

The Staff

The newsletter of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

November 2007

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



“TAKE A STEP UP FOR CHRIST! CAN I OR WILL I?”

The theme for our 2008 Stewardship program is “Take a Step Up for Christ.” We will encourage every family to prayerfully consider an increase in your support for the ministry we do together in the coming year. As our TRIM demographic study showed, our membership gives less than 2% of its family income to the work of the church. God's word encourages that all people give at least 10% to the Lord's work.

My simple request of each of you, who are reading this article, is to pray for God to guide you, and to ask for God's direction as you determine what you will do in your giving next year. As you do this, remember one of the fundamental and theological understandings of stewardship: we are not giving to the church. We are giving to God through the church!

I remember my third grade teacher, Mrs. Reynolds, who taught us the difference between the words “may” and “can”. She said when you use the word “may” you are asking permission. When you use the word “can” you are really meaning “I am able.” You don't ask the teacher, “Can I go the restroom?” In that question you are actually asking for permission so that the proper question would be, “May I go to the restroom?”

To make the stewardship connection, I know of very few people in our congregation who “can't”

grow in their giving in the sense that they are “not able” to grow! I'm not convinced that growing in giving is necessarily a “permission” issue at all.

Perhaps the only thing that is needed is your own permission. Are you willing to allow yourself to grow in your giving? I'm convinced that for most of us “Can I give more?” is not the issue. “Will I choose to give more?” is the real question.

Paul made this point absolutely clear in his letter to the church at Corinth where he talked about giving. He said, “For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has – not according to what one does not have.” In other words, the desire and willingness to give are the most important element when it comes to our giving. If the eagerness is there, God will provide a way for you to do what needs to be done!

The second point Paul makes is that our giving is not based on what we don't have. It's based on what we do have. Forget “If I were a millionaire...If I won the lottery...If I reaped a large inheritance.” God has already given you everything you have.

So let's not worry about “all those other people who aren't giving.” Let's concentrate on our own stewardship response. Let God speak to our hearts. Ask God to lead us in this crucial matter.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page – Take a Step

I don't expect us all to be able to reach the 10% level of giving next year but I do expect that each of us can take another step up toward that 10% goal next year. And I also expect and predict that God will bless those that do, even as he has promised.

Sunday, November 18th the voting member of this congregation will be asked to approve our 2008 budget for ministry. December 2nd we will celebrate Loyalty Sunday when we all submit our pledges at the Lord's altar for that coming year realizing that it is our members alone who underwrite

and fund our ministry. There is no outside support for the work we do. We alone determine the scope and the reach of our ministry for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So together, let's all "Take a Step Up for Christ!" and see what great and blessed things God has in store for us!

Pastor Bill Qualman



HUMBLE PIE, ANYONE?

by Amber Brown, Coordinator of Christian Education

Traditionally, around Thanksgiving, one may enjoy a wealth of tasty confections such as pumpkin pie, apple pie or pecan pie. But I have had my own dose of pie, and it was not so tasty. Humble pie, when offered, does not go down so smoothly, but when you eat it alone at your own pity party, it is so much harder to swallow. You see, I was throwing a party for myself when I realized that no one likes to go to a party alone, and let me tell you, this pity party for one was no fun!

I was in one of those bouts when nothing was 'going my way.' You know what I mean...if it could go wrong, it did! I had every blasted issue from financial struggles and strained relationships to my car radio busting in the middle of my favorite song and a zit on my nose! UGH! I mean, really...enough is enough! What I failed to realize at the time was that 'my way' is really HIS way and therefore 'His way' should have been 'my way' and there really should not have been a problem at all! Well, I did have a problem, and instead of griping about it to the Lord, I decided to take it out on my family.

I'm not sure why one feels so comfortable spouting inconsiderate, nonsensical, drib drab at the ones we love. Maybe we feel confident in knowing that no matter what we may say, spew or sputter, that the receiver will still love us. What is regrettable is that our loved ones get so hurt in the process. Or maybe

we *expect* our loved ones to put up with our bad attitude. We justify our verbal vomit by saying things like 'if I can't complain to them, who can I complain to?' Whatever our reasoning for this lousy language of love, it is just not acceptable! Of course, I see that now, but boy, did I have blinders on during my sour spree!

You might be surprised to know this about me, but at times, and rather unprovoked, I can become a tad grouchy. Shocked as you are, it is true. And ya know something else? I can even be snippy, short, impatient and mouthy! The smile on my face on Sunday mornings that so many of you have commented on is something I try to bring about as a way of life, but there was no smile, grin, smirk or even a pursed lip to be found on my face during this tantrum. Instead, those smiles were being drowned out by the rumped, furrowed brow and the deep creases that were becoming ditches around my down-turned mouth. The problem was that I was so consumed in my little selfish issues that I failed to see how yucky I was making everyone else feel. And not only was I making them feel yucky, but it was having a ripple effect and was being passed from person to person like the common cold. Well, I was determined not to make this any common tantrum, so on and on I went, snipping and snapping at every one that dared step in my way until a dear loved one so gently and generally stated:

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page – Humble Pie

“Enough is enough!” He continued to add, in not so many words, that of course I am entitled to my bad days, weeks or even months, but I was not permitted to drag everyone down with me, and would I please revise my mind-set?

Well, even though this humble pie was offered to me on a silver platter, I was not ready for a bite, morsel or crumb! Do as they might, my family tried to cheer me up, stand by me and do an overhaul on my outlook, but my feeling was, if I’m sinking like the Titanic, then everyone is coming down with me! Whew, is that a bad attitude or what! That’s when the Lord stepped in and walloped me on the head and I realized that I did not want to adopt this behavior and make it a way of life. I was sick of looking at that pouty puss in the mirror every morning so I gave myself a swift kick in the rump (it’s a good thing I’m still flexible) and told me, myself and I to snap out of it- this pity party was over!

Talk about a dramatic weight loss! My friends, if you are trying to lose some weight, consider a chunky wedge of humble pie! It’s all natural, fat free, calorie free, carb free and sodium free! It does, however, contain preservatives which will protect against degenerative diseases of the attitude and lead to an impressive change in your personal state- state of mind, that is. In fact, the F.D.A. (**F**ree, **D**elivered, **A**men!) states that it is part of a balanced, nutritious and healthy Christian life style! This brought to mind the plank-out-of-your-own-eye verse; you know the one I’m talking about, from the book of Matthew when Jesus gives

instruction about not judging others. He advises of the hypocrisy that awaits when you are more aware of the ‘speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye when all the time there is a plank in your own’ (Matthew 7:4) This is when I *really* got into trouble (as if my righteous rant had not caused enough trouble of its own). I started to justify my tirade by judging others and, in and around my selfishness, I started shoveling blame...’well if so-and-so hadn’t done this I wouldn’t be so grouchy’... and...’well it serves them right, let them get a taste of their own medicine’...All along I’m staring at the ‘speck’ in everyone else’s’ eye and I couldn’t even *feel* the giant Redwood protruding from my own! Oh praise the Lord for those ancient trees! No wonder I have so many neck problems...I’m trying to hold up a lumbering log with my eyelashes!

How could it possibly be someone else’s fault that I am grouchy, grumpy or grimacing? How is it someone else’s responsibility that I am ill-tempered, irritable, prickly and pouty? Don’t I speak of this often enough to realize that we make our own choices in how we live and witness? I take full responsibility for allowing this tantrum to over run my life. What a poor advertisement I had become for the love and patience of the Lord. This is not how I want to witness to my family. And so, with great effort, I valiantly defeated the beast within by soothing it with a yummy, wholesome, lip-smacking piece of humble pie. As any hungry beast that emerges, he is satisfied- for now, but I shall remember that in future events, I will keep a readily available stash of victuals on hand so I can tame him before another outburst occurs. How do you like your humble pie? A la mode? ☺

Fall Workday a Rousing Success

Thank you to everyone who helped at the fall workday. The people behind the work were: Janet Berhang, Sonya Hansen, Joe LeDrago Sr, Joe LeDrago Jr, Pat Pryor, Laura Pudwell, Maureen Puricelli, Randi Rutan, Bob Shipley, Sandy Shipley and Ed Siclari, for all of your help.



We accomplished several major projects and your help is much appreciated!!!!

Tony Hansen
Building and
Grounds Chair

Submitted by Lara Pudwell

Exciting things are afoot in the youth group this fall! Even if you missed the October meeting/ice cream social, it's not too late to join us. On November 11 at 6pm we will watch "Evan Almighty", which is sure to include lots of popcorn and lots of laughs!



We have plans in the works for many more exciting fellowship events (such as a lock in, a group trip to New York, and of course the NJ District Winter Youth Gathering), and for servant events (such as reading to kids in the hospital, helping at a local soup kitchen, and more).



Evan Almighty

BOOK CLUB AND DISCUSSION GROUP

We are meeting on Tuesday,



**November 13
@7:30pm, in
the church
library, to
discuss:**

Ever After by Karen Kingsbury

In *Ever After*, bestselling author Karen Kingsbury has created a moving sequel to *Even Now*. The book opens as Emily Anderson, now twenty years old, attends college on a soccer scholarship. Through an off-campus job at Fort Lewis, Emily meets a young Army reservist, Justin Baker. Their love—deep, emotional, and built on the foundation of a shared faith—blossoms into plans for marriage. Even Emily's parents, Lauren Gibbs and Shane Galanter, draw inspiration from this shining young relationship.

But Shane and Lauren are being tested as they themselves make wedding plans. Although Shane works as a Top Gun instructor, Lauren still strongly opposes the war in Iraq. As Lauren and Shane struggle to breach the gulf between them, Lauren decides that the task is impossible. She returns to her job as a war correspondent in Afghanistan.

Emily must say goodbye to Justin as he goes off to serve in Iraq. Then tragedy changes everything. Can Lauren and Shane do what they think is impossible—set aside their opposing views so that God's love can win no matter how great the odds?

If you have **any** questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at Junedh1@aol.com or call me at (732)840-6894.

Happy Reading!!

June Hullings



Showing Our Gratitude

God gives us His love, goodness, and mercy daily. He has given us victory over sin and death through His Son. Christ has given us the blessings of forgiveness, justification, a new life, and an eternal hope. Because of His bountiful blessings, we should be compelled to show our gratitude. Do we? Could we, at times, be taking all that we receive for granted?

If Christ were to come into our homes in physical form, certainly we would express our thanks in tangible ways. We would make Him comfortable, run errands for Him, offer our best food, and give Him our time and attention. However, we don't have that opportunity, so we show our gratitude in different ways.

One way that we express our gratitude is to give thanks throughout the day in our prayers and thoughts. When we see life and its blessings as gifts, we are prepared to offer our thanks. Our

thanksgiving is expressed when we use the faith God has given us to live in obedience to His Word. God hears and sees our gratitude through the lives we live. When we generously share our time and money with others in Christian love, we show our thanksgiving for our gifts. Our giving reflects Christ's love in us. We extend our thanks to our heavenly Father when we give Him praise and glory in weekly worship and privately throughout each day.

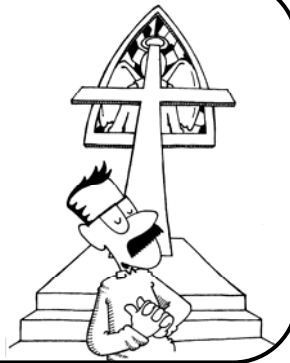
As stewards, we find that our gratitude to God opens our hearts to receive more of God's love which enables us to be more faithful with our time, talents, and treasures. In response to God's love and grace, we give ourselves and our resources. When we acknowledge God as the creator and owner of all, we will serve the Lord faithfully out of gratitude for all His gifts to us. Our gratefulness to God will enable us to give thanks even during bad times because God promises to comfort and sustain us in all things.

Blessings on your Thanksgiving season!

Pat Pryor
Stewardship Committee

**WHEN WE ACKNOWLEDGE GOD
AS OUR CREATOR AND REDEEMER,
WE WILL OBEY HIM IN LOVE.**

“Jesus replied, ‘If anyone loves Me, he will obey My teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him’ ” (John 14:23).





A Party in Heaven

by Amber Brown, Coordinator of Christian Education

We have all been touched in some way, by the dynamic and inspiring Bobby Pate. Whether you have known him for years or have just recently joined in the prayer journey for him in his illness, you have truly encountered strength, courage, faith, humor, wit, generosity, and a caring, loving spirit.

We are mourning Bobby's passing here on earth because it is such a loss and a vacancy in our homes, hearts and lives, but my dear friends, the truth is, there is a party in heaven for Bobby. And those of us, who really knew him, knew he could party! Just imagine, Jesus greeting Bobby at the gates of Heaven and Bobby giving Him a high five! Can you picture this dear friend of ours; the fuzzy-haired-tall-drink-of-water-with-the-great-big-smile, chumming around with Jesus as if they were the best of friends? The inspiring thing is, they *are* the best of friends! Bobby lived out his faith in strength and boldness and witnessed His love for Jesus even through the depths of his illness. This has been observed by his family, his friends, his church and the community in such great numbers! There has been great purpose in the life of Bobby and I know you feel the same way because you are shaking your head in agreement right now as you read this!

I was privileged to be a part of a very moving prayer vigil in Bobby's home last month and what really caught my heart was not only the family and friends that rallied and gathered around him, but more especially, how Bobby would grin and look every person in the eye, soaking in their presence as we laid hands on him, prayed for him and read from the Bible. Yet, through the tears of this night, as we knew we were losing our dear friend,

brother, son, father and husband, there was laughter! Even in his last days, Bobby would joke about how he was 'gonna dance!' What comfort that brought me, seeing that Bobby knew what he was going to be missing here on earth, but through his faith and his lightness of heart, knew that he would be meeting the Lord for a really big shindig. There was no RSVP for this party, only the Lord knew when he'd throw it, but it was coming and Bobby had his party shoes on and was getting ready to dance!

Those who battle cancer or life threatening illness are said to 'have lost the fight' when they pass away. But as Christians we know there is no losing the fight in death, because Jesus won that victory on the cross for us. Bobby may have waved his white flag in surrender to his illness, but he did not lose any fight, my friends. There is nothing but success and defeat over death because the eternal life that waits for us is the reason, cause and motivation for our faith. The Lord proclaims that He is the 'Way, the Truth, and the Life' and Bobby knew it, absorbed it, lived it and proclaimed it. He is dancing with the Lord now and what a party they are having! No more pain, no more disease, no more suffering- just a whole, happy man, doing a funky jig!

Even though I know all of this is true, I still cry, sob, wail and moan because I miss Bobby and I ache for Stephanie and the kids. My little guy, AJ, asked me why I was crying, so I told him 'that Mommie's friend passed away and that I'm just a little sad about it,' and AJ, with all the wisdom of his six years said, 'it's ok Mommy, 'cuz he's with Jesus!' And it *is* ok...AJ and I talked a little bit more about what we thought heaven was like and what we thought Bobby might be doing at that very moment. I shared with AJ that I thought there a great big party for him right now and his eyes lit up and he asked, 'is there any cake?' I giggled through my tears and nodded and said 'yes' because I can't imagine anything sweeter than 'angel food' cake in heaven with a chorus of heavenly hosts singing and welcoming Bobby into his new home. Enjoy the party Bobby, and we'll see you soon with our dancing shoes on!

November is a time for giving Thanks for all our blessings. I give thanks for all the wonderful volunteers I have teaching and helping with the Sunday School classes.



The Sunday School will have a "Thankful" tree, with leaves expressing what they are thankful for. We will also talk about blessings and thanks at our November 11th opening in Church at 9:15 am. November 11th is also the date for the 5th Grade Parent visitation.

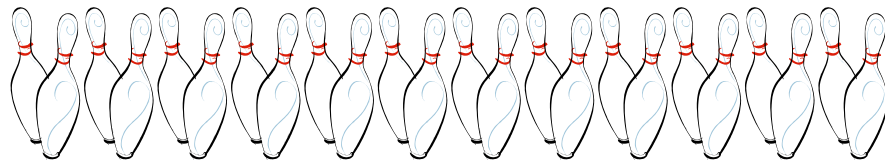
The Sunday School classes will be finding out about Moses, and how the Hebrews were thankful to God.

November 4 - Moses and the burning bush
November 11 - Moses and the plagues

November 11 – Family Sunday, OPENING IN CHURCH 5TH GRADE PARENT VISITATION DAY

November 18 - the Passover
November 25 - Crossing the Red Sea, God provides manna, water and quail

Submitted by Laurie Burke



FROM THE ALLEYS



Boy does time fly when you're having fun (or at least having good fellowship.) We just had our first

position night and in a moment I'll let you know the results. But first congratulations to Danny Onorato who bowled his first 200 game. And lets hear it for Ron Humiston who set the bar high with his high game of 277.

Now the standings: from 1st to 10th Place

- Pin Heads: Carol & Bob Hahl, Marie Bergfeldt
- Old Goats: Betty & Don Cousens, Paul Jordan
- Salty Crabs: Doreen & Ron Humiston, Beth Meyer
- Discreet Indians: Tara Lange, Tony Onorato, Jon Artache

Split Decision (who used to be UnStopaBowl):

Beth & Vin Stefanelli, Wayne Krawiec

The Outlaws: Mary & Julio Artache, Lionell Matthews

Beer Frame: Laurie & Bill Burke, Tom Rutan

Triple X: Sandy & Bob Shipley, Norm Sigmund

Holy Rollers: Dan & Steve Onorato, Steve Weiss

Lucky Strikes: Brigitte Meitzner, Jim Hatcliffe, Dean Olson

If you come to cheer us on, there has been a time change. We now start bowling at 8:30 pm. See you at the alleys!

Submitted by Laurie Burke

For Your Information



Happy Birthday to...

Connor Jordan	11/03
Jennifer Utyro	11/04
Riley Wolven	11/04
Sarah Gregoire	11/06
Cathy Jordan	11/06
Joe Dimaggio	11/06
Patricia Van Fossen	11/06
Matthew Ebersole	11/06
William Osvold	11/07
Stephanie Dlugosz	11/08
Ian Palmer	11/10
Neshiva Chan	11/12
Gregory O'Connor	11/12
Audrey Ford	11/12
Bryan Cline	11/13
Debra Onorato	11/13
Steve Weiss Jr.	11/13
Marlene Gryszka	11/13
Meg Palmer	11/14
Andrew Arzberger	11/14
Mardell Bonfiglio	11/15
Daniel Hullings	11/15
Kyle Eaton	11/15
Courtney Jo Grana	11/16
Alisa Guzman	11/16
Don Van Handel	11/17
Paul Oliva	11/17
Bernadette Margolis	11/17
Sophia Weiss	11/18
Beth Krawiec	11/19
Richard Toth	11/20

Anna Christ	11/21
Steven Sommer	11/21
Margaret George	11/22
William Qualman	11/22
Maureen Puricelli	11/23
Mary Artache	11/24
Debbie Meyer	11/24
Paul Parisi	11/24
Micah Margolis	11/24
Michele Casey	11/27
Linda Cinquegrana	11/28
Jill Furlong	11/29
Joseph Frank Massa	11/30
Nicole Drews	11/30

Happy Anniversary to.....

Laura & Alfred Grana	11/05
David & Marie Bergfeldt	11/06
Robert & Sandy Shipley	11/07
Cathy & Richard Hoehl	11/09
Melissa & Ramone Pineiro	11/11
Paul & Beth Oliva	11/14
Michael & Claire Johnson	11/17
Robert & Carol Hahl	11/21
Rudy & Karen Tucci	11/21
Eileen (Loughman) & Bill Sabino	11/27

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

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Frank Lylo

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Those Recovering

Rose Sydor
Rob Maggazu

Those in Nursing Homes

Emmy Moore –sister of Katrina Clapsis
Leela Mallepalle
Jean Reynolds

Those who are Shut-in

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

Those with Other Needs

Gunhild Nelson –mother of Carol Hahl
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

Mino DeMaglie – Brother-in-law of Laurie and Bill Burke
Jean Tjornhom -sister of Marie Bergfeldt
Laurie Burke
Kathy Hogan
Gary Kellogg - father of Kyle Kellogg
Laurie Troutman – daughter of Child Care Teacher
Marie Giacomini – mother of Bill Burke
Patch Rose – brother-in-law of Dave and Marie Bergfeldt
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
Ruth Cousens – mother of Don Cousens

Those in the Military

Chris O'Shea –nephew of Addie & Les Ebersole
Chris Hill –uncle of Stephanie Olson
Jeff Borkowski
Brian Farrell
Rob Farrell
Dustin 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
Darrin Brown –co-worker of Beth Meyer
Matthew Munoz –friend of Siclari's
Jon Griswold –brother-in-law of Heidi Griswold
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

The Groth Report

OCTOBER 2007

From the Word

Always let him lead you, and he will clear the road for you to follow. Proverbs 3:6 CEV

The roads in Cambodia are an interesting topic. We have a very good paved road from Phnom Penh to our new home in Sihanoukville. Some call it the “American Road” because we are told it was made through an American partnership. We have a moderately good road from Phnom Penh to Battambang where we work with the local Lutheran Church. We have a terrible, rutty road where bridges are often rained out and the need for repair is constant in the road from Battambang to Siem Reap. The reason this is the topic of this newsletter is that this month we have been constantly on the road. The road conditions are important to our travel plans. The road itself often needs clearing from goats, dogs, and people on motorcycles, tuktuks, overloaded lorries, bicycles, people on foot, and the general hubbub that is a part of traffic in a developing country.

What is the condition of your road? Really, I don’t want a report on the ruts in your neighborhood or the latest improvements on I-75. What I want to share with you is the condition of the path your life is taking. Proverbs clearly reminds us that if we allow our Savior to lead us he will clear the road for us!!! When we ask Him to guide us He will remove the obstacles and bumps that could lead us away from Him and from our path to heaven. Need directions??? Look at His Word!! Stuck in a rut??? Ask for His guidance. Jesus is the WAY and He will surely lead us to our heavenly home.

Current Events

In September I, Jeanette, spent several days in Bangkok. Our Asia Lutheran Education Team met there to formulate the best ways to coordinate our work in Asia. Our theme was the Body of Christ, and it was interesting to see as the meeting progressed that God had put together four leaders with different gifts and talents, and yet we shared the one goal of bring education, life, and salvation

to our part of the world. In Asia we hope to grow Christian leaders in every level of society to guide and lead many to saving faith in Jesus. We now have a better vision of where our God is leading us.

My next travel took me to Vietnam. Here we are doing education in Hanoi and Phu To. I was privileged to observe all the teachers there except one and saw a great level of preparation and dedication. On Sunday I got to be the Sunday School teacher for the international congregation and remembered how much fun it is to share God’s Word with “little people.” It was fun to get to know all the volunteers a bit better and to hear about where God is leading them. It was wonderful to spend some family time with Vicar and Aimee Cima and Celeste. God has surely led these people in His way.

Chuck and I have both been involved in orienting our new volunteers, Al and Eileen Turner. How wonderful that God has cleared the path to bring them here to ministry in Cambodia. Eileen will be working with our new Health Education program and Al will be working to clear the way for better agriculture here. Since they are veterans of God’s service in Africa they have wonderful experience to share with us here in another developing part of the world. We try to tell them daily that we are so glad that God has sent them here. It is great to have someone to share the way with - especially when the going gets tough.

We were happy to have Debbie Feenstra from the LCMS World Missions office in St. Louis spend time with us. Hopefully our travels together have given her an understanding of work and challenges in Cambodia. Surely this will enable her to share more about God’s mission here with potential donors.

Sometimes getting out of the way is important here in Cambodia. We were excited to get a new puppy two weeks ago. Our granddaughter Kahlan helped us by naming her Dora. While we were gone our groundskeeper heard a yelp. He ran and found that Dora had been bitten by a cobra and died immediately. We were told that there were two snakes in the shed. Some friends of ours brought a “snake charmer,” but no snakes were found.

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The groundskeeper said that the sour fruit he put out chased them away. Needless to say we walk around our yard a bit more carefully these days.

Somehow Chuck has seen his “way” to preaching almost every Sunday in some place. As his wife, I’m always glad when God has led him to share His Word with us. We who are feeding others here have definite needs to hear God’s Word in relevant ways ourselves.

Soon our travel will lead us to Kentucky, Illinois, and Indiana, and some intensive fund-raising for God’s Work here. We’ll post our schedule below and pray that God will lead you to meet us at one of these locations to hear a bit more about God’s Mission in Cambodia. Perhaps He will even help

clear the way so you can come as a volunteer missionary and be part of His work here!

Led by Him,

Chuck and Jeanette Groth

Thanks to God for Prayers Answered
Safe arrival of Al and Eileen Turner
Safe travels over many miles
Good training sessions
Good health

Continue to Pray for:
Safe travel stateside
Continued direction on our ministry here
Good time together with supporters and family
Continued good health

Women’s Ministry



Women’s Bible Study

The Women’s Bible Study would like to invite all women to join us in our Bible Study. We have a very diverse group who attend each week and they are a very lovely group to be around. Besides growing together in our faith walk, they have been a wonderful support to each other. If you are interested in attending the Bible Study or just want to ask questions, please feel free to contact me at (732) 547-7612. We meet on Monday evenings at 7:00 PM. Submitted by Jill O’Connor

The Women’s Bible Study would like to invite all women to join us in our Bible Study. We have a very diverse group who attend each

for the upcoming year. If you have any ideas, and would like to be involved, or help coordinate a project, let Amber know.



“Fit Him In” is the aerobics class that is the same Saturday as Market Day pick up. If you are interested in joining this group, we will start to meet again in January. This is a light aerobics class. We follow a DVD program which is very easy and fun to work out to.



“PRINCESS RETREAT” – For those of you who attended last year, you know what a great time we all had. Amber still has a few DVD’s, and mugs left over. If you ordered these items and did not receive them, please let Amber know. Date for the 2008 Princess Retreat will be released soon.



Crafters for Christ will meet the last Friday of each month. Amber is trying to get a Women’s Ministry team to come up with ideas of what to do

Good Shepherd Children's Center



WHAT'S NEW AT SCHOOL

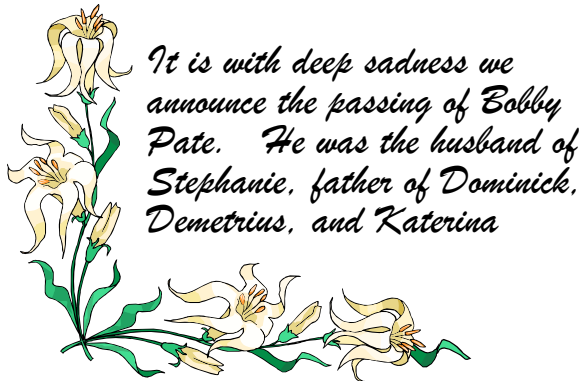
So much going on this month at GSCC. The firemen will be here teaching the children about fire safety on the 17th and 18th of October. At

the end of the end of the month, we will be having our Fall Festival Costume Parade and parties. Parents are invited to watch the parade and volunteer to help out at the parties that take place right after the parade is over.

Getting back to fire safety, please take the time to talk to your children about what to do in case of an emergency if one were to ever occur in your own home. Its important that you have a plan put in place as far as a common meeting place and escape route established if its ever necessary. Utilize all the wonderful information your local library has in it to help educate your children about "what makes

a situation an emergency", and "what number to call". This information comes in the form of videos as well as books to make everything simple enough for a child as young as 2 to understand. Remember to have at least one "family meal" a day, even if its snack time, your children will remember that closeness forever, and will one day make it a priority when they become parents themselves....with the holidays coming, traditions are also another thing I am very big on, start or continue a tradition with your children, no matter how silly it is that was passed down to you, when they become adults, you will find that they look for that special food, decoration, or song, or ritual that they can depend on taking place year after year, then one day, you will see them repeating it with their kids...that's the reward.

Lorraine Campo
Director
GSCC



It is with deep sadness we announce the passing of Bobby Pate. He was the husband of Stephanie, father of Dominick, Demetrius, and Katerina

If you wish to make a donation, please make checks payable to the "Bobby Pate Foundation" You can leave it in the mail box outside the church office.





Dates for 2007 & 2008 Coffeehouse

2007 – Saturday, Nov 17, Dec 15,
2008 – Saturday, Jan 19, Feb 16,
March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21.

Family Life/Fellowship

Nov 4—Grandparents Day Celebration - 2 to 4

Nov 9—Spaghetti Dinner @7:00 PM for the Bobby Pate Foundation

Dec 2—Family Advent Pot luck lunch from 2 - 4

Jan 26, 2008 – Ski Trip-meet at the church @ 7:00 am.

April 6, 2008—Spring Tea & Fashion Show 2 – 4:30

July 19, 2008—Strawberry & Ice Cream Festival - starting at 1:00

Reminder!

Special Services:

November 11, 10:30 AM – Family Service

November 18, -- Annual Meeting immediately following each service.

November 21st, 7:30 PM, Thanksgiving Eve Service

December 2, Loyalty Sunday

December 16th, Sunday School Christmas Pageant

December 24, Christmas Eve Worship Services @ 7:00 and 11:00 PM

December 31, New Year's Eve Service 7:30 PM

Spaghetti DINNER



Friday, November 9th @ 7:00 pm.
Proceeds to go to the Bobby Pate Foundation. Please join us for some good food and fun.

If you have a young adult away at college, please either e-mail or call the church office with their address. We are going to have cards sent to them every month, just to cheer them and let them know that Good Shepherd is thinking about them.





Here is the schedule for the next few months for Market Day. Pick up time is always 8:30 – 9:30 AM

Month	Pick up Date	Paper Orders Due	Internet Orders Due
November	11/3	10/23	10/29
December	12/8	11/27	12/3

2008

January	1/19/08	1/8/08	1/14/08
February	2/16/08	2/5/08	2/11/08
March	3/15/08	3/4/08	3/10/08
April	4/19/08	3/28/08	4/14/08
May	5/17/08	5/6/08	5/12/08
June	6/4/08	6/3/08	6/9/08

Blood Drive

Saturday, November 10th
8:30 – 4:00 PM

If you are able, please come out and donate.

For more information, see Tom Jocus



GIRLS nite Out



We couldn't pass up this hip, swell chance
To get you all over here to swing and to dance
We'll sing, eat and laugh- it'll be so cool
Don't be square all you chickies
Havin' fun is the rule!

Women's Ministry Sock Hop

Come for retro eats
And good ol' fashioned rock and roll beats!
Saturday, December 1, 2007
7:00 PM
\$8.00 per retro chick!

**The Lutheran Church
of the Good Shepherd**

www.lc-goodshepherd.org

3139 County Road 516

Old Bridge, NJ 08857

732-679-8883

The Rev. William A. Qualman, Pastor

Worship Services

Sunday Communion Service

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Adult & Teen Bible Classes – 9:15 AM

Youth Fellowship Meetings 2nd Sunday of each
month

GS Children's Center

732-679-8887

Mrs. Lorraine Campo, Director

gsc@lc-goodshepherd.org

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God's love at work here!