

# 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!

February 2011

*After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh?  
(Galatians 3:3)*

A man got lost in the desert and wandered for a long time. At last, he saw a small cabin at the edge of the desert. Thirsty, he ran to the cabin. The cabin was abandoned but in the back yard the man found a water pump and a small container, filled with water, with the words "Pour all on top of pump to prime" on the lid. He realized he had to make a choice. He could drink the water from the small container to immediately and temporarily satisfy his thirst or he could use the water to get all the water he needed. After giving it some thought he chose to use the water to prime the pump. The pump took a few minutes to work, but he had all the water he drink and wash. He then filled the container for the next person and scratched on it the words "Priming the pump works".

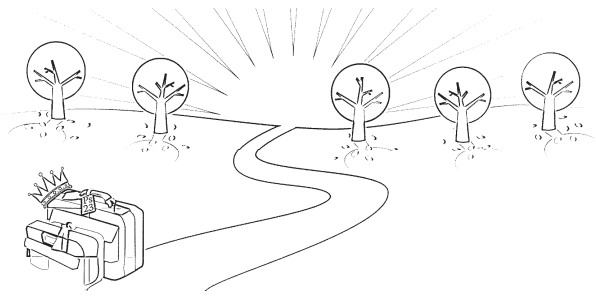
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

On one hand we have the world that gives us everything temporary. On the other, we have Jesus who gives us "living water". We can come to church and run back to the world the rest of the time or we can be like Paul who said "*I no longer live, but Christ lives in me*" (Galatians 2:20). We can obey our God who gave us his Spirit at our baptism or we can follow the world for our damnation. We can learn from God and be equipped to teach others about Christ or we can be selfish and perish. We have to make the choice - Everything in Christ or immediate but temporary fulfillment.

Bible studies are being planned by the deacons to help us grow in Christ. Please consider joining them to learn more about yourself and about Christ. Just as the man trusted the writing on the container, continue to trust in Jesus and you "*will never thirst*" (John 4:14).

The Lord Bless You All.

Pastor Ben



## Traveling Light

### 5th Annual Princess Retreat April 9, 2011.

In an effort to refresh our dedication to the Lord; this year, the Princess Retreat will be held on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The retreat will be from 12 pm to 8 pm, with attendance at the Saturday Evening Worship Service at 5:00 pm. The cost of this one day retreat is \$25.00/pp which will include dinner and the cost for the book, *Traveling Light* (if you already purchased the book, the cost for the dinner will be \$15.00/pp.) A variety of soups and salad will be served for a light lunch (and we encourage you to bring a sandwich if you'd like.)

Come join us as we talk through and learn how to put down those bags that we often carry in our minds: the suitcase of guilt, the trunk of discontent, the backpack of anxiety, and the overnight bag of loneliness. Where can we turn for help...how about that old friend, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm? We are excited to celebrate our *fifth annual retreat* and pray you will join us this special day of growing in Christ, fellowship with friends and worship and praise to our King of kings.

We encourage all women, age 18 and older to attend. Because some discussion is based on adult topics and situations we ask that middle school and high school students not attend. We encourage you to invite your mom, sister, cousin, aunt, friend, co-worker or neighbor. All materials are geared for Christian women regardless of denomination, new or seasoned Christian. Please take some extra promotional pamphlets to distribute to your friends, co-workers and family.

Our mission project this year will be to bring a non-perishable food item that will be donated to our local Old Bridge Food Bank.

## Good Shepherd Children's Center

### WHAT'S NEW AT SCHOOL



We had wonderful turnout at Open House on January 15<sup>th</sup>. 30 families enrolled for the 2011-2012 school year as a result of advertising and our mailed postcards. Ronald McDonald came to GSCC on January 19, 2011 and played games with the kids, read a story, and taught them the importance of reading. He also took the time to shake everyone's hand. A big thank you to Mr. Lentini for offering the students a wonderful opportunity to meet Ronald, it is deeply appreciated.

We will be holding our annual book fair from February 7th-10th, and I hear Clifford the Big Red Dog will be making a special appearance to encourage the children to read and use their imaginations.

Don't forget Happy Valentine's Day on the 14<sup>th</sup>!

Lorraine Campo  
Director, GSCC



# From the Alleys

*Submitted by Laurie Burke*

Congratulations 1<sup>st</sup> half champs--Lane Rovers (Steve Weiss Sr., Bob & Carol Hahl). Also welcome back to Steven Humiston, who is finishing out Jim Hatcliffe's spot with the Monday Nights (Paul Jordan and Dean Olson).

On Monday January 24<sup>th</sup> for a few minutes all the teams will be tied--until we start bowling. Why? We will be starting our second half. Who will be 2<sup>nd</sup> half champs? Keep watching in the Staff or better yet, come visit us at Strathmore Lanes- Mondays at 8:30pm. Hope to see you there.

## FUTURE EVENTS

### FEBRUARY 2011

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

<b>February 6</b>	Seekers Class begin at 9:30 am in the Library
<b>February 10</b>	Admin Board Meeting @ 7:30 PM
<b>February 26</b>	Admin Board Retreat/Meeting
<b>February 27</b>	Martin Luther Play at 9:15 am in Fellowship Hall

### MARCH 2011

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

<b>March 5 &amp; 12</b>	First Communion Classes @ 9:00 am
<b>March 5</b>	LYF Dinner Theatre @ 6:30 pm
<b>March 6</b>	LYF Lunch Theatre @ 2:00 pm
<b>March 9</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> – service @ 7:30 pm
<b>March 13</b>	<b>First Communion Sunday</b> @ 10:30 am Service
<b>March 19</b>	AA's 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Marie on vacation from March 21 <sup>st</sup> to March 30.

# THE MUSIC IN MY HEAD



From the moment I wake up until I close my eyes to sleep, there is music playing inside my head. Sometimes I put it there, but most times it just plays like some cosmic CD. Abstract melodies, songs that I may have heard once or that I hear often, old songs from childhood or harmonies I may be working on for the choir. The presence of this continuous music reminds me of the presence of God every minute of every day. Music truly comes from God. Jesus shows me the way to God's grace and music provides me the opportunity to "see" God. It also affords me the privilege of praising and thanking Him in the most perfect way.

Good Shepherd needs to fill the void left by Amber Brown's resignation. We owe it to ourselves and our children to provide a Christian pasture where we can all continue discovering Christ and praising God in song. Yes it is wonderful to come to Church and lift your voices up and prod your kids to sing the hymns during service. But a Christian Music Program dedicated to "perfecting" songs of praise allows all of us the opportunity to "see" God. If you are not in the choir this may be hard for you to understand but I see it every week. As the choir rehearses a piece, I watch the faces of the members and I am amazed. The transformation from confusion to satisfaction and then pure joy when we get it right is breathtaking. The most awesome thing about this feeling is that there is no ego or "I" in that joy. We look around at each other and think "we did it". The pride is in being a small part of a whole; one harmony, one voice, one goal. It never ceases to amaze me. My wish is that all of you have the opportunity to experience that feeling.

My point is this: please support the Music Program of Good Shepherd as we try to rebuild it. Join a choir. Encourage your children to give choir a try. Drive them there and practice with them. In the coming months, The Worship and Music Committee, with the support of the Admin Board and other dedicated members of the Church, will begin to set foundations for a Music Program that includes an expanded Adult Program and Youth Programs that afford everyone the opportunity to be involved in "perfecting" our worship and praise. All of us involved will strive to bring new, innovative approaches to what we do while still honoring the Classics. As we have already shown, we can worship and praise in "cool", exciting ways and still make a joyful noise that pleases The Lord. Let's come together in song. The past is the past. Let's learn from it and move on.

It has been 18 months since I came to Good Shepherd as the Organist / Senior Choir Director. It can be very demanding at times but I smile every time I think about my role at The Church. I am blessed to have many new friends. I am blessed to work for an Admin Board that trusts me and allows me to grow in my musical relationship with God. I am blessed because of the faces I see every Sunday. I am blessed because I lead a group of exceptional singers, people who are passionate, caring and supportive of each other. I treasure every moment I get to be with them. How many people can say that about the place where they work?

In His Service,  
Greg Ricca

# Capisce?

**A 1930's Detective Movie  
Dinner Theater  
Presented BY  
The LYF**



**March 5, 2011 – Dinner Theater 6:30PM**  
**Adults: \$15.00 Seniors & Students \$12.00**

**March 6, 2011 – Lunch Theater 2:00PM**  
**Adults \$12.00 Seniors & Students \$10.00**

# ARE YOU RIGHT FOR THE ADMIN BOARD?

In June 2011, two member terms on the Administrative Board will be completed.

Jamie Toth and Faith Caban have dutifully served on the Admin Board for a number of years. At least one of them will not be running for re-election this year. If you think you might be right for the Board, I ask you to prayerfully consider running. The Admin Board nominating committee has approached quite a number of people in past years, but no one has been willing to commit to running for a Board position. The nominating committee is currently looking for people who might consider running for one of the positions opening this year.

Most people tell us they need to decline nomination because they feel they cannot make the time commitment, or they don't want to take on the responsibility for the types of decisions that the Admin Board must make. In addition to normally scheduled monthly meetings, the Admin Board must deal with any issues that come up, as quickly as the situations demand. So when the water pipe burst in the wall between the kitchen and the music room, because of the amount of money needed to make the repairs, the Admin Board had to give their approval to the Buildings and Grounds committee's recommendations. As you may have heard at the Congregational Meeting, there is a spending freeze right now, because of the church's financial situation. However, when sewage started backing up into the Care Center's toilets, the Admin Board had to approve the monies to fix the situation, fast.

While we have many wonderful ministry and committee members at Good Shepherd who take on all kinds of responsibilities, the Admin Board has the responsibility of overseeing the big picture, now and for the future, especially in these difficult financial times.

The nominating committee has the responsibility of trying to find the people who we feel are best suited, in as many ways as possible, to being future productive members of the Board. Then we ask

those people to consider running for an Admin Board position.

We start by focusing on people who took the Spiritual Gifts workshops, especially those who had Administration as one of their gifts. We look for people who have been on other committees and ministry teams in the past or at present, especially those who held positions of authority or specific responsibility, especially in coordination, planning and team positions.

We look for people who are involved, particularly in leadership positions, with the Youth, as they are the future of Good Shepherd. We look for involvement in Sunday School, the Confirmation program, teen Bible study, LYF and other Youth groups.

We look for people willing to put out time and effort for the church, at functions such as Work Days, Church Picnics, Adult Bible studies, Men's Ministries, Women's groups, etc., again looking especially at organizers, coordinators and leaders.

We look for regular attendance at worship services, as well as specific administrative church events such as Congregational Meetings, the TRIM program, etc.

We usually do not ask anyone with small children at home or anyone caring for elderly or sick relatives. We do not feel it appropriate to ask for such a commitment from people with these responsibilities at home.

We usually do not ask people who are currently serving on three or more committees or groups, especially the Deacons, as we do not want to further burden those already serving in several areas, nor do we want to take away from the committees and groups being served. We also do not ask people who already perform very time-consuming individual tasks or positions, such as the Confirmation presenters.

*Continued on next page*

## ADMIN Continued

We do use a few subjective criteria. The Admin Board needs team players whose first concern is the good of the church. We look for people with fresh ideas and points of view. We want people who would, in our opinions, complement the existing Board. New members must be able to work with the existing members of the Board and still be able to voice differing opinions and discuss them objectively and productively.

Our hope is to ask people who are not in that 2% of the Congregation who already dutifully volunteer and serve all the time.

If you feel you might be interested in running, I ask you to please speak with Laurie Burke, Julio Artache or me, Sandy Shipley. We can try to answer any questions you might have, or get answers for you from the existing Board members. We would really like to get volunteers to run this year, who are willing to commit to the time and responsibility of being on the Admin Board.

Thank you.

Sandy Shipley



## CHRISTMAS PRESENTS BRING GREAT JOY TO MANY

*Submitted by Paulette Hacker, Chairperson, Mission Committee*

Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful congregation, Christmas Day was a day filled with the sounds of laughter and joy as over 130 people opened their beautifully wrapped packages to see what wonderful surprises lay inside. You can read the thank you letters we received on the Bulletin Board and see how your thoughtful gifts brought tears of appreciation to the hearts of many moms who thought their children would have no presents under the tree this year. This year we not only helped our neighbors at the Sayreville Group Home, Amandla Crossings, Old Bridge Welfare, but also many Senior Citizens and the teenagers at Irayna Court. We also received very generous contributions to "My Brother's Keeper" which allows Good Shepherd to help the people in our church family who are going through financial difficulties due to unemployment or illness.

May God bless you for all that you do, not only at Christmas, but throughout the year!

## Cookbook Updates:

**Have you tried any recipes from our cookbook??  
Please give us your comments.**



We will be publishing comments from anyone who has tried the recipes in our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary cookbook. If you have a comment, please e-mail to [Marie@lc-goodshepherd.org](mailto:Marie@lc-goodshepherd.org).

# SUNDAY BELONGS TO GOD

I have been thinking a lot about this topic as I plan various activities in my personal week. However, for me - Sunday belongs to the Lord – we all know that it is supposed to be His day. For Christians SUNDAY is our Sabbath. The Bible tells us, "Remember the Sabbath..."



## Sunday School News

Sunday school provides an opportunity for personal application of the scriptures based on the age level of the class.

Sunday school provides for fellowship and a sense of belonging for each member of the class.

Sunday school provides a platform for people to serve the Lord through teaching and administration.

When we get up each Sunday we have a choice. We can choose to go to Sunday school and church or some other activity like shopping. For me, if I don't find my way to the house of God on Sunday I feel I am cheating God but even worse I am cheating myself even more.

Sunday school is a training ground for young Christians to be more productive and gives them the opportunity to develop their skills and talents for the Lord.

Matthew 19:14, Jesus commands, "Let the little children come to me, do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs." Jesus wants our children to come to Him. He commands us not to stop them. Bringing your children to Sunday school is part of fulfilling your obligation as a believing parent ... it is a responsibility." Remember children follow in our footsteps and wouldn't you rather they would follow you to church than anywhere else?

I'll hope to see you and your families in church and during Sunday school!

### Special Dates

February 27 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Martin Luther Presentation in the Fellowship Hall

March 13 – First Communion Sunday

April 24 – Easter – no classes

June 5 – Confirmation Sunday

June 19 – Last day of school

### **Some Basics of Sunday School**

Sunday school provides a basic systematic study of the scriptures at a level of understanding for that age group.

Yours in Christ,

Sunday school allows an opportunity for its members to talk and share about their needs with others in similar life situations.

Lorraine Morrison,  
Sunday School Superintendent



### *Those Recovering*

**Gloria Carias**  
**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*

**John DeLuca** – friend of the Bergfeldt's  
**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...

Robin Schmitz 2/01  
Patty Currro 2/02  
Marianne Krawiec 2/06  
Leslie Green 2/08  
Taylor Bliven 2/11  
Frans van Riemsdyk 2/12  
Grace Wong 2/14  
Rod Cox 2/14  
Rebecca Marcinczyk 2/15  
Kate Ann Brace 2/15  
Carol Sereda 2/17  
Cynthia McGrane 2/19  
Robert Schmitz 2/20  
Nicolas Zolfo 2/20  
David Bergfeldt, Jr. 2/21  
Marie Bergfeldt 2/22  
Aida Verello 2/23  
Leah Svat 2/24  
Lori LaFlower 2/24  
Samantha Wong 2/27  
Colleen Cistone 2/27

## Happy Anniversary to...

Miriam & Juan Nieves 2/20  
Arthur & Amy Ford 2/22



## Join the Latin-inspired

Easy to Follow  
Dance FITNESS Class  
Thursday, evenings at 7:45 PM  
(\$8.00 each class - \$32.00)

**We meet in the Fellowship Hall  
Must wear sneakers;  
water bottle recommended.**

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

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Visit us on the web @  
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### Asst. Pastor

Rev. Ben Mallepalle  
ebmallepalle@yahoo.com

### Admin. Assistant

Mrs. Marie Bergfeldt  
marie@lc-goodshepherd.org

### Organist & Sr Choir Director

Mr. Greg Ricca

### GS Children's Center Director

Mrs. Lorraine Campo  
(732) 679-8887  
gsc@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
<b>Overall Activity</b>	Good Shepherd souvenir Cookbook.	Jamie Toth
<b>October 3, 2010</b>	Kick-off event with Church Picnic immediately following 10:30 service	Toni Pryor
<b>November 2010</b>	All Saints Day, Nov. 1, Remembering deceased Good Shepherd members	
<b>December 2010</b>	Past Christmas pageants, Christmas Caroling GS Cookbook Sales	<b>Coordinator needed</b>
<b>January 2011</b>	History of church (in pictures), History of board of Lay ministry and past and present ministers	<b>Coordinator needed</b>
<b>February 2011</b>	History of LYF and LYF plays 10 year vision of GS developed by Youth Group	<b>Coordinator needed</b>
<b>March 2011</b>	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.	<b>Coordinator needed</b>
<b>April 2011</b>	Easter Breakfast, Past Easter pictures from congregation, Easter egg hunt.	<b>Coordinator needed</b>
<b>May 2011</b>	History of the Shepherd Players, Reprise of the first GS Play, <i>God's Favorite</i> (Neil Simon)	Marianne Krawiec, Director
<b>June 2011</b>	Music Ministry (past organists, JT, Bell choirs, Music Sundays).	<b>Coordinator needed</b>
<b>July 2011</b>	Children's Center history; Who's that in the pew?	Debbie Onorato
<b>August 2011</b>	No event scheduled.	
<b>September 2011</b>	Rally Day - History of Sunday School and VBS (past superintendents).	<b>Coordinator needed</b>
<b>October 2, 2011</b>	Celebration Service and dinner @ The Palms	Faith Caban

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[www.lc-goodshepherd.org](http://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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of  
each month at 6:00 PM

*The Lutheran Church  
of the Good Shepherd  
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*God's love at work here!*