

The Voice of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

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

June 2017

Message from the Pastor

On Friday, May 12th, Church Council President, Andy Mathisen and I went to the annual NJ Synod Assembly at the Westin Hotel in Princeton.

This is a gathering of the 167 ELCA Lutheran churches within the state with both clergy and representative lay persons from each congregation attending. We had a very full day that began with an inspiring worship service and a message from the ELCA representative who came to be with us from the ELCA church-wide Chicago headquarters.

We heard reports from the various ministries that the NJ Synod sponsors along with financial reports about how the contributions that the Synod receives are allocated. You may be surprised to know that 51% of our benevolence to the Synod goes to further churchwide ministries throughout the country and the world.

We also were able to reconnect with some church people from around the state that we don't get to normally see very often

Workshops were offered in the afternoon; one on Martin Luther and the Reformation (which is being recognized this year as the 500th anniversary of that event which propelled Protestant churches to be formed) and another on a critical look at smaller congregations within the synod. This second workshop reflected on the changing nature of Lutheran churches in our state and throughout the country. Attendance in many churches is down as are offerings to churches as well as benevolence to the Synod. Data was provided that showed how our older, World War II generation folks, attend and contribute far more than what younger generations (Millennial, Generation X and even Baby Boomers) do.

Many churches have had to make adjustments to how they operate and what ministries they are able to engage in and even the Bishop's office plans to be cutting back and eliminating staff positions. And yet, the point was stressed that, even with less resources, smaller churches with smaller budgets can still be vibrant and active and involved in ministries that further God's work in the world. One example of how to do that was for churches to cooperatively share ministries and programs and to even share pastors.

At the end of the day, a video presentation was given that noted the churches celebrating milestones this year. One church was 150 years old! Several, including Good Shepherd, were highlighted for their 50 years of existence and reps from those churches were asked to stand up for recognition, which Andy and I proudly did!

And so, we left there realizing once again that we are part of a much larger body of Christ that exists beyond our local, state or even national borders. We left there reminded of the grand history we hold here at Good Shepherd. We left there reminded also that while there is sometimes strength in numbers, there can also be strength with less that is accompanied with faith, determination and a cooperative spirit. And we left there feeling that smaller churches, like our own, still have a lot going on, still do a lot and have a lot to give, and still have a long way to go!

So we were enlightened, honored and rewarded in a day that was topped off by a marvelous meal in which Andy and I both had seconds,....even of dessert!

Blessings to you all. Pastor

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MINUTES for Council Meeting, Monday May 8, 2017 - 6:30PM

ATTENDEES: Andy Mathisen (Pres) John Crump (Treas), Steve Miller (Sec), Stephanie Dall (Vice Pres), John Dall, Clem Hergenhan, Pastor Pete. Congregation Members are invited to participate, or simply observe.

Andy Mathisen opened

Devotions - Pastor Pete

Approved this agenda

Approved April 3 Minutes (Steve)

Approved May 8, 2017 Treasurer's Report (Stephanie Dall)

Pastor's report - Attendance at Maundy Thursday was small and half of attendees were choir people there for practice. Good Friday, however, was rather good. He will keep holding both days although he realizes it's hard for people to be expected to come to two services that week. We'll keep doing both services next year. Sent thank-yous to 50th Anniversary speakers, and Gary Westerweller. Visited sick. Joan did a fantastic job with programs, banner, and door decal

Creation Care (Steve Miller /Nancy Fitch) :

During the 4/30/2017 Holmdel Earth Day at Bayonet Farms park, Good Shepherd exhibited Creation Care's electrical selection poster and handout (authored by Steve Miller).

On May 7, after service, held the 3rd (& last) session of viewing/discussion of "Food, Inc"

Pat and Steve Miller have given a number of climate change talks and asked participants to take next steps to influence local communities: One presentation was April 18 - to the Monmouth Community Climate Coalition, meeting at Good Shepherd. (MCCC is composed of representatives from many area churches, and representatives from all regional environmental organizations). Special presentations have been given to Middletown Green Team, and Middletown officials. The goal is a significant reduction in Middletown's greenhouse gas emissions, in line with the Paris agreement..

Outreach reports

- Evangelism -cards to prayer list. Sue Alberti works with Pastor to keep prayer list updated, and mails monthly greetings (Easter Greetings was the most recently mailed card).

Social Ministry

- COG Nancy (Steve) Good Shepherd has a June commitment to collect and donate 24 bags of household items. This is announced in each Sunday Voice. Numerous items are still needed. John Dall volunteered to deliver the bags to COG on June 15. Rikki Garcia agreed to replace Nancy as Good Shepherd's COG representative, beginning Sept, 2017.
- BLP and Mae's benefit concert Gil Vatter reported, as of May, 10 sponsors have donated a total \$1000 to the Bayshore Lunch Program. Also, through April, 850 cans (valued at about \$700) have been donated to the BLP

Property - in a few days, John Dall will have a roofer evaluate all church roofs. A ceiling fixture above choir leaked during recent heavy rain. Clem cleaned clogged roof gutters. The ladies room, near Narthex and old Kitchen, needs attention as it smells moldy.

Christian Education - Andy Mathisen reported that the last Sunday school day will likely be June 4 (last day for the choir). Pastor reported receiving a VBS announcement by Red Bank Trinity church..

Finance & Stewardship – John Crump, Stephanie Dall No Report

Worship and Music – Andy Mathisen reported no problems.

OLD BUSINESS

- 50th anniversary, April 30: (Andy Mathisen/Pastor & team) The Council says Thank You! for your work in making the 50th anniversary a success!
- John Dall reported the Pink House demolition is near final. The filled area must be leveled, raked and seeded. Later, after ground settles, need to landscape.
- Landscape improvements: John Dall reported this is mostly completed. The Oaks tree in the old memorial garden needs special equipment to finish trimming. Molzons returned a refund for being unable to complete the task. Property may ask landscaper to apply a second coat on the upright risers of the front entrance steps.

- "Voice" will continue to include more photos/media of church events (Steve added photos to April & May Voice issues). Steve and Clem are working to resolve an issue with emails "bouncing" because of excessive file size. Steve will consider emailing a special photo collection in mid-month.
- On May 21, Miae Park will present an annual Benefit Concert This will benefit Columbian flood victims. Checks can be payable to Good Shepherd. Cash can be in an envelope marked outside with member number.
- Steve subsequent reminded Gil Vatter to announce donation options.

NEW BUSINESS

- Pastor requested we assemble an archives of all our old material from the last 50 years. While we have much of it still in narthex, and fresh in our minds, we can put together the best items and maybe even display permanently.
- Steve uploaded ~2000 (12GB)- of his church photos (some video) onto google drive. The photos are indexed by year, and also by event. Other council members are asked to eyeball the photos: what should be preserved/printed, or featured on the church web site, or featured within some new on-line photo folder. Joan Doyle subsequently suggested Google Photos for free storage: **Google Photos/23snaps/Facebook/Photoshop.**
- Insurance (Clem) arranged to have Church Mutual agent visit Good Shepherd - esp regarding our housing Little Chief and German School. Also, John Crump to check status with our current insurance companies. Pastor Pete will determine insurance arrangements among other churches
- John Dall set Sat., June 10 to be the next Property Work Day. John is having a roofer examine all roofs. Steve subsequently emailed John a listing of all roof ages.
- John Dall is eager to pave the parking lot. This summer, he will get quotes, and then seek congregational approval in a special after-service meeting.
- German School party is now May 18, which is a Thursday Choir night. They will use the Sanctuary but will be out by 6:30, then they'll move into Frank Hall for rest of their event.. Council discussed kids roaming w/o supervision, and "crumbs" left in sanctuary. There is also concern about moving/spilling the oil-filled candles. Pastor will contact German School reps (Steve subsequently emailed contact info for Dorothea Drew, Principal, and Michaela Greco, Principal of German School.)

NEXT MEETING will be 1st Mon, June 5, 6:30pm

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED (with Lord's Prayer)

Respectfully Submitted, Steve Miller, Secretary

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AROUND THE PARISH

by Gil Vatter

GOOD SHEPHERD - THE FRIENDLY CHURCH

1. *Amy Knudsen* and daughter *Aubrey* worshiped with us on Sunday May 7.
2. *Bennett Marley*, infant son of *Lindsey and Michael Marley* was welcomed into the church through the rite of baptism on Sunday May 7.

Some things are better left unsaid,
which I generally realize right after I've said them.

3. Captain *Mike Fink* graduated from the U. S. Army Captain's School on May 18. Mike now heads for Cyber School in Augusta. Georgia..

4. *Summer Howard* did her usual good job as communion assistant on Sunday May 7.

Ole - "You won't believe it but last night I dreamed of a horse and number five.
So, I went to the track and put \$500 on the fifth horse in the fifth race."
Sven - "did he win?"
Ole - "Nah! He came in fifth." (Bob Stetz)

5. I ran into *Karen and Dave Rajala* at the ophthalmologist's office on Friday May 5. Turns out that Karen and I had cataract surgery on the same day from the same doctor. Small world.

6. You have brought 915 cans of food and other kinds of food, worth about \$750, to church for the **Bayshore Lunch Program** in Keyport. At the same time, the BLP Sponsors have sent cash gifts of more than \$1,000 to the food kitchen.

Ole thinks that Lena is a great cook.
Every time he thinks of her biscuits, he gets a lump in his throat.

7. Happy birthday to *Diane Mathisen and Rachel (Mathisen) Fink, Maggie Harris (Debbie and John Blackburn's granddaughter) and Shirley Jackson.*

8. Speaking of birthdays.....in May, Leila, (Maureen Bartlett's granddaughter) was one year old.....and my old pal Walter Keyl was 94.

Ole - "Lena, you must stop living in the past."
Lena - "But Ole, the music was so much better then."

9. *Janice and Paul Kraus* returned in May from their annual stay in Florida.

10. *Bill Wehrli* got himself a brand new walker.....and it has a tricycle landing gear.

Ole comes from such a small town in Wisconsin , they have only one yellow page.

11. *Pastor Pete* led devotions at the "Willows" on Sunday May 14.

12. And, by the way, Pastor Pete also began his sermon on Sunday May 14 by singing (and asking us to also sing...) "There's A Place For Us" from "West Side Story". Didn't sound bad.

I may wake up early and go running.
I, also, may wake up and win the lottery.
The chances are about the same.

13. Former Church Secretary *Pat Dunn* underwent heart surgery on Wednesday May 24, She had two valves replaced and is recovering at home. She reports that she feels "pretty good".

14, *Maureen Bartlett*, as you may have guessed, spent Mothers Day in San Francisco with daughter Becky and granddaughter Leila.

Sven, an 85 year old man, went to his doctor for a physical exam.
A few days later, the doctor saw Sven walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.
The doctor phoned and asked him,"You're doing OK?"
Sven replied, "Just doing what you told me 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful' ".
The doctor said, "No, Sven. I said, You've got a heart murmur, be careful." (Bill Wehrli)

15. The congregation welcomed *Pastor Edward Kroppe* as guest preacher on Sunday May 21. His topic was, "How Does it Translate?"

16. *Karen and Dave Rajala* will fly to California at the end of May to be with daughter Anne as she gives birth to their first grandchild.

Do you know that awesome feeling when you get into bed,
fall right asleep, stay asleep all night and wake up
feeling refreshed and ready to take on the day?
Yeah, me neither. (Bill Wehrli)

17. Thanks and a tip of the Good Shepherd beret to *Miae Park, Jonathan Hong, Joyce Lee, David Kim and Kaylee Wang* who presented a wonderful afternoon of music on Sunday May 21 to benefit the victims of the Colombia floods. The concert provided \$1,463, sent to Colombia through Lutheran Disaster Response.

18, *Herb Kuhl* fell at home and injured his back. He is in Bayshore Hospital for observation and treatment. Remember him in your prayers.

Judge - "Ole, You've been brought here for drinking."

Ole - OK, judge, let's get started."

19. The congregation has again received an invitation from our neighboring mosque to attend the second annual "Taste of Islam", a Ramadan celebration. There will be a question and answer session, a tour of the mosque and a taste of dishes from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. The open house will take place on Sunday June 11 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Those who attended last year had a very nice time.

SEE YOU IN CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY



MIAE PARK OFFERS EIGHTH ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT
by Gil Vatter

We have come to expect an entertaining afternoon of music when Miae Park produces her annual spring concert and the 2017 edition, presented on Sunday May 21, was not a disappointment. The level of musical talent was up to the usual standards in every way. The four teenagers in this year's concert included, Jonathan Hong, piano (15); David Kim, cello (14); Joyce Lee, violin (13) and Kaylee Wang, flute (17). All are local residents and all attend local schools. The music ran the gamut from the contemporary to the classical.

All of Ms Park's concerts have been provided as fund raisers for far reaching causes, such as the victims of the Japanese tsunami, to dig wells in Africa, the Food Bank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, the Bayshore Lunch Program, etc. The recipient of the eighth concert was the victims of the April 1 flood and mud slides in Mocoa, Colombia, a small town in the south west corner of the South American country, in which 314 people lost their lives, more than 400 were injured and 106 were missing. The third deadliest weather-related disaster in Colombia's history.

The music began with three of the four musicians, Joyce Lee, Jonathan Hong and David Kim, playing a pleasant tune by a young South Korean composer, Yong-Jin Noh (b. 1969), "His Love All Over the World". The pretty, melodious tune featured all three musicians and was a perfect way to evoke the feeling of a spring afternoon. Joyce Lee, violin, accompanied by Miae Park, changed the mood of the first piece with a more solemn "Nocturne" by Frederic Chopin (1810 - 1849) (transcribed by Nathan Milstein the Russian born, American violinist - 1904 - 1992) The Eastern European tang of the challenging music was adroitly handled by Miss Lee and brought through the Chopin/Milstein flavor. Her second number was the "Czardas" one of the better known works of Vittorio Monti (1868 - 1922), the Italian violinist. The Czardas was a contrast with the Chopin but, again, was well interpreted by Miss Lee.

The first half of the concert ended with the wonderful and well known "Academic Festival Overture", by the prolific German composer, Johannes Brahms (1833 - 1897), one of my own personal favorites. The work was presented by both Jonathan Hong and Miae Park. Mr Hong playing the higher score and Ms Park the bass score. The climax into the "Gaudiamus Igitur" melody was very happily received by the audience, which expressed their appreciation with loud applause.

After a short intermission, the music continued with the "Adagio/Allegro" from "Cello Sonata No. 2 in G Minor" by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 - 1827), presented by David Kim, cello and accompanied by Miae Park. This Sonata is as beautiful as only Beethoven can be and cries out the sadness of the work with both the high and low strings of the instrument, which David Kim plays so well. The exciting but difficult "Allegro molto" from the "Cello Concerto No1 in C Major by Joseph Haydn (1732 - 1809) was a contrast to the minor key of the Beethoven but illustrated Mr. Kim's command of his instrument as he tackled the allegro with workmanlike precision for which he received a rousing ovation.

In contrast to the previous string/piano music, Kylee Wang, flute, accompanied by Miae Park, played a lovely "Allegro/Andante" from Concerto No.2 in D Major" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 - 1791). Thank heaven for Herr Mozart. His beautiful writing provided Miss Wang with a perfect vehicle to amaze us with her musicianship, which shows signs of maturity and, of course, her training at the Julliard Pre-Collage program. The afternoon of music ended with a trio performance by Miss Lee. Mr. Hong and Mr. Kim, playing the "Lento maestoso" from the "Piano Trio No.4" by Antonin Dvorak (1841 - 1904). The cello introduced the slow, sad melody, was joined by the violin and led us into the Slavic eloquence we receive from Dvorak. A very nice way to end the concert.

The audience showed their appreciation for the music and the fine performances of the musicians with a standing ovation, during which flowers were presented to the four participants as well as Ms Park. A reception followed in the narthex with refreshments served by friends of Ms Park. We thank Miae Park for again gifting us with a wonderful afternoon of music and for the method to give hope through another charity.



A FEW NOTES FROM THE CHOIR

by Gil Vatter

Choir Anthems

- Sunday May 7 - "Sheep May Safely Graze" - J. S. Bach
- Sunday May 14 - "Peace Be With You" - Mary McDonald
- Sunday May 21 - "If Ye Love Me" - Thomas Teller
- Sunday May 28 - "We Are One Lord" - Stan Pethel
- Sunday June 4 - "Many Gifts, One Spirit" - M. L. Lightfoot

Organ Postludes

- Sunday May 7 - "Rejoice, Be Glad" - T. Kendall
- Sunday May 14 - "Concertina" - Gordon Young
- Sunday May 21 - "A Joyous Alleluia" - T. Birchwood
- Sunday May 28 - "Postludium" - G. Young

- Congratulations to Minister of Music Miae Park who presented Jonathan Hong, piano; Joyce Lee, violin; David Kim, cello and Laylee Wang, flute in her Eighth Annual Spring Benefit Concert on Sunday May 21 in the sanctuary of the church. A total of \$1, 463 was received at the concert to aid the victims of the recent flood and mud slide in Colombia.

- The choir thanks Miae Park for hosting the choir on Thursday May 18 at the annual indoor choir picnic at her home.

- The 2016 - 2017 choir season ended on Sunday June 4. During the season the choir offered forty one anthems to enhance the worship services at Good Shepherd. Choir rehearsal will begin again in September at the start of the 2017 - 2018 season. The choir thanks Miae Park for her musical leadership during the past year.



PROPERTY WORK DAY Saturday, June 10. If you can spare a little time we have a number of different projects that need doing. We'll be there from 9 til 2:30 or so.

June 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				7:30 - Choir Practice		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10 - Service & Sunday School 11:15 Creation Care Movie	6:30 Council Mtg					9:30 - 2:30 Property Work Day
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10 - Service						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10 - Service		7:30- Compassionate Friends				
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
10 - Service						