

# The Staff

*The newsletter of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd*

May 2007

**Our Mission: To equip God's people for ministry with a vision to share God's Word**



## “Let’s Not Be Waterbed Christians”

the impression.

Have you ever noticed the difference between a water-bed and a bed with a mattress? On the water-bed, no matter how much it’s slept on, no impression is left. On the bed with the mattress, the more it’s slept on, the greater

the impression. People’s lives are like that. Some lives are lived and leave no impression; like a finger pulled from a glass of water; the water closes behind it and no one could ever know that a finger had ever been there.

Then there are those lives that are lived out with faith and determination, love and commitment to Christ. Those lives impact the lives of those around them in profound ways. Certainly this month we remember our Christian mothers in this way.

Then there are those whose positive impressions last for decades. And when you stop and think about it, there are only a relative few whose impressions (for good or evil) are never erased from this world (Socrates, Michelangelo, Hitler, Edison, Luther, to name a few.)

Only one man has left an eternal impression: our Lord Jesus Christ. When all is over and done, only one name will be above all names – the name of Jesus Christ.

This same Jesus Christ lives inside of you and me. Together we are called to make an impression on

our world, starting with our own families, co-workers, and friends. Jesus tells us that those who follow him and do his will are “salt,” “light,” and “leaven,” in the world. That is to say – they leave an impression.

How thankful I am as your pastor to have so many faithful people from our family of faith who have made powerful impressions on me. That was never more profoundly felt than during the time when my mother became ill and then was called by her Savior to her heavenly home. Your cards, your emails, the gifts of food for meals, and certainly your thoughts and prayers impacted my family and me in a personal and powerful way. And to all of you, we thank you and give thanks to God for your genuine expressions of sympathy and hope!

Faith is always meant to be lived out and shared in personal and intimate ways. With the power of the Holy Spirit at work in and through our lives, other lives are changed and impressed with the very presence of the resurrected Christ himself.

We don’t want to be water-bed Christians! We gather around God’s Word and Sacrament to let his grace, his wisdom, and his strength make a powerful impression on us so that we too then can go out into our worlds in word and deed to have an impact on the lives of others.

May God continue to work in and through us so that we might continue to make an impression on the world with the outstanding, everlasting love of Christ!

# Letter from the Chairperson



As I flipped my calendar to its new page this morning, I read the following verse from Matthew 28: “On the first day, Mary

Magdalene and another woman named Mary went to the tomb.” Since it’s a Max Lucado calendar, the page also contained the following comment from Max, “It isn’t hope that leads (the women) to the tomb. It is naked devotion. They expect nothing in return. This is the call of discipleship.” What a powerful statement that was for me.

As I read the commentary, I knew I had the theme for my last Staff article as Chairperson. It is with mixed emotions that I step down as Chairperson of the Administrative Board. It has definitely been a long 6 years. Much has happened during that time. We created the Admin. Board, we opened the Education Wing, Pastor Johnson retired, Sue Chan retired as Director and Georgeann Johnson as Administrative Assistant of the Child Care Center, we walked through the Call process together, God brought Pastor Qualman and his family into our midst, and Don Cousens retired as Director of Lay Ministry...and those are just the highlights. Therefore, you can all understand why I need a break from the administration aspect of the church.

But you must also understand that I step down from this position with a heavy heart. It has never been in me to take a backseat when it came to the Church and my ministry. I have heard and responded to the calling of a disciple. I have been called to minister to others, as we all have been called. My ministry has most recently included the Admin Board, Confirmation, TRIM, Altar Guild, the Board of Lay Ministry, and Reconciler for LCMS. I thank God every day for these opportunities to serve in His Name. I seek His guidance, strength and support. I know for a fact that He has held me up when down, that He has given me the strength and energy to accomplish many tasks, and that He has provided me with the many gifts to succeed.

Now I look forward to the next stage of my ministry. Whatever that will look like is up to God. I continue to seek direction and guidance from Him. What will come from the TRIM process and how that will involve me is in God’s hands. Can I now become more involved with our Woman’s Ministry? Will there be other ministries that God plans for my future? I don’t yet know His continued plan for me, but I am excited to see where it leads.

I would be out of line if I thought I had accomplished so much without help. There have been so many people who have supported me, the Church, and our ministry together. I thank God and these people that they have been part of this journey. I thank my family for their support, energy and encouragement. They have spent countless hours assisting me in various events, re-arranging family events due to conflicts, and supporting me. I thank the other members of the Admin Board for their countless hours of work and dedication. I thank our committee chair-people and their respective committees for all of their hard work and ministry. I thank our office staff over the past six years. Though the faces may have changed, the support and assistance each of them provided me was amazing. Of course, it goes without saying just how much the Board of Lay Ministry did during the vacancy. Their flexibility in worship services, the visiting of the sick and shut-ins and their willingness to jump right in whenever we needed spiritual support was amazing. I could probably go on with this for pages, but I won’t.

It was amazing recently how everyone on a Sunday morning stood at one point or another to demonstrate the work and ministry for which they have played a role in the last two years. It is quite evident that so many have heard and responded to the Call of Discipleship. And again I say “Thanks be to God” for all the blessings He has bestowed upon me, Good Shepherd and the ministry we have together. I so look forward to what lies ahead for all of us. So, as I transition off of the Board and onto other things, I am excited and filled with wonder for the new journey God has in store for me.

**Beth Meyer**



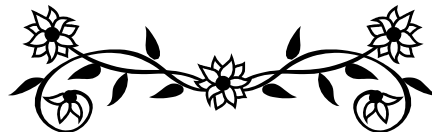
# FROM THE ALLEYS

Submitted by Laurie Burke

You could wait for the June Staff to find out or come visit us on Monday nights at 9 PM at Strathmore Lanes, Route 34, Aberdeen /Matawan.

See you at the alleys.

The 2006/07 Good Shepherd bowling champs will be determined in a few short weeks. You know the players - who will be in first place? Who will have the high games? The high series? The high averages?



Do you:

- Want to help others learn about God?
- Want to know more about the stories in the Bible?
- Want to get a good feeling working with others?

Think about helping out and joining the Sunday School Staff! We love sharing the experiences we have on Sunday mornings. If interested in learning more please contact Lorraine Morrison (732-525-8757) or Laurie Burke (732-613-4929.)



By Amber Brown, Coordinator of Christian Education

## Running the Race

*“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.” 1 Cor 9:24*

*“...if only I may finish the race and complete the task...” Acts 20:24*

*“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous Judge will award to me...” 2 Timothy 4:7-8*

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him, endured the cross...” Hebrews 12:1-2*

What is the one common word in these four verses? RACE! Don't you feel like you are always running in a race? Whether we are training for an actual marathon, or running the marathon of life, we feel like we are always running. Running to appointments and meetings, racing to make deadlines, scurrying to the kids' events, darting to the grocery store, sprinting to the bank/post office/office/church/charities and then dashing off to bed so we can hurry up and do it all over the next day, and the next, and the next...WHEW!

I often marvel that even as recently as 50 years ago life was not so chaotic...I dare say that my grandparents never darted or dashed at so great a

speed as to make their heads spin. And what about those long lost days on the prairie when Ma and Pa Ingalls only had to milk the cows, bake bread and chop wood? (though I fear those days had enough hardships of their own and their truest treasure was their time...when they could sit around the fire, play the fiddle, read the Bible and tell tales of old...\*sigh\*.)

When did we begin to devalue that precious gift of time...and why? We stockpile our hours with such a flurry of activity that we flutter about in a daze in this “race marked out for us...” This race called life. Why do we want to race through life? Are we in a hurry to get it over with? Of course not! We relish in the gift of life, hard though it may be sometimes, because we know it is just that - a gift. We treasure the joys and the sorrows, the happiness and the pain. Yet we still find ourselves bolting here, there and everywhere. And while we are bustling through life, where do we meet the Lord? Is he at the starting line of your day? Do you meet with Him in prayer and devour His word as a runner would carbo-load before a race? Is He at the half-way mark of your day handing you a refreshing cup of Living Water just as a runner would receive a thirst-quenching drink in a marathon? Or do you see Him at the finish line, arms open wide and ready to embrace you just as a runner leaps across the finish line tape?

A great test lies in fitting in the Lord among all of our busyness. When we actually do catch a moment to rest, all we want to do is “veg-out” or close our eyes just for a moment to recoup. How often do we come before Him in prayer in the midst of our vegging? We need to remember to “run in such a way as to get the prize.” (1 Cor 9:24) Just as a runner focuses on the finish line, we need to “fix our eyes on Jesus” (Hebrews 12:2) who is the goal of our faith. We need to “throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles” (Hebrews 12:1) and we need to “forget what is behind and strain toward what is ahead and press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” (Phil 3:15)

**Continued on next page**

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Let us focus on the true purpose of our lives - to win others for Christ.

What things in your life get in the way of the Lord? What hinders your race? Like a sprained ankle to a runner, there are obstacles in our life that prevent us from finishing the race. There would be no life in us if it were not for the glorious sacrifice Jesus made for us. Do you want to share that with others? Do you want your life to reflect Jesus or the worldly successes you have achieved? Do you want to be remembered for living for the Righteous Judge in your race of life or for the number of plaques on your wall/promotions you received/cars you drove/houses you lived in/events you participated in...? What do you want to be said about you after you have run your race and have crossed the finish line?

I'd say Jesus was a pretty busy man. No, He didn't have to run to the bank, or the school play, or make office deadlines. But He had the ultimate deadline. He had to plant the seeds for the Gospel so that all

of mankind would know that "now there is in store... the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous Judge will award..." (2 Timothy 4:8) That's really intense. And then He endured the greatest burden of all by bearing the entire weight of the world on His shoulders-literally! The writer of Hebrews even says he did it all with JOY!

Yeah, it's hard to run our race with joy all the time, yet when we run with that joy, we can know, like Timothy, that "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." So, as we race, run, leap and scuttle about, let us remember that the joy in us is not only a great adrenaline booster to get us to the finish line, but it is also contagious. That joy we live will make that crown we receive at the finish line all the more radiant and others will want to wear one too! Remember this about J.O.Y.- **J**esus, **O**thers, **Y**ou! Now go run that race!



"I thought you invited me to be a Premises Keeper!"

# For Your Information



## Happy Birthday to...

Shaun Humiston	5/01	Terry Steenweg	5/13
Joey LoDrago	5/01	Paulette Wilmot	5/13
Alona Van Fossen	5/01	Brandon Griswold	5/13
Diane Andersen	5/02	Caleb Rutan	5/13
Joanne Jocus	5/02	Christian Campbell	5/15
Bethanne Meyer	5/02	Paige Weiss	5/15
Janet Schuster	5/02	Enrique Junco	5/16
Alyssa DeVito	5/02	Manny Beltran	5/16
Timothy Schuster	5/03	Amber Dlugosz	5/16
Michael Junco	5/03	Matthew DiMaggio	5/17
Sandy Wolven	5/04	Korie Osvald	5/17
Stephen Logan	5/04	Sarah Mallepalle	5/17
James vanRiemsdyk	5/04	Juan Nieves	5/17
Marion Morgans	5/04	Lois Raba	5/18
Matthew Hughes	5/04	Thomas Rutan	5/18
Jessica Verello	5/05	Andrew Reilly	5/19
Kristin Roynesdal	5/06	Timothy O'Connor	5/19
Alyssa Porbansky	5/06	Danielle Parisi	5/19
Barbara DiMaggio	5/07	Russell Steenweg	5/20
Paul Parisi	5/08	Jake Campbell	5/21
James Mingo	5/08	Christiana Jordan	5/21
Neshann Chan	5/09	Patricia Breitweiser	5/21
Alexandra Tucci	5/09	Kate Larkin	5/21
Alyssa Sardone	5/09	Judy Yohannan	5/22
Kathy Cole	5/09	Ashley Pfeifer	5/22
Evelyn Kotora	5/10	Margaret O'Connor	5/23
Jeffrey Shear	5/10	Barry Larkin	5/23
Mary Ann Turk	5/11	Kyle Pfeifer	5/23
Ricky Gergasko	5/12	Paul Jordan	5/24
Melissa Utyro	5/12	John McGrade	5/24
Arleen Holmes	5/12	Rebecca Rutan	5/24
		Stephanie McGrane	5/26
		Brian Totten	5/26
		Sarah D'Esposito	5/26
		Gerald Donaghue	5/27
		Michael Donaghue	5/27
		Caity Palomba	5/27
		Stephen Schuster	5/27
		Kristina Holmes	5/27
		Sarah Furlong	5/27
		Margaret Johnson	5/28
		Lauren Puricelli	5/30
		Joseph DeVito IV	5/30

The Staff is published monthly for members and friends of The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

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# Happy Anniversary to.....

Anthony & Maureen Puricelli	5/04
Rich & Kerrie Totten	5/06
Steven & Amber Brown	5/10
Robert & Nora Schmitz	5/16
Patti & Michael Karpf	5/16
Eugene & Katrina Clapsis	5/20
Joseph Guy, Jr & Patricia Kotora	5/24
Deborah & Eric Logan	5/28
Jamie & Richard Toth	5/29



## *Those Recovering*

**Gunhild Nelson** –mother of Carol Hahl  
**Rob Maggazu**

## *Those in Nursing Homes*

**Emmy Moore** –sister of Katrina Clapsis

## *Those who are Shut-in*

**Marion Morgan**  
**Joan Brenner**  
**Irene Inneo**  
**Josie Schubert** –mother of Mary Artache

## *Those with Other Needs*

**Jean Reynolds**  
**Evelyn Kotora**  
**Ruth Gunderson** –mother of Lynn Hughes  
**Ray Monel** –father of Barbara Di Maggio  
**Jake Johnson** –grandson of Pastor & Georgeann  
**Gregory Pryor** –brother of Patrick Pryor  
**Vincent Siclari, Jr.** –brother of Ed Siclari  
**Jan Burkett** –grandmother of Amber Brown and Dani Sloan  
**Terry Hayes** –mother of Laurie Burke  
**Eric Brown** –son of Amber and Steve  
**Dylan Brown** –grandson of Hatcliffes  
**Marilyn Evenga** –sister-in-law of Alexis Dill,

awaiting liver transplant

**Margaret Wrigley** –suffering with arthritis  
**Christine Olewine** –granddaughter of Lyman & Deloris Laub  
**Trudy Conway**

## *Those Struggling with Cancer*

**Alexander Toth** – father-in-law of Jamie Toth  
**Gary Kellogg** - father of Kyle Kellogg  
**Laurie Troutman** – daughter of Child Care Teacher  
**Marie Giacomini** – mother of Bill Burke  
**Peggy DeMarco** – friend of the Kotora Family  
**Joseph Spinelli** – friend of Toni & Pat Pryor  
**Debbie Pryor** – cousin to Toni & Pat Pryor  
**Ed Borkowski** – father of Wayne Borkowski  
**Kathy Hill** – friend of Pryors  
**Jimmy Walker** – friend of McGrades  
**Kathi Farrell**  
**Ruth Cousens** – mother of Don Cousens  
**Patrick (Patch) Rose** – brother-in-law of Marie & Dave Bergfeldt

## *Those in the Military*

**Chris O'Shea** –nephew of Addie & Les Ebersole  
**Chris Hill** –uncle of Stephanie Olson  
**Jeff Borkowski**  
**Brian Farrell**  
**Gordon Houston**  
**Rob Farrell**  
**Darrin Brown**  
**Jeff Kotora**  
**Guy Kotora**  
**John & Annette Kope** –brother and sister-in-law of Maryellen Boggia  
**Patrick Galvin** –son-in-law of Ouges  
**Joseph Puoplo** –nephew of Clines  
**Brian Borkowski** –nephew of the Borkowski's  
**Ashley Welsh** –niece of Mary White-Stevens  
**Drew Williams** –friend of Hogan's  
**Fabian Lopez** –friend of Russell Domis  
**Dustin Brown** –co-worker of Beth Meyer  
**Matthew Munoz** –friend of Siclari's  
**Jon Griswold** –brother-in-law of Heidi Griswold  
**Charlie Ratcliffe** –friend of Bill Burke  
**Marc Artache** –nephew of Julio & Mary Artache  
**Robert Bracero** –nephew of Julio & Mary Artache  
**James McCabe** –friend of White-Stevens'

## *And our Missionaries :*

**Rev. Chuck and Jeanette Groth in Cambodia**  
**LINC – NJ**



Here is the schedule for the next few months for Market Day. We usually take off for the summer months, and then reconvene in September.

Month	Pick up Date	Pick up Time	Paper Orders Due	Internet Orders Due
May	5/19/2007	8:30-9:30:00 AM	5/8/2007	5/12/2007
June	6/16/2007	8:30-9:30:00 AM	6/5/2007	6/9/2007



## SPECIAL DATES TO REMEMBER



Monthly  
Prayer  
Gathering

The next Prayer Meeting will be Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 7:15 PM.

This is a small group. We bring our cares and concerns, and then we pray for each other. Please join us for the next Prayer Meeting.

Confirmation Sunday  
June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
10:30 service



Confirmation

There will be a rehearsal on  
Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am.



Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007 from 9 - 1

Coffee and Donuts will be served.



## God's Abundant Blessings

Our God is a gracious God Who provides for all our needs regardless of whether we express our gratitude to Him or not. In fact, in Matthew 5:45 Jesus commanded us to love our enemies, reminding us that our Heavenly Father ". . . causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." We are indeed blessed people who are created in His image.

In addition, though, God promises even greater blessings to those who respond to His great providence by sharing with others what they've been given. In 2 Chronicles 31:10 we read about the donations God's people in Hezekiah's day were bringing to the temple. Azariah, the chief priest, said, "Since the people began to bring their contributions to the temple of the Lord, we have had enough to eat and plenty to spare, because the Lord has blessed His people, and this great amount is left over." A similar circumstance occurred when two fish and five loaves of bread were more than adequate to feed a crowd of five thousand men who were gathered to hear Jesus preach (Luke 9:10-17). God took what was offered and magnified and multiplied the gift.

In Proverbs 3:9-10 we find a command with a promise: "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine." The prophet Malachi quotes a similar promise: "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house.

Test Me in this,' says the Lord Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it' " (Malachi 3:10).

We have God's word that He will provide for all our needs. "Now He Who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God" (2 Corinthians 9:10-11).

How do we take that step of faith that asks us to give generously when we wonder how our paychecks will stretch till the end of the month? Perhaps the answer is to look to the Provider instead of to our own limited means. Jesus said, "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33). As our faith is nourished through Word and Sacrament, we will find it a joy to "test Him in this."

Pat Pryor  
Stewardship Committee

# ***Princess Retreat 2007***

*Written by Lisa Gergasko*

In early February a group of women loaded up our cars and drove up to North Jersey together. We spent two days singing God's praises, praying, sharing, crying, laughing, and yes, eating! I know for myself it was a much-needed get away from all that life has been throwing my way. It was an opportunity for me to reconnect myself with what should be at the center of my life always, my relationship with God. Throughout our time together Amber did an extraordinary job of leading us to understand the meaning of being a Princess of God. To close the retreat Amber spoke about leaving a legacy. She explained that this meant touching the life of someone else, whether it be a family member, friend, or a complete stranger. Since then I have thought about the legacy so many of the women of Good Shepherd have left on my life. And I wanted you all to know...

I came to Good Shepherd at the young age of five. It was here that I made my communion and confirmation. It was here that I first came to know the Lord. It wasn't too long after making my confirmation that I started to sleep in on Sunday morning more and more. But God had a plan for me. In high school I came to realize I wanted to become a teacher. I thought I would try to get some experience by helping out in the Sunday school. So I worked as an assistant with Jill O'Connor. Many Sundays I went straight home after Sunday school. There was always a paper to write, money to be made, or sleep to catch up on. But every Sunday I was there for Sunday school. And over time I started staying for service more and more. Like I said, God had a plan. Eventually

Jill and I moved up to the teen bible study. One morning she mentioned that she would be leading the Women's Bible Study Wednesday nights and invited me to come. I didn't really think it would be my thing but Jill had always been so good to me I thought "Why not?" So I went. It took some time for me to become comfortable. But slowly I started to get to know the women better and I even began calling Mrs. Hansen, Sonya and Mrs. Burke, Laurie.

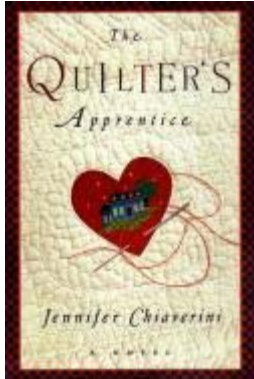
It has been almost two years now since I first started going to the Women's Bible Study. I could not imagine where my life would be without it. All of the women have left a legacy on my life. They have inspired me to be a better daughter, sister, and friend. They have shown me how to one day be a good wife and mother. But most of all they have each helped me to become a stronger Christian. It is almost surreal to know that people other than my own mother and boyfriend pray for my needs and wants. And watching our prayers be answered together, it's incredible. The friends and family that have been given good health, the financial burdens lifted, the people brought to Christ, and the blessings we all receive each and every day.

In a world where so many people have cold hearts and look right through you on a daily basis, it is a relief to walk into Good Shepherd and be surrounded by kind faces, embraced with hugs, and welcomed with kind, sincere words. The women of Good Shepherd have left an incredible legacy on my life. And because of them I have found the strength and the words to leave my legacy on the people in my life.

To the women of Good Shepherd, I am so thankful for each of you. No matter where life takes any of us you will always be my sisters and will have a piece of my heart. God Bless!



## BOOK CLUB AND DISCUSSION GROUP



We are meeting on Tuesday, May 8th @7:30pm, in the church library, to discuss:

*The Quilter's Apprentice*  
by Jennifer Chiaverini

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Junedh1@aol.com](mailto:Junedh1@aol.com) or call me at (732) 840-6894. Happy Reading !!

June Hullings



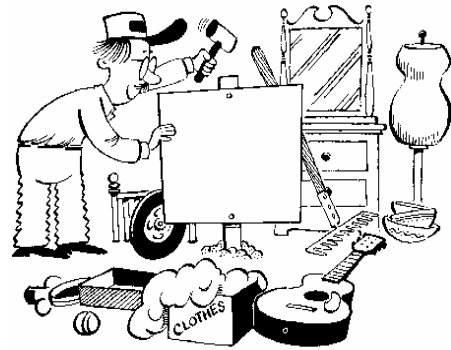
## SPRING CLEANING?

## DON'T THROW THAT OUT!!

We are pleased to announce the first annual Congregational Garage Sale to be held on Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm (rain or shine). We will have tables for you to sell your treasures, gently-used clothing and your crafts. Tables are \$10.00. A donation to the church from your day's proceeds would be appreciated. 15% or a free will offering.

Please tell your friends and neighbors about the sale. All are welcome to participate.

All proceeds from the sale will go toward the purchase of lighted church signs to replace the old signs on Route 9 and 516.



If you want us to sell your items for you, you must sort and price all items, and have them to the church on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> between 9 and 2.

We will also have a bake sale. There will be a sign-up sheet for your donations on the kitchen counter.

Please see Paulette Hacker if you have any questions.



**The Lutheran Church of the Good  
Shepherd**

[www.lc-goodshepherd.org](http://www.lc-goodshepherd.org)

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732-679-8883

The Rev. William A. Qualman, Pastor

**Worship Services**

Sunday Communion Services

8:00 and 10:30 AM

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Adult Bible Classes – 9:30 AM.

Youth Fellowship Meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 6:00 – 8:00 PM

**GS Children's Center**

732-679-8887

Mrs. Lorraine Campo, Director

[gsc@lc-goodshepherd.org](mailto:gsc@lc-goodshepherd.org)

***The Lutheran Church  
of the Good Shepherd***

3139 County Road 516

Old Bridge NJ 08857

**God's love at work here!**



## **Women's Ministry Schedule of Events**

**May 8: "Women's Book Club"** We are reading *The Quilter's Apprentice* by Jennifer Chiaverini. You are invited to join us for discussion and conversation on the book from 7:30-9:00. Please see June Hullings for more information.

**May 12: "Ladies Tea"** Join us for a lovely day to kick off the Spring. Please see Kathy Hogan for additional information and for ways you can serve.

**May 19: "Fit Him In"** Christian Aerobics class. We are a small, slightly uncoordinated, trying-to-get-into-shape group that is completely willing to humble themselves as they stumble about and learn "the moves" to the *First Place* DVD. The program is functional in that it offers low or high impact aerobic options to suite your fitness level. Join us after class for chit chat, health tips and a freshly squeezed health drink. See you at 9:15 AM! *(This class is scheduled right after Market Day pick up, so stick around and check it out!)*

**May 19: "In His Defense"** A self-defense course for women age 16 and up... whatever your skill level, physique or ability, this is a class you will not want to miss! Taught by a Christian Karate instructor, this class is essential in teaching you how to defend yourself. A perfect class if you travel alone, work alone, are heading off to college or just want to know what to do "if..." Class space is limited and there is a registration fee so please see Sonya Hansen or Amber Brown for more information or to sign up.

**May 25: "Crafters for Christ"** ...what projects do you want to do this month? Want to run a class? Also looking to start a scrapbooking club over the summer. Interested? See Amber Brown.

**JUNE: "Bridges Program" RESCHEDULED.** (Originally scheduled for April 25-27) The *Bridges Program* works in conjunction with Holmdel Community Church (HCC) to serve meals and bring clothing, bedding/blankets and toiletries to the homeless living in NYC. If you are interested in actually traveling to NYC on a food run, HCC requests that you participate in their Wednesday night program for several months. This program

will sort clothing and toiletries and stage materials for the trip to NYC. This gives the veteran program members at HCC an opportunity to know you a bit better and show you the ropes. We will be accepting clothing donations (mostly men's) and sample toiletries (like the little samples you get from a hotel) to take to HCC for this program.

We will also meet at Good Shepherd to make bagged meals for the Bridges program to be delivered for their run on June 1st. These meals should include a sandwich (PB&J travels best) as well as a piece of fruit, beverage, granola bar, etc. We also like to include a Bible verse or note in the bag...please see Amber for a sign up of items to bring and watch for details of dates and times. Additional information for the Bridges program can be found at [www.holmdelucc.org/mission.html](http://www.holmdelucc.org/mission.html)

**SEPTEMBER: "Women of Faith"** This is an annual excursion to a two-day, women-only event! What could be better than laughing, crying and eating chocolate with 16,000 of your closest friends? The conference is September 14 and 15 in Philadelphia. We are trying to get a group of 25 or more so that we can participate in the "Buy Now, Pay Later Program." However, time and tickets are running out so now is the time to sign up! If we wait any longer, we'll be sitting up in the heavenly realms at the arena! If we don't get a group of 25, payments will be due by **May 27**. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity. See Amber Brown for additional information or check out [www.womenoffaith.com](http://www.womenoffaith.com) for details and video clips.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** We are an active, warm, welcoming and diverse group of women that meet every Wednesday night for discussion, prayer, laughter, and tears. Join us at 8:00 PM in the Resource Room.

# Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Barbecue

**DATE: Saturday,  
June 16, 2006**



Sunday School Teachers, Youth Assistants and their significant others are cordially invited to a special barbecue at the Van Handel's home. Please **R.S.V.P.** to the Beth Van Handel at (732) 765-1697 or by email [bvhandel@optonline.net](mailto:bvhandel@optonline.net)

**June 10th** is the deadline to register to participate. The meat will be provided but please call or email Beth to sign up to bring an appetizer, salad or desert.

**Join your fellow Sunday School Teachers for  
Fellowship and Fun at 3:00 PM**

**Location: 3 Danbury Court  
Matawan, NJ  
Directions:**

From Good Shepherd make a *Right* onto **Route 516 East**  
2nd light *Right* onto **Morganville Road** (Smiley cleaners on corner)  
Go down decline, as you come up  
Make *Right* onto **Yardley Manor Drive**  
Make 2nd *Left* onto **Bedford Drive**  
Make 2nd *Right* onto **Danbury Court**

