

The Voice of the Good Shepherd

March 2016

(our website good-shepherd.us)

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

Message from the Pastor

Spring is on the way! (OK,...in a few weeks)

We all love to say and think about that when this time of year rolls around and we all pretty much love that winter will soon be ending. Our thoughts start to turn towards the things of spring - the new birth of flowers, the returning birds chirping, and the new growth that will be arriving soon.

The Church calendar follows this scenario, as we continue to journey through Lent and look ahead to the re-birth and new life images that Jesus' resurrection brings to us. (I just hope it doesn't snow on Easter because it's early this year!)

But snow, or no snow, we look forward to the message of Easter when we will be reminded of the new chances, the rebirths, and the resurrections that we've had, continue to have, and will have in our daily lives.

So as we wander along through *the winter of Lent* and are acknowledge our failure to truly serve God as we should,...we look forward to **the springtime of God's forgiveness**.

As we plod through *the winter of Lent* and consider how our flaws and mistakes have hindered our lives and sometimes the lives of others,...we look forward to **the springtime of God's new beginnings** that await us each and every day when we get up in the morning.

As we trudge through *the winter of Lent* that began with a reminder of our own mortality and the mortality of those we love,...we look forward to **the springtime of new life** that is in store for us and for those who've gone before us.

So, yes, spring is on the way. Forgiveness is on the way. Second chances for us are on the way. And, when our life's journey ends, a new life for us is on the way.

So let it snow if it wants, because we know the thaw of God's love and promises through Jesus Christ are always on the way!

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MEET THE 2016 CHURCH COUNCIL

Congregation members are welcome to attend/monitor the March 14 Council Meeting, at 7PM in the church library.

<p align="center">ANDY MATHISEN</p>  <p align="center">PRESIDENT</p>	<p align="center">STEPHANIE DALL</p>  <p align="center">VICE PRESIDENT</p>	<p align="center">JOHN CRUMP</p>  <p align="center">TREASURER</p>
<p align="center">JOHN DALL</p>  <p align="center">COUNCIL SECRETARY</p>	<p align="center">BOB HORLACHER</p> 	<p align="center">GERMAINE SCARBOROUGH</p> 

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 The Altar Guild is taking Easter lily orders now through Palm Sunday, March 20th. If you would like to help decorate the altar for Easter, you can dedicate lilies to the honor of someone special or in memory of a loved one, just sign-up in the narthex. The cost is \$15.

+++++ **Jan**
31, 2016 Congregation Meeting Minutes draft v1.1 (to be approved at the January, 2017 Congregation Meeting)

.....PLEASE PROVIDE CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS TO STEVE MILLER (author of these minutes)

President Lou Medici opened the meeting.

39 members were in attendance. This met the minimum 30 member attendance mandated by Good Shepherd's current constitution and a quorum was announced.

The opening prayer was led by Pastor Pete

Minutes of the [Jan 25, 2015](#) Congregation Meeting were approved (motion by Gil Vatter followed by a 2nd by Andy Mathisen).

Treasurer's [2015 Year End Report](#) was given by Clem Hergenhan and Stephanie Dall

Report

- The [President's Report](#) was given by Lou Medici. He announced that he has served on council a total of 21 years, will be moving to his new NC home and will miss the congregation. The congregation thanked Lou for his years of service.
- Pastor Pete discussed his [Pastoral Report](#)
- A [Call Committee](#) report was given by Marion Schloemer (Marion and husband Ed were conferenced via Skype from their NC home).
- The [Creation Care](#) Environmental Committee report was given by Nancy Fitch
- The [Christian Education](#) report was given by Andy Mathisen
- A Fellowship report was given verbally by Debbie Blackburn, who thanked the various people who volunteered through the year.
- Karl Torjussen briefly discussed his Publicity/Advertising work for Good Shepherd. He is willing to continue in this position, and requests people provide material for publication.
- Marion Schloemer described her monthly cards as part of Evangelism, stated it is a minimal amount of monthly work, and requested a volunteer replacement.
- The [property](#) report was given by John Dall. \$10,500 has been approved and set-aside for fire alarm system upgrades that are awaiting permits.
- Nancy Fitch reported on [COG](#). Good Shepherd provides consistent support for Social Ministry supplied through the Community Outreach Group.
- Gil Vatter discussed the year's [Total Social Ministry Contributions](#) Total giving was greater than a 10% tithe of Good Shepherd's gross income. 2015 food collections was a record.
- A [Worship & Music](#) report was given by Andy Mathisen. Pastor discussed a new Sunday School program that begins Feb 14. A full explanation is described in the February, 2016 "Voice".
- The [Finance](#) report was given by Stephanie Dall, Financial Secretary, and Clem Hergenhan, Assistant to the Treasurer. The congregation thanked Dick Alberti for his years of service as Treasurer. Dick retired, and was replaced by John Crump, a Council member who was appointed by Council as the new Treasurer.
- The Call Committee- [Congregational Survey](#) summary was discussed by John Dall. He observed that the congregation's highest priority for the new pastor was "Preaching/worship/leadership", and the congregation's lowest priority for the new pastor was "Administration"

Discussion

- A member asked for the current Good Shepherd membership count. Council members and Pastor Pete reported there are 62 envelopes for giving units/families, and approximately 100-110 individuals.
- At the Jan 25, 2015 Congregation meeting, Nancy Hergenhan had requested an additional focus on acquiring volunteers for Altar Guild. At the Jan 31, 2016 Congregation Meeting, Pastor Pete discussed new sign-up sheets for volunteers for the various church openings. Nancy Hergenhan mentioned that she will be absent for the summer, beginning in May. Additional volunteers are needed to prepare the altar for communion this summer.
- At the Jan 25, 2015 Congregation Meeting, Bill Wehrli requested a microphone be used in the congregation meeting. In the Jan 31, 2016 Congregation Meeting, 3 microphones were available to help ensure that all members are able to hear everything being said

Congregation New Business

- Steve Miller stated that more than 2 years ago, ELCA distributed a new "Model Constitution" and asked each ELCA church to change their existing Constitution to be consistent with the new "Model". Accordingly, Good Shepherd proposed [changes](#) in its existing constitution. On Dec 14, 2015, Council approved the changes, and voted to ask the January 2016 Congregational Meeting to approve and ratify the "[Revised Constitution](#)" ([pdf](#)). Immediately after Dec 14, the revised Constitution was emailed to the congregation, and paper copies were made available in the Narthex. . During the January 31, 2016 Congregation Meeting, Clem Hergenhan moved for congregational approval and ratification of the revised constitution, and Stephanie Dall seconded the motion. The congregation attendees unanimously approved the revised Good Shepherd constitution. The ratified constitution will be forwarded to ELCA NJ Synod for final approval. ELCA recommends the next step is to review and bring up to date the congregation's current ByLaws.
- The 2016 [proposed budget](#) was discussed by Clem Hergenhan and Stephanie Dall. Clem Hergenhan moved the 2016 budget be approved; John Dall seconded the motion. The congregation voted unanimously to approve the 2016 budget as proposed.

Election of New Council Members

- Lou Medici acknowledged and commended the service of departing Council members: Marion Schloemer (moved to NC); Lou Medici (moving to NC); Steve Miller (7 consecutive years), Nancy Fitch (completing 1 year term), Garry Westerweller (after many years). Lou Medici announced that Bob Horlacher and Germaine Scarborough expressed their willingness to serve one year on Council.
- Lou asked for additional Council nominations from the floor. No additional nominations were voiced
- Clem Hergenhan moved that nominations be closed. This was seconded by Andy Mathisen, and approved unanimously by attendees.
- Clem moved that Germaine Scarborough and Bob Horlacher be approved to serve on the church Council. Garry Westerweller seconded the motion. The congregation attendees voted unanimously to approve Germaine and Bob to serve on the 2016 church Council.
- Lou acknowledged the many volunteer committee members who, together, keep the church running and effective in the community. He particularly thanked Maureen Bartlett for weekly coffee and cleanup, and encouraged additional volunteers.

Suggestions for the good of the congregation

- Good Shepherd was closed on January 24, 2016 because of snow. Good Shepherd was able to notify most members of the closure. However, a few members did NOT have contact information on file; one family, who was not notified, traveled to the closed church. Pat Miller suggested Good Shepherd use Verizon voice mail service to allow remote recording of a voice message when the church is closed.
- Germaine Scarborough asked that a welcome kit be provided to new members. She and others suggested that descriptions also be provided for all voluntary jobs within the Good Shepherd committees.

Adjourn congregation meeting

- Gil Vatter moved the congregation meeting be adjourned. This motion was seconded by Andy Mathisen. A unanimous vote adjourned the meeting

Attendees recited the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Steve Miller, Council Secretary

by Gil Vatter

GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

1. Happy Leap Year (and Sadie Hawkin's Day too). We won't see another "Leap Day" until 2020.

2. Missed one of *Pastor Pete's* Sunday homilies ? No problem-----Call Pat Dunn and ask for a copy of the Sunday you were absent.

I've learned that the man who says he can do as much at 80 as he could do at 30, wasn't doing very much at 30. (Bill Wehrli)

3. Happy Birthday to *Lionel Burton* (Pat and Steve Miller's grandson who was 3), former member *Dick Havill* (who was 83) and my old pal, *Garry Westerweller* who is as old as the hills.

4. *Lois and our former Pastor George Frank* are members of Christ Lutheran Church in Cape Coral, Florida where George is still practicing his "trade" once in a while.

Personnel Director - "Before I consider you for the job, do you lie, cheat, steal or come to work late?"

Ole - "No....I never have. But, I'm willing to learn."

5. Good Shepherd got the Lenten season off to a good start on Ash Wednesday, February 10 with two services, 11:00am and 7:00pm.

6. *The German School of Monmouth County* celebrated the traditional, pre-Lenten festival of Fastnacht on Thursday February 4 at the church with costumes, games, special dances and food.

Weather report - **Snow, followed by little kids on sleds**

7. February was a pretty quiet month for Good Shepherd's BLP food collection. The Social Ministry Committee delivered only 85 cans of food to the kitchen. On the plus side, however, there was an unusually large amount of pasta in the February delivery, along with coffee, rice and baby food. BLP has informed us that Good Shepherd is now the major supplier of vegetables for the kitchen.

8. Sixteen parish families now are supporting the **Bayshore Lunch Program Sponsors Project**. Thanks to all who have signed up for this important outreach of our church.

My neighbor has a lifesaving tool in his car which is designed to cut through a seat belt if he is trapped.

He keeps it in the trunk of his car. (They walk among us.) (Bill Wehrli)

9. Your March mitzvah - If you haven't done so, send a get well card to Kathy DaGiau
215 McGuire Blvd.
Brick, NJ 08724

Kathy recently underwent open heart surgery and is still rehabing at home.

10. *Diane and Andy Mathisen* spent some time in the Florida Keys in early February.

After all these years of dental appointments, I've thought of one good thing about going to see my dentist. He never weighs me before he starts.

11. *Pastor Pete's* Sunday February 7 "Transfiguration" sermon was "Turn on the Lights". Reminded me of the Greek philosopher Diogenes with his lamp looking for an honest man.

12. *The Ladies Luncheon Group* dined at Houlihan's Restaurant in Holmdel on Friday February 19 at 12:30. They expect to go to Huddy's Inn in Colt's Neck in March. For more of their March plans, look in the Sunday bulletin.

The Law of Variation - If you change lines (or lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you're in now.

13. *Bill Wehrli* is doing his annual to and fro' between Holmdel and Boynton Beach, Florida. He was home for a few days in early February then returned to Florida.

14. Nice job by *Tim Wilgus*, acolyte on Sunday February 7. Our acolytes add a lot to our worship services. We thank them all.

Ole - "What's the difference between a hippo and a Zippo?"
Sven - "One is heavy and the other is a little lighter."

15. The church has been notified of the death of former member *Edith Kibler*. Edith and her husband Ed were charter members of Good Shepherd. And God will wipe away all tears.

16. The congregation sent \$116.11 to the SouperBowl of Caring in February.

Mexican weather report - Chili today hot tamale

17. Despite a 2 degree temperature at the ten o'clock hour on Sunday February 14, about 50 hearty souls managed to make their way to the scheduled Communion Service. That's dedication.

18. The congregation welcomed three year old *Lionel Burton* (Pat and Steve Miller's grandson) to the Sunday February 14 worship service.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET THE COG EVENING FOOD PANTRY

19. Former member *Andy Lichter* was in church on Sunday February 21 and sang with the choir that morning.

20. To the surprise of all, *Kathy DeGiau* attended church on Sunday February 21, despite a recent quintuple by-pass heart operation. Still a little wobbly, but good to go.

Ole - "What do you call a pig with three eyes?"
Lena - "A piiig."

21. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd beret to all the kids in the Sunday School who acted as greeters on Sunday February 21. Well done, guys.

22. **LATE BREAKING NEWS** *Miae Park* will present her annual Spring Musical on Sunday May 15 - More details coming soon - This year's concert will be given to benefit the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

1,000,000 aches = 1 megahurtz

23. I kid you not....*Pastor Pete's* sermon on Sunday February 28 revolved around.....are you ready for this?.....**manure !!!!!** Check the Gospel of Luke, chapter 13, verses 1 to 13.

24. The church has been notified of the death of *Zelmire Howson*, wife of Louis Howson of Colt's Neck. A service will be held at the church in her memory. Date and time to be announced. And God will wipe away all tears.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

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Creation Care Update About Two 2015 Concerns by Nancy Fitch

Recent 2016 reports indicate one loss and one possible win. The first item, an excerpt from the NJ Sierra Club January E-Newsletter reports a loss --

BPU Rubberstamps South Jersey Gas Pinelands Pipeline

The Board of Public Utilities has voted 3-0 to remove local jurisdiction and Pinelands Commission approval on the South Jersey Gas pipeline. The Board approved the decision except for Commissioner Chivukula who recused himself. This decision will allow a 22-mile gas pipeline to cut an ugly scar through the Pinelands, destroy environmentally sensitive land and threaten our water supply. Despite widespread public outcry and previous rejection by the Pinelands Commission, the BPU has manipulated the system to allow South Jersey Gas to put forth their application as

private development, which is prohibited under Pinelands rules unless it benefits the people within the Pinelands, though it will clearly serve people living outside the Pinelands. Today's decision has taken away any further involvement from the Pinelands Commission, local municipalities or the public to stop this pipeline.

The following excerpt from the Los Angeles Times (brought to our attention by Germaine Scarborough) gives hope for a win.

EPA says Pesticide is threat to bees

An insecticide widely used on grains, vegetables, fruit and other crops nationwide threatens honeybees, federal environmental regulators said in a decision that could lend impetus to efforts to ban the chemical.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said Wednesday that imidacloprid, a nicotine-imitating chemical found in at least 188 farm and household products in California, "potentially poses risk to hives when the pesticide comes in contact with certain crops that attract pollinators."

The EPA's decision was prompted by increasing concern that the chemicals might be contributing to the sudden collapse of commercial honey bee colonies over the last decade.

Those bees pollinate crucial food crops and contribute about \$14 billion in value to the agricultural economy nationwide. This is the first of four risk assessments conducted by the EPA on the class of pesticides known as neonicotinoids. The rest are slated for completion by the end of the year, after which the agency could tighten controls over the insecticides. Last year, the agency halted approval of any new outdoor uses of neonicotinoid pesticides until it completes a full risk assessment. It also has proposed banning use of any pesticide found to be toxic to bees while crops are in bloom and commercial colonies are present.

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THOSE WERE THE DAYS

by Gil Vatter

1. October 2, 1967 - A closing was held for the new church building property on Middletown Road and Crawford's Corner Road in Holmdel
2. January 1972 - Because of increased congregational support, Good Shepherd will no longer require program aid and will become a self supporting congregation.
3. 1977 - Tenth anniversary year - In May Synod President The Rev. Dr. Edwin L. Ehlers spoke at a congregational dinner and a special gift was presented to the Lutheran Church in America's "Strength for Mission Appeal".
4. May 1, 1980 - The congregation issued "Congregational Bonds" in order to totally finance a new education wing.
5. April 28, 1996 - Rev Michael C. Gebhart was called to serve as Pastor of Good Shepherd Church He comes from Faith Lutheran Church in New Providence, where he served for seven years as Associate Pastor.

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A FEW NOTES FROM THE CHOIR

by Gil Vatter

I will sing and make music to the Lord (Psalm 27)

Choir Anthems

- February 7 - "In the Beauty of Your Presence" - David Lance
 - February 14 - "Create in Me A Clean Heart" - Benjamin Harlan
 - February 21 - "Open Our Eyes, O Lord We Pray" - Paul Tate
 - February 28 - "Beneath the Shadow" - Tom Fettke
- Cello - David Kim

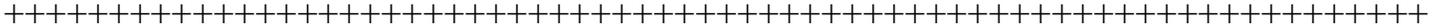
Organ Postludes

- February 7 - "Voluntary" - John Alcock
 - February 14 - "Postlude" - D. Zipoli
 - February 21 - "Fantasia" - George Telemann
 - February 28 - "Cross Medley" - D. Clydesdale
- Cello - David Kim

- The choir thanks former member *Andy Lichter* for singing with us on Sunday February 21.

- The choir thanks David Kim for his cello music and choir accompaniment on Sunday February 28.

- The choir invites everyone to Miae Park's annual spring concert on Sunday May 15 for the benefit of the Foodbank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties.



March 2016

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