Oh, just a load of manure to spread on my strawberries", replied the farmer.

"Vel"said Ole, "You should come to my house for lunch sometime. We use whipped cream."

19. In January, the congregation scored a touchdown with more than 265 cans of food for BLP. The old Buick will be loaded this month. Other good news,there are now nineteen families and two church organizations on the "BLP Sponsors" list.

20. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd boater to all those who served on the Church Council in 2014 as well as those who agreed to serve for 2015. Thanks so much.

**SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY**

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**MINISTERIUM BUILDS PANTRY NEXT TO BLP**

by Gil Vatter

The Ministerium of Keyport, a co-op group formed by some of the churches from the Keyport area, has been operating a food pantry from St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church in Keyport for more than ten years, serving residents from 20 towns in the Bayshore area. Good Shepherd Church actually provided a truck load of food to the Keyport pantry during those years. However, because the need for food continued to increase at the pantry and since there was very limited operational space available at St. Mary's, the volunteers running the food pantry decided to undertake a major fund raising campaign in order to build a larger, more flexible and more easily accessible building.

In July 2013, on the grounds of the Community Church of Keyport and adjoining the Bayshore Lunch Program facility, the new Ministerium Pantry building was begun. Called the "O. O. John Reed Community Center" it was named for the original founder of the Keyport Pantry, who died in 2006. it was completed in January and dedicated on Monday January 24 at a ribbon cutting ceremony on the site. According to Rev. Dawn Seaman, pastor of the Community Church, the new building will expand the pantry's capacity to store food and also provide a resource center where clients can obtain social and financial advice from professional social workers. The additional space in the new center also allows clients to wait for service inside rather than in a line on the outside, even in inclement weather and will allow those with disabilities to easily

access the pantry. Isaiah Cooper, Director of the Pantry said that the new building will serve as a central location for social services, educational programs and food distribution to more than 200 families each month.

The Community Church has now combined a food pantry in conjunction with a soup kitchen on the church's grounds. The Ministerium Pantry is an extension of an existing building which already housed a soup kitchen, the Bayshore Lunch Program, since February 2013. Good Shepherd has been a major source of support for the soup kitchen since its founding. BLP serves a hot lunch to area families three times a week, but expects to increase this service to five days a week by mid-February of this year. The two organizations will give the needy people of the Bayshore area both a hot meal five days a week and also enough food to feed themselves for the rest of the time.

Pantry Director Cooper said, " the needy people of northern Monmouth County are part of our community and, if in need of help, can share in what the center has to offer. Poverty and hunger is a 365 day, 24/7 problem.....not just around Christmas and the holidays when you want a feel-good moment."

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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.

January Anthems

- January 4 - "Sing Out This Day" - J. M. Haydn
- January 11 - "Father, We Worship You" - Victor C. Johnson
- January 18 - "Lord, You've Searched and Found Me" - D. E. Wagner
- January 25 - "Forever Blest is He" - G. F. Handel

January Postludes

- January 4 - "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" - Arr. T. Prentiss
- January 11 - "Allegro Vivale" - G. F. Handel
- January 18 - "Little Toccata" - C. Curtis
- January 25 - "Postlude" - R. Martin

The Choir rehearses each Thursday at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary. All are welcome.

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**Jan 25, 2015 Congregation Meeting MINUTES (draft 1.0; to be approved January, 2016)**

35 members attended the January 25, 2015 Congregation Meeting. This met the minimum 30 member attendance mandated by Good Shepherd's Constitution, and a quorum was announced.

Vice-Pastor Rachel led an Opening Prayer

The congregation meeting was led by Lou Medici. Announcements:

- The funeral of Grace Brinkman will be held 10AM Monday, Jan 26
- Marian Williamson suffered a stroke, and resides in the Bayshore rehabilitation wing.

Clem Hergenhan moved approval of the Minutes of Jan 26,2014 Congregation Meeting, John Dall provided a second. The Minutes were approved by congregation voice vote

Garry Westerweller moved approval of the Treasurer's 2014 Year End Report. Karl Torjussen provided a second. The Treasurer's report was approved by congregation voice vote

**Reports**

- President's Report: Lou Medici
- Pastoral Report- Vice-Pastor Rachel
- Creation Cares Environmental Committee - Nancy Fitch

- Christian Education - Sharon Oberkehr
- Fellowship - Maureen Bartlett, Debbie Blackburn/Kathe DaGau/Germaine Scarborough
- Memorial & Thanksgiving: Pat Miller/Sue Alberti
- Spiritual Renewal and Outreach - Evangelism - Karl Torjussen/Marion Schloemer
- Property - John Dall
- Social Ministry Mike Carp/Nancy Fitch COG
- Worship & Music - Andy Mathisen
- Finance - Tom Tehve

**Congregation Old Business:** none

**Congregation New Business**

- 2015 proposed budget - Tom Tehve explained the 2015 budget. The budget assumes supply pastors during 1H2014, and a half time pastor assigned mid-year. John Dall moved approval of the 2015 budget. Mike Carp provided a second. The 2015 budget was approved by congregation voice vote.

**2014 Nominating Committee:**

- **New Council Members** Marion Schloemer's nominating committee presented 4 newly nominated council members & their terms: Nancy Fitch (1yr); Garry Westerweller (3 years); John Crump (3 years), and Andy Mathisen (3 years). The congregation was asked for additional nominations, and none were submitted. Clem Hergenhan moved to close the nominations; Andy Mathisen provided a second. Motion was approved by congregation voice vote. Clem Hergenhan then moved to approve & accept the 4 nominations. Gil Vatter provided a second. The 4 new council members were then approved by congregation voice vote.
- **Departing Council Members** Four departing council members: Sharon Oberkehr, Jamie Antonacci, Karl Torjussen, and Tom Tehve. The congregation thanked the departing council members for their service.

**Suggestions for the good of the congregation**

- Nancy Hergenhan requested that Good Shepherd hold a Stewardship drive to identify time & talents among the congregation members. This will help ease the time pressure on present volunteers.
- Bill Wehrli requested a microphone be used in next year's congregation meeting. This would help ensure that all members are able to hear everything being said.

**The congregation meeting was then adjourned with the Lord's Prayer**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Steve Miller, Council Secretary, 1/25/2015

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# February 2015

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