

The Staff

The newsletter of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

June 2008

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

The Rest That Satisfies The Soul



A recent government study announced that Americans are working 8 more hours per week than they did 30 years ago. Our society, it seems, has mastered the skill of work and lost the art of rest. Work has become the “drug of choice” for many in our culture. It is a substitute for real relationships. It endangers one’s health and actually inhibits productivity. Maybe it’s time to rediscover God’s plan for rest – The Sabbath Day.

When I was growing up, Sunday was a day set apart. We knew it was a day to keep holy (Exodus 20:8). For my family this meant that we attended church every Sunday, illness or death being the only excuses for missing. We even sought out Lutheran Churches when we were away on vacation. We had packed special clothes which were just for Sunday.

Sunday was the day my father grilled and the family played together in the backyard. It was the one day we were “allowed” a soft drink. Looking back on those days really makes me smile. They were fun. They were refreshing and stimulating. They were restful. And they were filled with laughter and love.

How unfortunate that so many have lost that discipline and the grace of Sabbath rest. How often I have heard someone complain to me that the reason they don’t make church very often is because

“it’s the only day I have to rest” or “it’s the only day our whole family can be together.” Typically, I am stunned by the sheer contradiction of those two statements.

The created order has within it a divinely composed rhythm that supports our earthly life. Ignoring this divinely designed rhythm threatens our spiritual health and endangers the soul. We have been created in the image of God, but we are also in the process of becoming more like him. Our spirits are being formed and recreated and redeemed moment by moments. To be renewed and reformed in the image of God requires the rhythm of work, play, and rest.

Consider the human body. Physical exercise is most productive when it is balanced with proper rest. Muscles are stressed through exercise. Muscle cells are lost in the process, yet the body relies on periods of rest to replace those lost cells and add new ones for more strength. It is during the period of rest that muscles grow.

Soul building also demands periods of rest. As it is with the body, so it is with the soul: stress tears down and rest builds up. God gave us the sacred gift of the Sabbath to enable our souls to have the time needed to grow and strengthen.

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Jesus understood the importance of the Sabbath as well, but he did not frame it into a legalistic code. In Mark 2:27, Jesus said, “The Sabbath was made for people, not people for the Sabbath.” The Sabbath rest is not to be practiced with drudgery but with gratitude.

The Creator has offered us the freedom to rest. We can willingly and joyfully allow God to calm our weary souls and refresh our spirits. When the stress of life and daily living drains us, we can find our needed rest in the Sabbath of God’s renewing and refreshing grace in Jesus Christ who meets us in Word and Sacrament.

Pastor Bill Qualman



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.



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



Month	Pick up Date	Paper Orders Due	Internet Orders Due
June	6/14/08	6/3/08	6/9/08

**This is the last Market Day till September – remember to stock up.
Pick up time is always 8:30 – 9:30 AM**

\$1 Bill Meets \$20 Bill

A one-dollar bill met a twenty dollar bill and said, "Hey, where've you been? I haven't seen you around here much."



The twenty answered, "I've been hanging out at the casinos, went on a cruise and did the rounds of the ship, back to the United States for awhile, went to a couple of baseball games, to the mall, that kind of stuff. How about you?"



The one-dollar bill said, "You know, same old stuff, church, church, church."



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



The Joy of Contentment

In contrast to materialism, contentment is a state of mind that does not desire more than what one has. A

contented person is satisfied with what he has. The goal of a Christian is to be content regardless of his financial condition. Discontentment is a spiritual problem. It affects rich and poor and everyone in between. Discontentment can eat away at our souls and rob us of the joy the Lord wants us to have in Christ. A contented person sees the world from a different perspective than a materialistic person views it.

In the “have it now and enjoy life” society in which we live, contentment is no longer a goal. In this culture, the goal in life is self-gratification. Our society strives after material things that provide temporary happiness. Comfort is more of a goal than is contentment. Unfortunately, when all we care about is ourselves, we are never satisfied, because we keep telling ourselves we need and deserve more. We convince ourselves we should have more cars, bigger houses, better clothes, a classier neighborhood, a higher salary.

The writer of Hebrews wrote, “*Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you’*” (Hebrews 13:5). If we love money and the things of this world, we will never be content. Money and possessions can’t buy contentment. Only in Christ can we find lasting contentment. The Apostle Paul’s contentment came from knowing and trusting in Jesus. “*I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in*

plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him Who gives me strength” (Philippians 4:12-13).

Paul had learned the secret of contentment. Paul was in prison when he wrote those words in Philippians, and he had been at the point of death several times. If anyone could have said he was in need or want, it was Paul. In fact, Paul’s message on contentment should make many of us uncomfortable. How could our circumstances be as bleak as his? We know that Paul suffered from a physical problem, was stoned, beaten, and went without food. Yet he gave God thanks for everything. He was content whether he had abundance or nothing. Because Paul was content regardless of his circumstances, he is a magnificent example of contentment. Through Paul, we see that, when we depend on Christ for everything, we can accept any situation here on earth, knowing that God won’t abandon us.

What was Paul’s secret? How did he find contentment in all those circumstances? His contentment came from Christ Jesus Himself. He found contentment in the fact that he was forgiven all of his sins and sinful behavior. He was assured that Christ was with him constantly. He knew that God was always there to see him through and that God would never give him more than he could handle. He knew that Christ Jesus died on the cross for him to give him life every day on earth and eternal life in heaven. He knew that Christ would rescue him from every trouble and sustain him in every trial along the way. He experienced Christ’s promise, “*My grace is sufficient for you!*” (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Submitted by Pat Pryor



As I faced my Maker at the last judgment, I knelt before the Lord along with all the other souls.

Before each of us laid our lives like the squares of a quilt in many piles; an angel sat before each of us sewing our quilt squares together into a tapestry that is our life.

But as my angel took each piece of cloth off the pile, I noticed how ragged and empty each of my squares was. They were filled with giant holes. Each square was labeled with a part of my life that had been difficult, the challenges and temptations I was faced with in every day life. I saw hardships that I endured, which were the largest holes of all.

I glanced around me. Nobody else had such squares. Other than a tiny hole here and there, the other tapestries were filled with rich color and the bright hues of worldly fortune. I gazed upon my own life and was disheartened.

My angel was sewing the ragged pieces of cloth together, threadbare and empty, like binding air.

Finally the time came when each life was to be displayed, held up to the light, the scrutiny of truth. The others rose; each in turn, holding up their tapestries. So filled their lives had been. My angel looked upon me, and nodded for me to rise.

My gaze dropped to the ground in shame. I hadn't had all the earthly fortunes. I had love in my life, and laughter. But there had also been trials of illness, and wealth, and false accusations that took from me my world, as I knew it. I had to start over many times. I often struggled with the temptation to quit, only to somehow muster the strength to pick up and begin again. I spent many nights on my knees in prayer, asking for help and guidance in my life. I had often been held up to ridicule, which I endured painfully, each time offering it up to the

Quilt of Holes

Father in hopes that I would not melt within my skin beneath the judgmental gaze of those who unfairly judged me.

And now, I had to face the truth. My life was what it was, and I had to accept it for what it was.

I rose and slowly lifted the combined squares of my life to the light.

An awe-filled gasp filled the air. I gazed around at the others who stared at me with wide eyes.

Then, I looked upon the tapestry before me. Light flooded the many holes, creating an image, the face of Christ. Then our Lord stood before me, with warmth and love in His eyes. He said, 'Every time you gave over your life to Me, it became My life, My hardships, and My struggles.

Each point of light in your life is when you stepped aside and let Me shine through, until there was more of Me than there was of you.'

May all our quilts be threadbare and worn, allowing Christ to shine through!

God determines who walks into your life ... it's up to you to decide who you let walk away, who you let stay, and who you refuse to let go.

I need this back. If you'll do this for me, I'll do it for you ... When there is nothing left but God that is when you find out that God is all you need.

Take 60 seconds and give this a shot! All you do is simply say the following small prayer for the person who sent you this.

Father, God bless all my friends in whatever it is that you know they may need this day! And may their life be full of your peace, prosperity and power as he/she seeks to have a closer relationship with you. Amen.

Outreach Committee

WOW! Our first Friendship Sunday held on May 4th was a smashing success thanks to the hard work of many members of the congregation.

A BIG THANK YOU TO...

- Marie Bergfeldt
- Patty Breitweiser
- Amber Brown
- Laurie Burke
- Linda Cinquegrana
- Alexis Dill & Alyxz
- Nancy Drews
- Abby Eaton
- Gayle, Paige & Carly Ferriera
- Leslie Green
- Carolyn Gruertze
- Linda Gustafson
- Paulette Hacker
- Tony Hansen
- Kathy Hogan
- June Hullings
- Ben Mallepalle
- Sue Mallepalle
- Sarah Mallepalle
- Jill O'Connor
- Dean Olson
- Toni Pryor
- ◆ Pat Pryor
- Maureen Puricelli
- Lisa Qualman
- Pastor Qualman
- Adrianna Salzer
- Bill Sardone
- ◆ Jamie Toth
- ◆ Mary Zeffiro
- Senior Choir
- Jubilation Bells
- Shepherd Singers
- Joshua's Trumpet
- All of the Ushers & Greeters
- All of the Youth who helped out
- ◆ All of the Buildings & Grounds members for all the extra work sprucing up the place!

*...And everyone else who helped to make this a wonderful day!
...And to all the 'friends' and visitors who came!
...And especially to God for blessing us on this special day!*

In addition to the above I would like to personally thank Jamie Toth for filling in for me and taking charge while I was away. Way to go Jamie!!

Everyone I spoke with commented on how spiffy the church looked, the fantastic music, the delicious food, and the general feeling of togetherness. The most important thing was seeing the new faces of our visitors. I would like to thank the members of our congregation who stepped outside their comfort zone and invited a friend to worship. Hopefully more of you will take advantage of this opportunity next time.





June 8th is New Member Sunday and we will be welcoming: John Fink, Robert and Roberta Ohliger; Lori, Edward, Mathew Scott Ealem, Jacob William, and Caitlin Julia LaFlower; and Scott, Annette, Scott Jr., Samantha, and Jessica Messler. Please make our newest members feel at home.

Look for the Outreach Committee at the June 7th Garage Sale and Old Bridge Day.

Yours in God's work,

Toni Pryor for the Outreach Committee



Spring Work Day a Giant Success!

With over 30 people working and finishing off over 30 projects, the spring work day was a wonderful success. Some of the projects were small, while others required a large number of people working together. If the church looks a bit spiffier and shinier, you can thank these people for the various jobs that they did:

Dave & Marie Bergfeldt, Bill Bleistein, Richard Borsuk, Amber Dlugosz, Abby Eaton, Robert

Fruh, Sonya Hansen, June Hullings, Don Landgraf, Dan LoDrago, Joe LoDrago, Joe LoDrago, Jr., Angelica Nieves, Juan Nieves, Miriam Nieves, Tim O'Connor, Robert Ohliger, Dean Olson, Paige Ferreira, Pat Pryor, Lara Pudwell, Anthony Puricelli, Maureen Puricelli, Lisa Qualman, Randi Rutan, Adrienne Salzer, Jamie Toth, Allison van Riemsdyk, Caitlyn Wong, Grace Wong, Samantha Wong

Tony Hansen
Buildings & Grounds Chair



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

Lloyd Lee – Uncle of Tony Hansen
Mino DeMaglie – Brother-in-law of Laurie & Bill Burke
Laurie Burke
Kathy Hogan
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

Please check this list. If someone can be removed, or someone needs to be added, please call me in the office and let me know.

Thank you

Marie

For Your Information



Happy Birthday to...

Sonya Hansen	6/01
Dani Sloan	6/01
Abby Eaton	6/03
Melissa Pineiro	6/04
Paul Schuster	6/04
Beth Van Handel	6/04
Anthony Fiumefreddo	6/04
Kevin Carlson	6/05
Aiden McKenna	6/06
Gordon McGrane	6/07
Jessica Nathanson	6/07
Kevin Coletti	6/08
Susan Chan	6/10
Tony Hansen	6/10
Devin Burniston	6/10
Michele Krawiec	6/11
Alyssa Maluchnik	6/11
Dawn Margolis	6/11
Marilyn Olson	6/14
Kami Stevens	6/16
Jason Guzman	6/19
Nicholas Sommer	6/19
Sujata Mallepalle	6/20
Bill Sabino	6/21
Sherri Cocklin	6/21
Lara Pudwell	6/21
Deloris Laub	6/22

Monique Gouamba	6/22
Stephanie Olson	6/23
Jeffrey Drews	6/23
Patricia Kotora	6/23
Robert Fruh	6/24
Colin Maluchnik	6/24
Rich Totten	6/25
Philippe Gouamba	6/26
Caitlyn Wong	6/26
Lauren Conway	6/27
Robert Weiss Sr	6/28
Ken Arzberger	6/28
Lorraine Morrison	6/29
Joseph DiMaggio	6/30
Danielle Stacy	6/30
Nicholas Scarpa	6/30

Happy Anniversary to.....

Lyman & Deloris Laub	6/1
Carol & Jeff Norberg	6/2
Patricia & Russell Van Fossen	6/10
Debra & Steven Onorato	6/13
Paul & Judy Garg	6/18
Kate & Barry Larkin	6/18
Joseph & Lois Furlong	6/18
Nancy & Jeffrey Drews	6/18
Robert & Laura Allen	6/21
Elsa & Theodore Mottola	6/24
David & Meg Palmer	6/25

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

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Groth Report – May 2008

From the Word

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.
Numbers 6:24*

If there's one thing that lights up every day in Cambodia it's the **smiles** here. One time when we were riding in a tuktuk in Phnom Penh we accidentally got on a route that was being readied for a visiting dignitary. What do you do when you're embarrassed to be in the wrong spot at the right time? You make a joke. We rode down the people-lined street and waved like dignitaries. You should have seen the **smiles**. Every time when we drive out to Trinity in Battambang the waves and **smiles** are some of the best part of the drive. A compliment to a hotel employee or waiter brings such a **smile** that it lights the whole room.

When I think of God's face shining upon us, I think of Him smiling on us. What makes God smile? When is He looking with favor and lighting up our world? He **smiles** when he sees His people following His will and living as forgiven children of God. When have you seen God's **smile** in your life and work?

Current Events

This month was our Christian leadership training in Battambang. Twelve leaders came together to learn about Lutheran worship. After they had learned about parts of the Lutheran service, Chuck showed them a DVD of two Lutheran worship services in the states and asked them to identify the parts they had studied. Then he asked for observations about the service. One of the men said, "There sure are a lot of old people." Now remember that Cambodian population has about 70% under 30 years of age. Of course, the churches reflect

this youthful population. While we **smiled** about the observation, I am sure God **smiled** when He saw people learning and worshipping His majesty!!

I did my usual work with the English and Bible teachers in Battambang. I always **smile** at their willingness to learn, to try new things, and to spend time working with me. This time I also asked to meet with the women's team. We had had such wonderful sharing and Bible discussions at the retreat the ladies from the US provided, and I wanted to extend this experience. First I gave them pictures that were sent by the American ladies as part of a prayer partnership that was created. That brought some **smiles**. Then I helped them hang the banner that they had made at that event. Let me tell you there were plenty of **smiles** as that was in place in the church. Finally we studied the Trinity together. After all, Trinity is the name of their church, and it seems fitting they learn more about just what this means. After our study I left them with material to create their own Trinity banner. That brought some **smiles** as they began to figure out just what the banner should look like. I'm sure God **smiled**, too, as He saw his people working to share more about Him and beautifying the house of the Lord.

It always makes me **smile** to work at New Life Christian School. The teachers there are so diligent in their work. They are so capable of working and loving the children and sharing God's Word through their actions. I was there to do an in-service on ways to get increased participation in the classroom. We had a wonderful morning learning by doing. I **smiled** at their creative ways to accomplish our learning. I'm sure God **smiled** too, when He saw these faithful workers.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page –Groth

Chuck has **smiled** all week with His work crew. About thirteen church leaders have spent days at our house finishing tables that will go out to our sites for ministry, English, Agriculture and health. We needed forty tables. The first tables were built by students from Hong Kong International School as part of a service learning project. These local leaders built the last thirty-six. They **smiled** as Chuck taught them to use power tools, sand to perfection, and varnish things to a shine. They loved eating lunch together. The biggest **smiles** of all came when they saw the completion of a job well done. Surely God **smiles** when He sees His people working together.

This month also I had the privilege of visiting a boarding home and orphanage run by a Christian group in Phnom Penh. Someone from the Lutheran Church in Hong Kong had heard about this group and wanted to provide toys for the children. Let me tell you that I **smiled** when I met the young students at the boarding home. While the places were far from lush by my eyes the young people from the rural areas were so glad to be together and have a place to stay in a Christian environment while they studied at the university. Before I got to go to the orphanage I did not **smile** because the heavens broke forth with a tropical downpour, and since I was riding in a tuktuk I got more than a little wet. We delayed the visit and started out for the orphanage the next afternoon. We drove down a ruddy puddle-lined street along a railroad track, into a slum surrounded by garbage, with no toilets, and arrived at the orphanage which was a room about 8 ft. x 10 ft. Thirty children spent some part of their day here. An orphanage in Cambodia means that either the children have no parents or have one parent or two parents that cannot provide for them in any way. I did **smile** when I met the caretaker. She had taught these children about Jesus, as well as provided some general education and also made an attempt to provide food for the kids. While many had no clothes they all had **smiles**. It was such a privilege to be able to bring a bag of rice, some great learning supplies and hugs!!! I am sure God **smiled** at the Hong Kong donors when he saw their care for these children. Prayerfully we will be able to continue some future work together. It would surely make me **smile**.

Finally we have big **SMILES** over the hiring of a translator and administrative assistant, Jesse. He will be working with us on translating, helping us with our short-term missionaries, and smoothing out our constant transition to life in Cambodia.

Where have you seen the **smiles** of God's children? What has made you **smile**? Most of all what part of your life do you think brings a **smile** to God's countenance?

With the life of **smiles** that only He can bring,

Chuck and Jeanette Groth

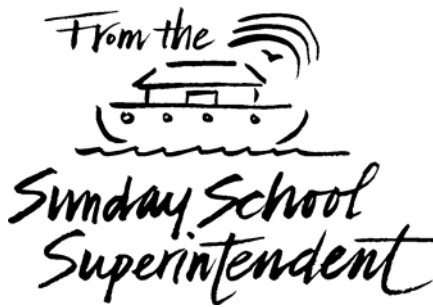
CHURCH LIBRARY



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.

Adam van Handel has been keeping the library organized in his sister's absence, and we would like to thank him for his great efforts. Job well done to you both.



Submitted by Laurie Burke

June is here, summer is right around the corner. This month's opening in Church will be June 15th, which is also our closing celebration of Sunday School for this year.

I would like to thank all those who helped make this a wonderful year. We'd also like to thank Becky Domis, Shioban Sabino, Janet Stacy and Bonnie Lo who will **not** be returning next year. God Bless you all. If you'd like to find out more about getting involved in Sunday School or with the Parish Education Committee, please contact Laurie Burke, Sunday School superintendent or Amber Brown, Coordinator of Christian Education.

Last day of Sunday School for the 2007/08 year will be June 15th.



FROM THE ALLEYS

Congratulations to the Discreet Indians (aka Nicole Onorato, Tony Onorato and Jonathan Artache) for becoming the 2nd half Champs. They met the 1st half Champs, The Old Goats (Paul Jordan and Betty and Don Cousens) on Monday May 19th. The evening started with the election of next year's officers. A floor nomination of the present board was made, seconded and carried unanimously. So returning will be Carol Hahl as secretary, Sandy Shipley as treasurer, Bob Shipley as vice-president and Laurie Burke as President.



3rd place -- Split Decision (Beth and Vin Stefanelli, Wayne Krawiec)

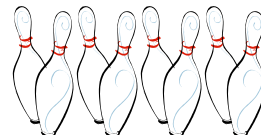
10th place was won by the Lucky Strikes (Jim Hatcliffe, Brigitte Meitzner and Dean Olsen)

Also a special congratulations to Paul Jordan who bowled his 1st 200 game the last game of the season.

Next month a report from the Banquet.

Submitted by Laurie Burke

Now we can congratulate all the 2007/08 champs-- The Discreet Indians (Nicole Onorato, Tony Onorato, and Jonathan Artache). Also congratulations go to 2nd Place -- The Old Goats (Paul Jordan, Betty and Don Cousens)



Thank you for helping to become “One Step Closer To A Cure”

Submitted by Susannah Rutan



On Saturday May 17, 2008, The Stennis Foundation, based out of Amarillo, Texas hosted a “One Step Closer” Walk for Leukodystrophy in honor of Eric Brown and the other Leukodystrophy families in New Jersey. All of the money raised from this event is going to the Stennis Foundation, which is a non-profit organization to fund research to find a cure for the Leukodystrophies. For the last 9 months, I have been helping the Stennis Foundation plan this event and thankfully it went off with a hitch!

Leukodystrophy is a neurological disorder. It refers to the degeneration of the myelin, the protective covering of the brain. Currently, there are 34 various types of

Leukodystrophy and some can be treated with bone marrow transplants and different therapies, but most, are incurable. Most of the Leukodystrophies affect children but there are cases of adult-onset of Leukodystrophy.

Due to the donations of various individuals, the May 17th event raised over \$4,000 to go to the Stennis Foundation and their research institutions. We had a turnout of over 100 walkers! I just wanted to say thank you to every person that contributed whether it be through monetary donations or through donations of time. You are the reason the event was such a success and “thank you” is just not enough!

I guess next year, we’ll just have to double our attendance and donations to the Stennis Foundation!! **Thank you for helping to become “One Step Closer to a Cure.”**

Family Life & Fellowship Dates for 2008

Coffeehouse June 21st @ 6:30 pm

Upcoming Fellowship Events:

June 29 –Blue Claw game, and a concert after. The game starts at 1:05 pm and around 4:00 the concert will begin. Tickets (if we get 25 or more) are \$8.50 for adults, and \$6.00 for children ages 5-10, and Seniors (over 60). If you are interested in attending, please see Kathy Hogan.

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

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

Good Shepherd Children's Center



WHAT'S NEW AT SCHOOL

I know you are not going to be reading this until the beginning of June, but I wanted to wish all the mothers, grandmothers, aunts, etc. a late

close as a family unit, pulling together to make sure that baby had everything she needed and then some. My brother-in-law spent most of the weekend buying baby items they never had a chance to buy due to her early arrival, while we, like a well oiled machine did everything else we could possibly physically do. As exhausting as it was, and me being very out of practice, it was exhilarating at the same time, this precious new life, so dependent, so innocent and vulnerable. When I held her and looked down at her, all I could think about was that children really are the most precious gift you could ever receive, and to me, this little girl has absolutely completed me and my family, and my baby sister got to celebrate her first ever Mothers Day.

Happy Mothers Day!

I hope you all spent the day surrounded by the ones you love most in this world and doing something fun, I certainly did. What I really wanted to talk about was this amazing thing that happened to me at the end of April. On April 30th I became an aunt for the first time, not through marriage. My only sister, who is younger than I am, gave birth to my niece Freya Renee' Banzhaf, she was 7 lbs 2 oz. and has adjusted to the world quite nicely. She is not only my first niece, but the first grand daughter in the family and she decided to show up two weeks early. So my mother and I made the trip to Syracuse, NY to greet this little pink bundle of joy. We spent the entire weekend shopping, cooking and cleaning, and taking care of the baby to give my sister a chance to rest. Three grown women and one proud new daddy decided we all needed to get up for the 2 am feeding to "see" the baby eat, one of us was surely not enough, it was quite comical. This also repeated at the 5 am feeding and so on.

What happened during that weekend was nothing short of a miracle, we became so connected and so

So, remember why you celebrated Mothers Day, and if you're not a mother or grandmother, remember your mom, or the special woman or women in your life. Family is everything, I would be lost without mine, they are what make this world go around, whoever your family is made up of, be thankful for them, love them, cherish them, accept them and always make sure that they know how you feel about them.

Lorraine Campo, Director
GSCC



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

June

- June 1st Confirmation Sunday & Coffee Hour
June 7th Annual Joyous Junk Sale, June 8th New Member Sunday, with a Meet & Great after service, Youth Group Open House
June 13th Church Office will be closed
June 14th Market Day Pick Up (**Last one for the year**)
June 15th Last day of Sunday School
June 21st Women of Faith Conference, Coffee House
June 22nd **Switch to one Service for summer 9:00 AM**, Baccalaureate Service
June 27th Crafters for Christ



July

- July 4th Office Closed
July 19th Strawberry & Ice Cream Festival

August

- August 31st End of one Church Service @ 9:00 AM

September

- September 7th **Rally Day –Back to 8 & 10:30 service schedule**
September 21st Confirmation Kick Off, Breakfast and 1st 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

GS Children's Center

732-679-8887

Worship Services

Sunday Communion Service

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Last Day of Sunday School 6/15/08

Begin Summer Worship hours

June 22nd, 2008 @ 9:00 AM

Mrs. Lorraine Campo, Director

gscc@lc-goodshepherd.org

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God's love at work here!