

The Staff

The Newsletter of the Lutheran Church
of the Good Shepherd

Our Mission:

To equip God's people for ministry with a vision to share God's Word!

January 2011

BEGINNING AGAIN

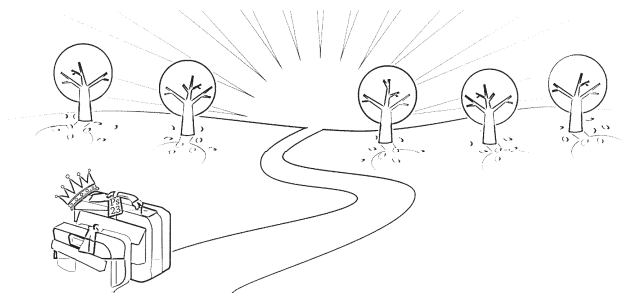
"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). Sometimes it's good to get back to the basics. When the whirlwind of holiday events and celebrations is over, it's time to gather our wits and prepare for the coming year. Time to get our bearings. Time to think afresh. Time to take stock of the past year – for some, remembering its blessings, for others, sorrowing over its setbacks.

Whether rejoicing or sorrowing, however, God is there with us. He laughs with us in our times of joy and wipes away our tears of sadness. He is always here. He was here *"in the beginning."* He created it all. When *"the earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep... the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, 'Let there be...' And there was..."* (Genesis 1:2, 3).

All it takes is a word from God's mouth and there it is. He created it, He owns it, and He loans it to us for our use. In addition, all the time, He is there with us; never will He leave us (Hebrews 13:5). This is no time for regrets over the past, for God has forgiven and forgotten our sin. There is no cause for worry over what the new year will bring, for God has already been there.

Each of us can make a new beginning; in fact, each day, each moment can be a new beginning. God promises to provide for all our needs. Paul wrote, *"And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 4:19). Believing this promise, we do not need to fear for our futures, financial or otherwise. We do not need to store up wealth for some calamity. We can afford to be generous givers because, as believers, we are covered by God's promise to care for us.

By God's grace, let us make that new beginning, then, living according to God's plan for us and managing the vast resources He has loaned to us to the best of our abilities, honoring Him in all we say, in the way we live, and through our generous offerings as we work to make His name known.



Traveling Light

**5th annual Princess Retreat.
February 26 & 27th, 2011.**

The cost is \$120.00 per person. This includes your shared hotel room, meals, materials, mission projects, and art supplies. You can pay monthly or all at once. Final payments are due by February 6th, 2011.

This year we will be "Traveling Light." We will be using Max Lucado's "Traveling Light" as our guide. Please pick up a brochure/registration pamphlet from the table in the Narthex, or if you have any questions, please see Marie Bergfeldt, or Jill O'Connor.

Good Shepherd Children's Center

WHAT'S NEW AT SCHOOL



Happy New Year!!! So here it is January already. Now that everyone is back into some sort of routine without all the hustle and bustle of the holidays, we can get down to the business of looking to the future of our next school year. On Saturday, January 15, 2011 from 9am to 1pm will be GSCC's Open House where we will begin to take enrollment for our 2011-2012 school year. Positions are available that day to anyone who wants to sign up. If you or anyone you know is looking for

Preschool Pre-K or Kindergarten, please give us a call for more information at 679 8887. Ronald McDonald will be visiting us on January 19 at 10am, he will be reading stories to the children. We are very much looking forward to his visit.

Lorraine Campo
Director, GSCC



From the Alleys

Submitted by Laurie Burke

Happy New Year from the Good Shepherd Bowling League.

As I write this article we are just getting ready to have our Christmas Party and take a week break for Christmas. Leading our jolly bowlers are the teams of Jersey Sure (Beth, Vin and Wayne) and Lane Rovers (Steve, Carol and Bob). Holding us all up is the new team, Frayed Knot (Victoria and Julio and Jon). Yes, we'd like to welcome a newbie to our league-Jon Bliven and thank him for filling out our 8th team. Come visit us and cheer us on at Strathmore Lanes on Route 34 Monday nights at 8:30- and see who has high game and high average. We'll be looking for ya!



To My Good friends in Christ, thank you all for your condolences on the passing of my daughter Karen.
Your prayers have given me comfort.

Barbara Wittig



How can I thank you all for your care, thoughts and prayers following my recent accident? I certainly know how to liven up a church picnic! I want to also thank you for taking such good care of my Abby following my fall.

It's at times like this when you realize what wonderful friends you have. I've always known I had a wonderful family, but now I can include my church family as well. Thank you so much for your phone calls and cards, they really cheered me up. I especially enjoyed the many meals you prepared for me. Rosemarie Staudinger's meatloaf and chicken were wonderful ... and those many meals prepared by Linda Cinquegrana were fantastic!

May God Bless You All!
Love, Paulette (and Abby)



I would like to thank all those who have sent get well cards, e-mails and have taken the time to call me and ask how I was doing. I definitely feel that all the prayers have had an effect on my recovery and God has been good in answering those prayers. I thank all my brothers and sisters in Christ and pray for you as you have done so for me.

According to my doctors, my progress is going very well. They say that my recovery will take a while longer but the outlook is good. I will be undergoing further tests, probably at the end of January to determine the effectiveness of the stem cell transplant. I still need to avoid people and must stay away from public places. God Bless you all.

In His Service,

Ed Siclari

Our second annual Craft Festival was held November 13th, and was quite a success – for both our Church and the crafters. We had over 200 shoppers come through our doors! Some even came just to have lunch and show their support for our fund raising efforts! How could you resist Dan Cinquegrana’s pulled pork sandwiches, Linda’s soups or Abby Eaton’s famous chili! We also had a bake shop with close to 20 different cookies, pies & cakes, as well as fresh bagels and coffee to start our day off!

Here is what our congregants were selling –

- Joanne Jocus was selling the Youth Group’s wonderful hand dipped chocolates.
- Elizabeth Pedersen and Mardel Bonfiglio were selling their sewn and crochet and knitted wares!
- Amy Ford and Diane Ford had a table with children’s hair accessories, crochet & fleece blankets and scarves.
- Kimberly McClue was selling her beautiful hand painted glass ware.
- And let’s not forget the Greenery Sale, Cookbook and Gift Card tables manned by their committee members!

We also had some other fund raising items for sale that day--our Christmas Greenery sale, the cookbook and our gift cards!

As I strolled around to see how our outside vendors were doing, I received great feedback on the Church and our members! Many of them expressed to me how inviting and friendly we were-- such a great testimony to our congregation’s members. We had people come from the surrounding area which turned out to be a great outreach into our community! That was the icing on the cake for me!

Our final total for this year was \$1,306 in sales (not including the Greenery Sale, Cookbook or Gift Cards). All of this though, could not have been possible but for the all of the volunteers who helped this day come together: from the bakers, crafters, cooks, Men’s Ministry’s and all of the other volunteers who were there to help! I truly appreciate your time and effort that made this day such a success!!

And of course, all of this couldn’t have been possible without the Lord

THE START OF A NEW YEAR

December, ends the calendar year, culminating in several music debuts by our Sunday school students to the enjoyment of all. To finish off the year, we hosted our annual Sunday school pageant where our featured actors – the Sunday school children – wonderfully expressed through drama the meaning of Christmas as they used their spiritual gifts of speaking, singing and praise to God.



Sunday School News

Now with a New Year beginning, there is still much to be planned. We are renewing our efforts to help the children understand and appreciate how they can use their time, talents and treasury to serve our Lord.

We continue to work closely with the Stewardship Committee. In November, the children collected fruit and each class gave a "Silent Angel" basket to 3 silent angels among us here at Good Shepherd. A "*Silent Angel*" is that someone who regularly gives back to Good Shepherd but is frequently overlooked or never acknowledged for what they do here to keep the church working and functioning! There will be more to come to help our children learn that they, too, can use their spiritual gifts of good deeds, earth kindness, helping and sharing.

Now let's speak of treasury, at the start of each class, a Sunday School offering is taken – the amount is not important – the "Returning to God" (a tithe) is the key. Offering envelopes are available for children to take home with them. Please see your Sunday School superintendent.

Oh, yes and talents, while this year we are instructing the children to recognize they too have God-given talents, each of you can also share your special talents. Have you considered teaching or co-teaching on a Sunday with another person?

What ages are you comfortable with? You do not need to commit to every Sunday. The curriculum we are using is well laid out, really user friendly and filled with resources. Please let me know if you are interested and I'll be happy to chat with you and answer any questions you have. If teaching is not one of your talents, helpers are always needed for

Sunday school classes. Join a class on a Sunday and just be an extra set of hands to the class.

Lastly, as parents of our Sunday school children, whether or not you are ready to get involved in activities, I invite you to join us at our coffee hour, to relax in a friendly atmosphere, where you can meet with other parents, have the chance to meet some of our deacons, Pastors, board and committee members, as well as myself!. And then what better example than to worship together as a family. Children not only need to come to Sunday School but they also need to worship in church.

One thing I have learned in my years associated with the Sunday school is that teaching children to pray is relatively easy and enjoyable. We pray aloud with them at meals and teach them simple nighttime prayers. But sometimes we forget the most important thing about prayer. Prayer's effectiveness does not depend on what we say or how we say it; prayer makes a difference because the one we address has ultimate power in this universe. Remember - affirming this truth gives children a special confidence in prayer.

January 9 – Sunday school classes resume – welcome back!

Yours in Christ,

Lorraine Morrison,
Sunday School Superintendent

FUTURE EVENTS

JANUARY 2011

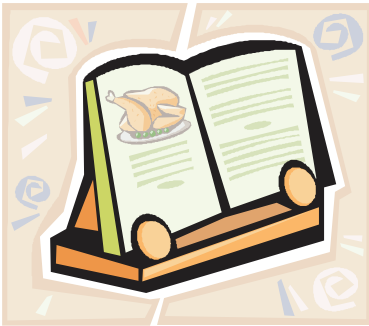
Saturday Evening Services at 5:00 PM – January 8, 15, 22, 29

January 2	NO Sunday School
January 3	Church Office Closed
January 9	Learning Event
January 14	LYF Play
January 15	Dinner Theatre
January 26	50 th Anniversary Committee Meeting
January 28 & 29	Winter Youth Gathering

FEBRUARY 2011

Saturday Evening Services at 5:00 PM – February 5, 12, 19 & 26

February 26 & 27 Princess Retreat



Cookbook Updates:

We will be publishing comments from anyone who has tried the recipes in our 50th anniversary cookbook. If you have a comment, please e-mail to Marie@lc-goodshepherd.org.

I made Joe's Irish Soda Bread first and it was so moist and tasty! I also made the Pumpkin Soup from Jamie Toth. Another very savory item. Mary Ellen Brace



Those Recovering

Rosemarie Staudinger
Michele Carlson
Michael Junco
Brigitte Meitzner
Christine McGrade

Those in Nursing Homes

Emmy Moore –sister of Katrina Clapsis
Leela Mallepalle

Those who are Shut-in

Marion Morgan
Joan Brenner
Josie Schubert –mother of Mary Artache

Those with Other Needs

Jack Kaplan – nephew of Marie Bergfeldt
Nicole Stacy
Olivia Rae Vargas – niece of Sue Hawley
Gloria Carias
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

Those Struggling with Cancer

Ed Siclari
Vinny Campo – husband of Care Center Director
Elaine Bosco, sister of RoseMarie Staudinger
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

Those in the Military

Matthew Walczak - friend of the Kim's
Jason Lefkowitz – friend of the Bergfeldt Family
Nelson Junco – nephew of Millie Junco (in
Afghanistan)
Patrick Grimes – grandson of Joan Brenner
Jeff Borkowski
Dustin Brown
Jeff Kotora
Guy Kotora
Brian Borkowski –nephew of the Borkowski's
Fabian Lopez –friend of Russell Domis
Darrin Brown –co-worker of Beth Meyer
David Haczyk –friend of Siclari's
Elizabeth Roslak –friend of Siclari's
Jon Griswold –brother-in-law of Heidi Griswold
Marc Artache –nephew of Julio & Mary Artache

*Please review the list, and let Marie know if
there are any changes. Thank You.*

For Your Information

Happy Birthday to...

Adam Lo	01/01		
Christina Sereda	01/04	Allyson Gonzalez	01/29
Candace Riggs	01/04	Jessica Van Handel	01/29
Andrew Junco	01/05	Dereck Matthews	01/29
Donna Dooley	01/06	Ruth Culmone	01/30
Amy Ford	01/07	Carol Hahl	01/31
Jason Cocklin	01/07	Alicia DeSena	01/31
Kevin Prenderville	01/08		
Christopher Hellriegel	01/08		
Katie Hellriegel	01/08		
Matthew Qualman	01/09		
Douglas Kim	01/10		
Alyxa Olsen	01/11		
David Schulmeister	01/12		
Katherine O'Connor	01/13		
Robert Ohliger	01/16		
Erika Meitzner	01/17		
Kim Raba	01/17		
Joseph G. Kotora	01/18		
Edward Siclari	01/18		
Edward Siclari	01/18		
Kirsten Cox	01/21		
Kathy Schulmeister	01/23		
Wayne Borkowski	01/24		
Leela Mallepalle	01/25		
Christine Kim	01/25		
Paul Garg	01/27		
Josceline Skrok	01/27		
Barbara Freeborn	01/28		
Brendan vanRiemsdyk	01/28		
Arthur Staudinger	01/28		
Jessica Shipley	01/28		
Jessica Messler	01/28		
Kathleen Ruckdeschel	01/28		



Join the Latin-inspired

Easy to Follow
Dance FITNESS Class
Thursday, January 6, 13, 20, 27
(\$8.00 each class - \$32.00)

Location: Good Shepherd
Fellowship Hall

**Must wear sneakers;
water bottle recommended.**

The Staff is published monthly
for members and friends of
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ebmallepalle@yahoo.com

Admin. Assistant
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marie@lc-goodshepherd.org

**Organist & Sr Choir
Director**
Mr. Greg Ricca

**GS Children's Center
Director**
Mrs. Lorraine Campo
(732) 679-8887
gssc@lc-goodshepherd.org

Sexton
Frank Lylo

Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Dr. Norman L. Johnson
revdrj46@peoplepc.com

Good Shepherd Celebrates 50 Years of Service

The Good Shepherd Anniversary Planning Committee is busy with upcoming events for the 2010-2011 Celebration. We are scheduling one event per month. We still have several activities/events that need a lead coordinator identified, so if you see something that you would like to lead, please contact someone from the Committee.

We'll be calling on **everyone from the congregation** to help contribute **memorabilia and pictures**, so if you have some available, keep that in mind. The Committee is Marianne Krawiec, Jamie Toth, Gail Ferrara, Debbie Onorato, Faith Caban, and Toni Pryor.

Month	Event	Event Coordinator
Overall Activity	Good Shepherd souvenir Cookbook.	Jamie Toth
October 3, 2010	Kick-off event with Church Picnic immediately following 10:30 service	Toni Pryor
November 2010	All Saints Day, Nov. 1, Remembering deceased Good Shepherd members	
December 2010	Past Christmas pageants, Christmas Caroling GS Cookbook Sales	Coordinator needed
January 2011	History of church (in pictures), History of board of Lay ministry and past and present ministers	Coordinator needed
February 2011	History of LYF and LYF plays 10 year vision of GS developed by Youth Group	Coordinator needed
March 2011	First communion Classes and First Confirmation Classes (past pictures, interviews with past confirmees). Collect previous Confirmation banners (ask congregation to donate) and hang in the fellowship hall.	Coordinator needed
April 2011	Easter Breakfast, Past Easter pictures from congregation, Easter egg hunt.	Coordinator needed
May 2011	History of the Shepherd Players, Reprise of the first GS Play, <i>God's Favorite</i> (Neil Simon)	Marianne Krawiec, Director
June 2011	Music Ministry (past organists, JT, Bell choirs, Music Sundays).	Coordinator needed
July 2011	Children's Center history; Who's that in the pew?	Debbie Onorato
August 2011	No event scheduled.	
September 2011	Rally Day - History of Sunday School and VBS (past superintendents).	Coordinator needed
October 2, 2011	Celebration Service and dinner @ The Palms	Faith Caban

**The Lutheran Church of the
Good Shepherd**

www.lc-goodshepherd.org
3139 County Road 516
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The Rev. Ben Mallepalle, Assistant Pastor

GS Children's Center
732-679-8887

Mrs. Lorraine Campo, Director
gsc@lc-goodshepherd.org

Worship Services
Sunday at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
Sunday School at 9:15 AM
Bible Classes at 9:30 AM

Saturday Evening Service @ 5:00 PM

Youth Fellowship Meetings 1st Sunday of
each month at 6:00 PM

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Old Bridge NJ 08857*

God's love at work here!