

# The Staff

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

**May 2008**

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

## Worldly Wisdom About A True Friend

*From the Vicar*



Submitted by Vicar Ben Mallepalle

### Worldly Wisdom:

- #1 A True Friend Listens.
- #2 A True Friend Shares Interests.
- #3 A True Friend Protects.
- #4 A True Friend Tells the Truth.
- #5 A True Friend Overlooks Faults.
- #6 A True Friend Bears Burdens.
- #7 A True Friend is Loyal.
- #8 A True Friend Brings Out our Best.
- #9 A True Friend Builds us Spiritually.
- #10 A True Friend Loves.

I wonder where the "Worldly Wisdom" came from?!

#1 A True Friend Listens. **Luke 11:9** "And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

#2 A True Friend Shares Interests. **Philippians 2:7** He "made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men."

#3 A True Friend Protects. **Psalms 125:2** "As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD

surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore."

#4 A True Friend Tells the Truth. **Hebrews 4:12** "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

#5 A True Friend Overlooks Faults. **Romans 5:8** "God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

#6 A True Friend Bears Burdens. **1 Peter 5:7** "Cast all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you..."

#7 A True Friend is Loyal. **Isaiah 65:24** "Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear..."

#8 A True Friend Brings Out our Best. **Romans 8:28** "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

#9 A True Friend Builds us Spiritually. **Romans 10:17** "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

#10 A True Friend Loves. **John 15:13** "Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

Be a good friend to Jesus. Introduce him to your other friends.

## WHAT'S THE WORRY?

Stewardship  
Report



Jesus knows our nature. He knows we're prone to worry. Perhaps that's why He warned, *"Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what*

*you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?"* (Matthew 6:25-27)

In spite of these words of both admonition and assurance, Christians still tend to worry. Sometimes worry about the ability to provide for our families takes over our lives to such an extent that it guides our thoughts and actions. We put off giving to the Lord through our church – “temporarily,” we say – until we feel secure in our financial situations. Life, as you know, seems to throw one crisis after another at us, and, often, that financial security never comes.

We have the same worry when it comes to serving. We complain that we just don't have time.

We work long hours, and then we have commitments to our families. How can we go to meetings or make meals for a family whose mom is sick?

“Later, “ we tell God and even ourselves. Later, when the college tuitions are paid and the kids are out of the house. Then we'll have time and money. But then, after all that hard work, don't I deserve to get away and take a nice, long cruise?

We reap what we sow, we read in 2 Corinthians 9:6. What are you sowing? Proverbs 11:18 reads, *"He who sows righteousness reaps a sure reward."* Matthew 6:19-21 records Jesus' words, *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on Earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

Is it forgetfulness of God's promises or lack of faith that keeps us stuck in this pattern of giving all for our physical, temporal lives instead of storing up treasures in Heaven. Take God at His Word: give generously, serve without reward, take time to help others, and watch Him satisfy your every need.

*Submitted by Pat Pryor, Stewardship Chairman*



# BRING A FRIEND!

Submitted by: Jamie Toth, Outreach Committee

## DON'T FORGET

May 4th is a very important date at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. On this day we will be celebrating our very first **“Friendship Sunday.”**

Invitation is what evangelism is all about! It is one person inviting another to find the Lord. In a real sense, evangelism programs and opportunities are essentially God’s people reaching out to others with an invitation.

For a variety of reasons, most Lutherans tend to be timid about inviting, but **we** are not “most Lutherans!” As God’s people, we are aware of our call and are excited about sharing our faith; we can be effective “inviters.” In surveys, when asked, un-churched



Bring a Friend  
to Church

people said the reason they didn’t attend a church was they were never asked. Each day, at home and at work, we interact with many people. Think about them and then **BRING A FRIEND!**

Join us for a reception after both services! There will be lots of food and refreshments! See Jamie Toth if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help.

Thank you to all volunteers who are involved in making this a wonderful day.



Women's Bible Study

## Women's Ministry

The Women’s Bible Study would like to invite all women to join us. We will be changing our night to Wednesday at 8:00 pm. If you are interested in attending the Bible Study or just want to ask questions, please feel free to contact Jill @ (732) 547-7612.

would like to be involved, or help coordinate a project, let Amber or June Hullings know.

~~~~~  
**“Fit Him In”** is the aerobics class that is the same Saturday as Market Day pick up. This is a light aerobics class. We follow a DVD program which is very easy and fun to work out to.  
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**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 for the upcoming year. If you have any ideas, and



# Market Day

Helping schools with every bite™

| Month | Pick up Date | Paper Orders Due | Internet Orders Due |
|-------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|
| May   | 5/17/08      | 5/6/08           | 5/12/08             |
| June  | 6/4/08       | 6/3/08           | 6/9/08              |

**Pick up time is always 8:30 – 9:30 AM**



## Here's the latest on the LYF front:



The cast of the "Case of the Show-stopping Nun Nabber" wants to thank

everyone for coming out to support us! We had a great time putting on the show and hope you all enjoyed it! Special thanks to Linda and Dan Cinquegrana for being our dinner theatre chefs. The food was wonderful as always.


We also want to thank Beth Meyer for coming back to meet with us and helping us to start working on a vision for the LYF. We are working to put some of the plans into action in the next few months.

Coming up, we have some great activities planned including bowling, a lock-in and helping out to

work at the "One Step Closer" walk! We are inviting other churches from the NJ District to come to the lock-in. We hope to get a great turnout so we can share with our peers how great it is that through Jesus' sacrifice, we are washed clean. In addition to other churches, we want all 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders here at Good Shepherd to come too! Check the new LYF bulletin board for more details.

Hey, Confirmands! We CAN'T wait for you to come join the LYF!!! You don't have to wait until September. Now that you're confirmed, you can start coming to our events and meetings now!

Alicia and Lara

**HOSPITAL STAY:** If you or a family member is anticipating a hospital stay, or a stay in a nursing home or a rehab facility, or you know of someone from

the congregation who is hospitalized, please contact the church office @ 732-679-8883, or e-mail the church at [office@lc-goodshepherd.org](mailto:office@lc-goodshepherd.org).



# Where Can I Serve?

*Submitted by Jamie Toth*

*Each one should use whatever gift that has been received to serve others faithfully, administering God's grace in its various forms.--1 Peter 4:10*

At Good Shepherd, opportunities for service come in a wide range of interests and specialties. We have been blessed with the talents and gifts of many members who lend their abilities to serve on committees, and we thank all of them for their hard work, dedication, and commitment.

We firmly believe every person is blessed with a unique capacity to serve. We welcome you to take an active role in the ministry we call Good Shepherd - your talents and gifts are valued by us in service to our Lord.

**Plus...DID YOU KNOW? That anyone aged 14+, can be a volunteer on any of these committees/work groups?!! Yes, it's true!**

If you are interested in more information or would like to join a particular committee, please contact the Committee Chair as designated by \*\* in the lists below.

**Altar Guild:** *Takes care of the altar paraments, sets- up and cleans up communion. Places and takes away flowers. Cleans altar area for worship. There are 4 teams that alternate when they are assigned to take care of the altar.*

**Members:** Alexis Dill, Donna Dooley, Paulette Hacker, Joan Previte, Randi Rutan, Alma Meyer\*\*, Bethanne Meyer, Joanne Jocus, Barbara Freeborn, Laurie Burke, Kate Larkin, Lara Pudwell, Alexis Medina, Sheryl Kotora, Toni Pryor, Cathy Cole, Katrina Clapsis.

**Building & Grounds:** *Administers any necessary repairs required on the Church or Parsonage buildings, including property renovations and emergency repairs. In addition, oversees the regular custodial care of the building and grounds of both the Church and the Parsonage, including janitorial service, grounds keeping, and painting.*

**Members:** Tony Hansen \*\*, Lyman Laub (Member Emeritus), Tim O'Connor, Maureen Puricelli, Tom Rutan, Dave Schulmeister, Bob Shipley, Sandy Shipley, Ed Siclari

**Counters:** *This group counts the offerings after the 10:30 service, (and special services).*

**Members:** Mardel Bonfiglio, Tim White-Stevens, Allison vanRiemsdyk, Bob and Sandy Shipley, Millie Junco, Bob Fruh, Ken Arzberger Pat Pryor, Joan Gibson, Dean Olson, Bob and Carol Hahl, Tony Puricelli\*\*, Sue Hawley, Linda Cinquegrana.

**Family Life & Fellowship:** *Initiates the planning of special fellowship events, such as the annual Mother-Daughter and Father-Son events, coffee hours, potluck dinners, bus trips, etc. Responsible for enhancing the work of the Parish Education/Youth committee by developing and executing programs, both educational and social, with a Christian emphasis that will address the contemporary issues and concerns facing all types of family units today.*

**Members:** Pat Breitweiser, Kathy Hogan \*\*, Elizabeth Pedersen

**Geek Squad** *Two groups working together, the 'Splicers & Dicers' and the 'CD Burners'! Splicers & Dicers record the service, use audio editor to generate MP3 versions of the service and sermon for use on the web, upload those to the web site. CD Burners generate split version, from the MP3, appropriate for use on CDs, and create a set of CDs for use by shut-ins.*

**Members:** Martha Dubin, Tony Hansen \*\*, Laurie Burke, Paulette Hacker, Mary Ellen Brace, Gayle Ferreira

**Missions:** *Develops programs to educate the congregation in the areas of the mission work of the Lutheran Church, establishes mission programs within the congregation, and encourages individual support of mission projects. Some of our partners are: LCMS World Missions, and LCMS World Relief.*

**Members:** Lillie Battle, Alexis Dill, Paulette Hacker \*\*, Annette Olson

**Outreach:** Oversees the welcoming of new members to the congregation, and ministers to congregational members in time of need. In addition, conceives and implements programs for the systematic visitation in the area for the purpose of sharing the ministry and programs of Good Shepherd with our neighbors.

**Members:** Linda Cinquegrana, Nancy Drews, Abby Eaton, Leslie Green, Carolyn Gruetze, Linda Gustafson, Vicar Ben Mallepalle, Pat Pryor, Toni Pryor \*\*, Pastor Qualman, Adrianna Salzer, Jamie Toth

**Parish Education & Youth:** Supervises, in conjunction with a talented staff of volunteer teachers and assistants, all areas pertaining to Christian education, including the Sunday School, Confirmation program, Vacation Bible School and Youth Groups.

**Members:** Amber Brown \*\*, Laurie Burke, Alicia DeSena, Jill O'Connor, Lara Pudwell, Pastor Qualman

**Stewardship:** Educates the members of Good Shepherd on the concepts of Christian Stewardship and encourages them to live out those principles in their everyday lives. Focuses the majority of their

attention on Stewardship within the Good Shepherd community, with an emphasis on stewardship as part of the whole life experience.

**Members:** Abby Eaton, Bob Hahl, Eileen Loughman-Sabino, Pat Pryor \*\*, Tony Puricelli Bob Shipley

**Ushers:** Both services need ushers to hand out bulletins, hymnals (if needed), help people find a seat, hand out special material when needed. There are 4 teams for the 10:30 service, and two teams that alternate for the 8:00 service.

**Members:** \*8:00 Gene Clapsis\*\*, Ron Humiston, Pat Bowen, Joe Kotora, Kevin Prenderville. 10:30 Jack McGrade, A.J. Ford, Barry Larkin, Bill Sardone, Julio Artache, Tim & Greg O'Connor, Brigitee Meitzner, Roy Ebersole, Ken Arzberger, Tim White-Stevens, Silvia Herbert, Pat Pryor, Bob Fruh, Jake Campbell, Daniel Bergfeldt, Dean Olson\*\*

**Worship & Music:** Plans special worship services and worship formats during the church year. Such special services in the past have included gospel and contemporary music, and drama productions.

**Members:** Mary Artache, Marie Bergfeldt, Amber Brown, Laurie Burke, Marianne Krawiec, Joe Kotora (CLM), Pastor Qualman \*\*, Tom Rutan



## It's That Time of Year Again!

*Submitted by Paulette Hacker*

Start Gathering Your "Joyous Junk" and Your Handmade Crafts for Our Annual Garage Sale.

We are pleased to announce our Annual Congregational Garage Sale to be held on Saturday, June 7 (rain or shine) 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. Each space is \$15 and you can rent a table for an additional \$10. Sign-ups start May 4. You can also call the church office and reserve your spot.

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

We will also be selling all the fresh-baked goodies you can bake! Please sign-up to tell us what you will donate.

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, please bring them to the church the week of June 1 and put them in the Fellowship Hall. **NO CLOTHING** will be accepted.

We will also need crews for set-up and take-down. Please sign the sheet on the counter.

If you have any questions, please call Alexis Dill or Paulette Hacker.

# THANK YOU



**A Big Thank You**  
to all those that  
assisted in any  
way with our  
Easter Breakfast.

On very short notice  
many of you gave  
unselfishly of your time to  
set-up, go shopping, serve, cook,  
organize, and clean-up so that the  
congregation could enjoy a wonderful

Easter Breakfast. I want to personally  
thank all of you who assisted and pass on  
“A Job Well Done!”

Pastor was delighted, the congregation  
was appreciative, the Administrative  
Board was grateful, and a delightful time  
in fellowship was had by all!

Faith Caban



## Together In Mission (T.I.M.)

*By Paulette Hacker, Chairman Mission Committee*



Many members of our  
congregation already  
support Together In  
Mission (TIM). It is now  
time to recommit  
ourselves to TIM to  
support our missionaries,  
Reverend Charles and  
Jeanette Groth in their

work in Cambodia. Through our donations and  
prayers, we enable the Groth's to spread God's  
Word to the people in Cambodia.

Reverend Chuck serves as a pastor / mentor for  
leadership training and Jeanette is the education,

volunteer, and mission responder coordinator.  
Together they are working to put together  
curriculum and teaching for the training of Lutheran  
leaders in Southeast Asia.

We will place an insert in the bulletin over the next  
few weeks to allow you to sign up. Your donation  
is completely confidential and can be made weekly,  
monthly, semi-annually or annually.

The Groth's regular report back to their supporting  
congregations appears on the next page.

If you are already a member of TIM and need  
envelopes, please see Paulette Hacker.

# Groth Report - April 2008

**From the Word:** *You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breath. Everyday was recorded in your book.* Psalm 139:16

Happy New Year!! No, we are not overcome with the heat. Cambodia is one of the places in the world that you can celebrate the New Year three times. You can celebrate the New Year in the Western way on January 1. You can celebrate Chinese New Year!! Now April 13-15 we are celebrating Khmer New Year. We are told that Buddhists here believe that the angel of the old year leaves, and the angel of the New Year arrives. Families put together gifts and go to the pagoda in the belief that they can gain the favor of the New Year angel and have good luck for the year.

How different is our destiny. It is not determined by the whim of a new angel. We do not have to try to gain favor to have "good luck." Our gracious God gives us a new slate everyday. Everyday we are forgiven not because of the offerings we bring but because of the offering of Himself that our Savior Jesus Christ made. Our God know us from all eternity. He has made His gracious plan of salvation for us and given us a new life for all eternity. So Happy New Year!! Happy New Day!! Happy New life in Him!!!

## **Current Events**

The verse above was copied as I observed in a Christian School called New Life. It was great seeing all these young teachers teach. I was looking for methodology so the principal wisely scheduled me to observe math classes. Since I do know Khmer numbers I could follow the lessons and observe the teaching methods that were used. I spent lunchtime with the principal, and we planned the in-service that would result from my observations. I got a chance to interact with the children at recess.

Yes, I can still play "Farmer in the Dell." I got many hugs and hand pats and a final kiss goodbye. I thank God that this was one of the days He "scheduled" for me.

The middle of March saw Chuck and me in Thailand for a Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation (CWEF) teaching retreat. This is our human care partner, and we now have a branch in Cambodia. Chuck did a devotion. I was involved in the teaching of participatory methodology. It was great to work with partners from Thailand, and China to share better ways to get people involved in the learning process. Thank God for these days that He "scheduled" for us.

Chuck has spent an amazing amount of time keeping our financial reports straight. This is all part of us being here and being accountable to LCMS at large. He has been able to work with some of the Christian leaders in the Sihanoukville area on Sunday texts. Friday's session brought interesting information that most churches here do not celebrate Easter. Now to us this is the pinnacle Christian Holiday. The resurrection of Jesus is a very important day in our life of faith. What a good time to discuss the importance of this and encourage the leaders to put more emphasis on resurrection theology. Yes, we know how important this day of teaching was in God's Book.

We are preparing for days of April 21-25<sup>th</sup> as teaching days for our leaders as we work together again in Battambang. This time the topic will be Lutheran Worship. We will also be planning activities with Pastor Kosal for the next year. The emphasis is on upgrading the English School, getting our health educators more involved, and encouraging more of Lutheran worship and expanding the women's ministry that the "Peace Team" from the US introduced.

**Continued on next page:**

## Continued from previous page –Groth

Sounds like busy days, but we know that the Lord will guide the “schedule.”

Finally we were privileged to have a “scheduled vacation.” It was great to travel and see sites in Australia and recognize the awesomeness of our creator God.

We’d love to hear what God has been doing in your days. What New Day blessings has He brought you? What plans has He been unveiling in your life? How has His schedule been in your life?

With thanks to the Ancient of Days,

Chuck and Jeanette Groth

## CHURCH LIBRARY



The Church Library is going through an overhaul at this time. If you have any books, videos, or CD's that you borrowed, please return them as soon as possible.

Jessica van Handel started our church library a few years ago, and it has grown so much, that we needed to re-work the placement of the books.

Thank you Jessica for starting this great resource for our congregation.



## Musical Celebration

Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, at both 8 and 10:30 services, the youth music ministry will be featuring the best of the best for us. Little Sheep, Shepherd Singers, Heavenly Doves, and Jubilation Bells, and the Interpretive Worship Team will all have special music to perform for us that day.



There will also be special music by the “Senior” in the group, Becky Rutan. If you have never heard a Marimba, you will enjoy Becky’s Solo.



*Those Recovering*

*Those in Nursing Homes*

**Dorothy Palmer**  
**Emmy Moore** –sister of Katrina Clapsis  
**Leela Mallepalle**

*Those who are Shut-in*

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

*Those with Other Needs*

**Gloria Carias**  
**Les Ebersole**  
**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  
**Terry Hayes** –mother of Laurie Burke  
**Eric Brown** –son of Amber and Steve  
**Dylan Brown** –grandson of Hatcliffes  
**Margaret Wrigley** –suffering with arthritis  
**Trudy Conway**

*Those Struggling with Cancer*

**Mino DeMaglie** – Brother-in-law of Laurie &  
 Bill Burke  
**Laurie Burke**  
**Kathy Hogan**  
**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  
**Kathy Hill** – friend of Pryors  
**Ruth Cousens** – mother of Don Cousens

*Those in the Military*

**Chris O'Shea** –nephew of Addie & Les Ebersole  
**Jeff Borkowski**  
**Brian Farrell**  
**Rob Farrell**  
**Dustin Brown**  
**Jeff Kotora**  
**Guy Kotora**  
**Joseph Puoplo** –nephew of Clines  
**Brian Borkowski** –nephew of the Borkowski's  
**Ashley Welsh** –niece of Mary White-Stevens  
**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

*And our Missionaries :*

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

*Camryn Joseph Burniston*  
*8 lbs, 8 oz., 20 1/2 inches*  
*Tara, Brian and big brother*  
*Devin are all going great.*



# For Your Information



## Happy Birthday to...

|                    |      |
|--------------------|------|
| Shaun Humiston     | 5/01 |
| Joey LoDrago       | 5/01 |
| Diane Andersen     | 5/02 |
| Joanne Jocus       | 5/02 |
| Bethanne Meyer     | 5/02 |
| Janet Schuster     | 5/02 |
| Alyssa DeVito      | 5/02 |
| Timothy Schuster   | 5/03 |
| Michael Junco      | 5/03 |
| Sandy Wolven       | 5/04 |
| Stephen Logan      | 5/04 |
| James van Riemsdyk | 5/04 |
| Marion Morgans     | 5/04 |
| Jessica Verello    | 5/05 |
| Barbara DiMaggio   | 5/07 |
| Alexandra Tucci    | 5/09 |
| Alyssa Sardone     | 5/09 |
| Kathy Cole         | 5/09 |
| Evelyn Kotora      | 5/10 |
| Tim Skrok          | 5/10 |
| Jeffrey Shear      | 5/10 |
| Mary Ann Turk      | 5/11 |
| Melissa Utyro      | 5/12 |
| Terry Steenweg     | 5/13 |
| Paulette Wilmot    | 5/13 |
| Brandon Griswold   | 5/13 |
| Caleb Rutan        | 5/13 |
| Christian Campbell | 5/15 |
| Paige Weiss        | 5/15 |
| Enrique Junco      | 5/16 |
| Manny Beltran      | 5/16 |
| Amber Dlugosz      | 5/16 |
| Matthew DiMaggio   | 5/17 |

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Korie Osvald         | 5/17 |
| Sarah Mallepalle     | 5/17 |
| Juan Nieves          | 5/17 |
| Lois Raba            | 5/18 |
| Thomas Rutan         | 5/18 |
| Timothy O'Connor     | 5/19 |
| Russell Steenweg     | 5/20 |
| Jake Campbell        | 5/21 |
| Christiana Jordan    | 5/21 |
| Patricia Breitweiser | 5/21 |
| Kate Larkin          | 5/21 |
| Judy Yohannan        | 5/22 |
| Margaret O'Connor    | 5/23 |
| Barry Larkin         | 5/23 |
| Paul Jordan          | 5/24 |
| John McGrade         | 5/24 |
| 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 |
| Sarah Furlong        | 5/27 |
| Lauren Puricelli     | 5/30 |
| Joseph DeVito IV     | 5/30 |

## Happy Anniversary to.....

|                              |      |
|------------------------------|------|
| Anthony & Maureen Puricelli  | 5/04 |
| Rich & Kerrie Totten         | 5/06 |
| Steven & Amber Brown         | 5/10 |
| Annette & Wayne Olsen        | 5/11 |
| Robert & Nora Schmitz        | 5/16 |
| Patti & Michael Karpf        | 5/16 |
| Eugene & Katrina Clapsis     | 5/20 |
| Joseph Guy & Patricia Kotora | 5/24 |
| Carlene & Robert Weiss, Sr.  | 5/28 |
| Deborah & Eric Logan         | 5/28 |
| Jamie & Richard Toth         | 5/29 |
| Grace & David Blakey         | 5/31 |

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

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From the   
 Sunday School  
 Superintendent

Submitted by Laurie Burke

Happy Mother's Day and a reminder that May 11<sup>th</sup> is also Opening in Church. The lessons we will talk about in May are:

GOD'S SERVANT, STEPHEN  
 PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN  
 THE CONVERSION OF PAUL  
 PETER AND CORNELIUS

Advance Reminder- our last day of Sunday School for the 2007/08 year will be June 15<sup>th</sup>.



## FROM THE ALLEYS



As the days get longer and warmer, the scent of flowers fill the air, and we get ready to celebrate Memorial

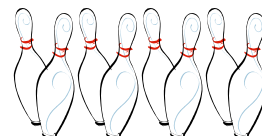
Day, we also get ready to finish the 2007/08 bowling season. As of this writing in our second half Discreet Indians still hold 1<sup>st</sup> place, with Pin Heads in second, then The Out-laws, Salty Crabs, and Lucky Strikes who have a chance to meet the Old Goats to determine the 2007/08 Champs. And holding up the teams is Beer Frame.

We want to welcome and congratulate a new sub, Brian Burniston who had 758 series. Next month find out who took 1st and last place, and more importantly how much fun our end of the year bowling banquet was.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Good Shepherd Bowling League, or in joining you can talk to any of the bowlers or the officers: Carol Hahl, Bob and Sandy Shipley, or myself- Laurie Burke.

See you at the alleys.

Submitted by Laurie Burke





During the church service, after receiving Communion, as a congregation, we have stated on many occasions, “We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with the healing gift of life.” How cool would it be if we, as a congregation, could do something to potentially change the lives of those around us? How about those we don’t know? I mean, we thank God everyday for the fact that he’s given us the healing gift of life. So why don’t we try to pass on his healing gift, to someone who isn’t as healthy we are?

For as long as I can remember, people have been telling me that I was going to make a difference in this world. I was never able to figure out how I was going to do that. I mean, I am a 20-year-old college student with a part time job. What was I going to do that was going to make such a difference in the world?

I came in contact with the Stennis Foundation; a non-profit organization based out of Amarillo, Texas, and figured out that this was going to be my way of helping to change the world and the lives of others. The Stennis Foundation strives to raise awareness of the Leukodystrophies as well as raise money to fund research to find a cure. Leukodystrophy refers to the progressive degeneration of the white matter of the brain due to imperfect growth or development of the myelin sheath, the fatty covering that acts as an insulator around nerve fiber. Currently, there are 34 different types of Leukodystrophy. The Foundation holds charity events in order to fulfill its mission statement.

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008, I will be helping to host the “One Step Closer” Walk for Leukodystrophy. All of the proceeds raised at the walk will go toward **research to find a cure** for the Leukodystrophies. I hold this walk, very near and dear to my heart, not because of the countless hours I’ve worked on it, but because it is in honor of someone who has helped make a difference not only in my life, but in

## Helping to Become “One Step Closer To A Cure”

*Submitted by Susannah Rutan*

many of yours, as well. I have always been taught that each person who comes into your life has a purpose and although that purpose may not be immediately clear, in due time, the purpose is disclosed.

Amber and Steve Brown have made a huge difference in my life. As many of you know, Amber and Steve’s oldest son, Eric, was diagnosed with Leukodystrophy in 2003. Words can’t express the amount of difference the Brown Family has made in my life. One thing is for sure, Amber and Steve’s ability to allow someone to become as close with their family as I have, has done nothing but allow me to grow more as an individual. Since the entire Brown Family, children included, have made such an impact on my life, I thought that it was the best time to give back to them.

The “One Step Closer” Walk for Leukodystrophy will be in honor of Eric Brown. All of the proceeds raised will go toward helping to find a cure for the Leukodystrophies. I am not writing this to ask you for your money, but I am asking for your time. The amount of time Amber and Steve have helped to change our lives, can never be given back, but, giving 5 hours out of your Saturday afternoon, will truly help to make a difference. I want you to sit back, and think of how the Brown Family has made a difference in your life, whether it be through your children, or your family, or even yourself. Now here is your opportunity to show them just how much you appreciate what they have done for you.

Here is your chance to help the **world** become “one step closer to a cure.”

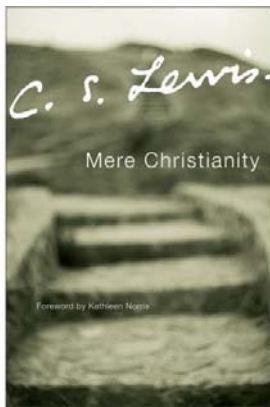
**Please join me Saturday,  
May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Registration begins at 12 (noon)  
4 mile walk  
Lombardi Field, Old Bridge, NJ  
Meet & Greet to follow (with food!)

# Book Club

Calling all Women who enjoy reading and talking!!!!!!

Please join our Book Discussion Group. We're already in our third year together and have read many interesting and inspirational books. We have some members who come every time but some others pick and choose which books they would like to read. Either way is fine! It's a great opportunity to meet people and share thoughts about what you read in a comfortable setting. We meet the **second Tuesday of every other month, from 7:30-9:00pm (unless otherwise noted)**. We discuss a different Christian fiction or non-fiction book each time we get together.



We will meet on May 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30. We are reading: Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

Would you like to join us??? It's very easy to get involved:

1. Get the book and read it. Some of the books are in the church or public library or you can purchase them at Barnes & Noble, Borders or online (christianbooks.com).
2. Check out the display in the library to see if there are any questions that go along with the book that we will use to help us in our discussion.
3. Take some notes when you are reading – things you found interesting or items that might spark conversation. This is a very important step to enhance the experience.
4. Come to the church library on the night that book will be discussed and share your thoughts and insights with the group.
5. Remember, you can come for one book or all of them – it's up to you!!

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)995-3613. This is an excellent way to get to know people in a very relaxed setting. We have a lot of fun each time we meet. Please join us!!!!

*June Hullings*

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## Family Life & Fellowship Dates for 2008 Coffeehouse

Cross Purpose (Bob Stanhope) May 17  
June 21

### Upcoming Fellowship Events:

July 19 – Strawberry & Ice Cream Festival-starting at 1 PM

Please call Kathy Hogan @ 732-888-2760 for more details.



## “A Princess Heart”

by Amber Brown, Coordinator of Christian Education

*(This text is an excerpt from my Sunday message at the Princess Retreat. Gentlemen, I encourage you to get in touch with your ‘feminine side’ as you read this, because it is most certainly applicable to nurturing the heart of a Prince.)*

Almost every girl wants to be a princess. I know my little one does. Emily is almost three and already declaring that she wants to have a Princess party for her birthday. She dances and twirls about the house in her tutu and her tapping shoes (not tap shoes, tapping shoes!) declaring ‘Look at me! I’m a Princess.’ Little does she know that she really *is* a Princess, and that one day we will all be dancing and twirling around the throne of our King, (maybe in tutus and tapping shoes) glorifying Him for all eternity. And it would be hard to find a little girl in America that does not know of the beloved fairy tales of Cinderella, or Snow White, or Sleeping Beauty or Ariel. We all know them...we grew up with them too. (How many of you have seen Cinderella with their little girl *quillions* of times?) I encourage you to explore those stories now and find the parallels of living with a Princess Heart for Christ.

Maybe you grew up like Cinderella, and you have been wronged your whole life. Like Cinderella, you had a difficult child hood, abused or rejected by your family, forced to live a life you felt you could never escape. Maybe there is resentment in your heart, either towards the ones who wronged you or toward the Lord for letting you suffer as you have. This is painful for you and real for you, but don’t forget that whatever lament you are suffering, it is nothing compared to what Jesus felt as He hung on the tree, burdening your sin, my sin, the sin of the whole world, so that we wouldn’t have to. That pain will not last forever if you give it to God. Don’t hold on to that emotional pain where it can turn to stone the heart of a Princess. Leave it at the foot of the cross where it belongs. Because it is not about you, regardless of your pain, struggles or

suffering; it’s about Him. His body that was pierced, His blood that was spilled and His sacrifice that was given for us. Is this difficult to do? Yes, but not impossible. The Bible says ‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me’ and ‘with God, all things are possible.’ The Bible does not say your life will be easy and pain free, but there is someone that makes it possible to bear the burden of that pain.

Maybe you’re like Princess Ariel in *The Little Mermaid*. You have so much in your life, but you struggle with greed and you are still pining for the things you don’t have. Ariel had a wonderful life, a Father who adored her, a beautiful voice and friends in the ocean to frolic with...but she was always consumed with what it would be like to have legs and walk. Maybe you think that too. Maybe you long after a better salary for the bigger house for the bigger car for the bigger lifestyle. You work, work, work and may even neglect the things that really matter, like your relationship with friends, family or your Lord. Maybe you struggle to see the blessings right in front of you. Unfortunately, it’s easy to fall into the trap that society has set for us. But no matter what you have here on earth, ‘you can’t take it with you’ as they say, and the glorious riches in heaven far surpass anything that you could obtain here.

Or what about Sleeping Beauty waiting for her prince to come and rescue her. There she lay, trapped in a sleeping, lifeless body. Maybe you are suffering in your own sleeping, lifeless body. That depression that is so debilitating, the worry and the shame that has taken hold of your life or the illness that has ravaged your body and you are just so sick and tired of being sick and tired. These struggles are real for you and I won’t diminish them, but I am here to tell you that Jesus endured a lifeless body and conquered it for you so that you would not have to live this pain forever.

**Continued on next page.**

## Continued from Previous page – Princess

He is the Prince that has come to rescue you, and your brief time on earth, even amidst all the pain you are suffering, is just a short time a way from whole, perfect and eternal healing.

Or maybe you approach life differently like Snow White. You are inundated with the mundane tasks of your life, whether it's changing diapers, cleaning the house, driving the same commute, going to the same classes, answering the same questions... Maybe you have made goals for your self in your life and have not accomplished them yet. This is a discouragement and a let down for you and sometimes you realize that your life is just down right boring... serving others all the time and it feels like no one is serving you (whether it's 7 dwarfs or 1 boss or 3 kids or 75 co workers) but something inside you keeps you 'whistling while you work', knowing that the peace of Christ that resides in you keeps your motor running because you are living for Him and that the prize you claim in heaven will be far more grandiose than the pile of dishes sitting in the sink.

Whether you are able to relate to any of these fairy tale princesses (who, by the way, did not begin their lives in such a 'fairy tale way') or whether there is something you feel is so unspeakable, you can not bear to bring your burden to the King, I am here to tell you that He knows it all already. Whatever your pain is, your burden, your secret shame... maybe it's the recent death of a loved one

and the pain of loss that you cannot bear, or the affair you don't want anyone to know about; maybe an abortion, or an addiction or you are suffering abuse at the hands of a loved one; maybe it's financial strain or job stress, a broken relationship with a family member. Whatever it is- He knows it already. The most powerful thing, though, is that He is hurting right along with you.

My little guy, AJ, who's now 6, had lied to me a couple of years ago about something and got caught. I was devastated. After his punishment, he came to me to apologize and said "Mommy, I'm so sorry, so sorry, so sorry. Will you ever forgive me?" And I said, "O honey, it's already forgotten". He replied with an anxious tone, "But Mommy, do you still love me?" And with tears in my eyes I answered "O sweetheart, always and forever. No matter what you do, I will never stop loving you." Then it occurred to me: That's how Jesus looks upon us. We confess to Him our worst offenses and say "Lord, I'm so sorry, so sorry, so sorry. Will you ever forgive me?" And in the sweetest tone He replies "Oh honey, it's already forgotten." "But Lord, do you still love me?" "Always and forever." He replies. "No matter what you do, I will never stop loving you." That, my friends, is grace. Jesus did it all for you. It was completely undeserved but He made the ultimate sacrifice because He loves you. There is not a more perfect display of love than that. I encourage you to discover the freedom of living with a Princess (or Prince☺) Heart.



# Good Shepherd Children's Center



## WHAT'S NEW AT SCHOOL

I think Spring has finally arrived. Trees and flowers are in bloom everywhere you look, that gray color everything takes on over the winter is gone and you almost don't mind getting out of bed in

the morning. Another nice thing about the spring is that its actually still light out after dinner which actually makes you want to go out and do something instead of getting wrapped up in a blanket and becoming one with your couch. This is also the perfect time to get your kids more involved in making the world a little greener, a little happier by planting seeds or flowers or even a tree. Kids love planting vegetable gardens as well, to them it's a lot of fun to watch their seed grow into a carrot, or a tomato, or anything else they like to eat, and then actually have it with dinner. I remember as a kid we planted carrots, they weren't the biggest carrots, but they were the carrots I planted, and they were the best tasting carrots I ever ate...:) It's also another great way to get your kids to eat their veggies. I think it can also give children a sense of responsibility and pride in something that they did and took care of, kids need an end result...what a better way than to see how you can grow food in your own backyard. Speaking of greener, everyone is "going green", what does that really mean? Growing up in NYC, I remember when there was drought, and there were news reports all over the place, people with pools couldn't fill them, showers were limited, car washes were closed, and I remember clearly the note that hung over my bathroom faucet "shut off the water when you brush your teeth," this is a rule I still go by, and have my own family exercise as well. If everyone does their part, don't waste, shut off lights in rooms that aren't

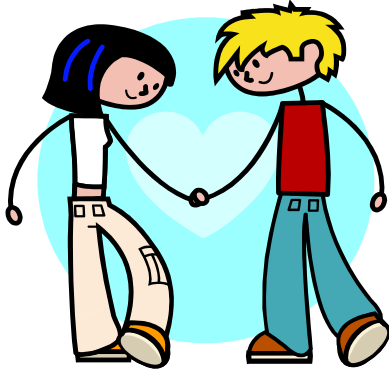
being used, run the dishwasher when it's full, don't litter and recycle we are ahead of the game, the trick is raising our children to stick to these rules as well. The sign that hung in my bathroom had such an impact that 30 years later I am still doing the same thing, that's what we have to do, make an impact, they will listen, we need to teach them. I think the best way to teach a child, is by example. If you see litter, don't be afraid to pick it up, if you see someone struggling, don't be afraid to help them, and if you can make the world a better place, then do it.

Everyone should know by now, that I am big on adoption when it comes to pets. If you are looking to add a special pet to your home, look to you local shelter first, there are so many wonderful animals that are just waiting for a loving home. The adoption fee is very reasonable, they come fully vetted, spayed or neutered, and temperament tested, and most of the time potty trained. Adoption doesn't have to stop at cats and dogs, kittens and puppies. All kinds of animals end up in shelters for one reason or another, birds, hamsters, guinea pigs, ferrets, snakes, lizards and rabbits. Go to [Petfinder.com](http://Petfinder.com) type in your zip code and the type of animal you're interested in and hopefully you find your perfect match.

On Sunday April 20th, Sayreville Pet Adoption Center is having their annual yard sale from 9-3pm...all proceeds go to the shelter, so if you can't adopt, maybe you can stop by, making a purchase helps the shelter animals tremendously. Sayreville is a no kill shelter, animals live at the shelter until they are adopted.

Lorraine Campo, Director  
GSCC

# Little Timmy



A mom was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his

mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe.

So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

She said that since she was up early with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day, the neighbor and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor girl he knew. She did this for the whole week.

As the two walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally she said to Timmy, 'Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week?'

'Do you know her?' Timmy nonchalantly replied, 'Yeah, I know who she is.' The little girl said, 'Well, who is she?' 'That's just Shirley Goodnest,' Timmy replied, 'and her daughter Marcy.' 'Shirley Goodnest? Who the heck is she and why is she following us?'

'Well,' Timmy explained, 'every night my Mom makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, 'Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it!'

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift His countenance upon you, and give you peace. May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today and always.

*(Anonymous)*



**The Good Shepherd Care Center** is looking for a teen to be an afternoon assistant for the 2008-2009 school year. Hours would be from 3 – 6 pm.

REQUIREMENTS:

**Must LOVE kids**, mature minded, energetic and reliability is absolutely necessary. For more information, please contact Lorriane Campo, 732-679-8887

# **FUTURE EVENTS**

Mark Your Calendars Now

## **May**

- May 4<sup>th</sup> Friendship Sunday & Confirmation Learning Event  
May 7<sup>th</sup> Women's Bible Study  
May 11<sup>th</sup> Mothers Day  
May 17<sup>th</sup> Market Day Pick Up, Aerobics, Leukodystrophy Walk & Coffee House  
May 18<sup>th</sup> Festival of Praise, Congregational Meeting & Learning Event  
May 20<sup>th</sup> Book Club  
May 30 & 31 Crafters for Christ & Youth Group Lock In

## **June**

- June 1<sup>st</sup> Confirmation Sunday & Coffee Hour  
June 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Joyous Junk Sale, Market Day Pick Up (Last one for the year), Aerobics  
June 8<sup>th</sup> New Member Sunday, with a Meet & Great after service, Youth Group Open House  
June 15<sup>th</sup> Last day of Sunday School  
June 21<sup>st</sup> Women of Faith Conference, Coffee House  
**June 22<sup>nd</sup>** **Switch to one Service for summer 9:00 AM**, Baccalaureate Service  
June 27<sup>th</sup> Crafters for Christ

## **July**

- July 4<sup>th</sup> Office Closed  
July 19<sup>th</sup> Strawberry & Ice Cream Festival

## **August**

- August 31<sup>st</sup> End of one Church Service @ 9:00 AM

## **September**

- September 7<sup>th</sup> Rally Day**  
September 21<sup>st</sup> Confirmation Kick Off  
Breakfast and 1<sup>st</sup> Learning Event  
September 26-28 Confirmation I Retreat

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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!**