

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!

May 2011

ETERNAL TREASURES



STEWARDSHIP NOTE

An old epitaph reads,
“What I gave, I have;
what I spent, I had;
what I kept, I lost.”

Obviously this person
had much wisdom.

He realized that, during his life, only that which was given to the Lord had any lasting value. The things he had purchased while alive were used up and gone, and the possessions he owned at death were of no good to him then.

Speaking to this subject, Jesus said in Matthew 6:19-21, “*Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*” Jesus said that treasures on earth would not last. The cars we buy will become dented and end up in the junkyard. The clothes we wear will wear out. Jesus said that we are to store up treasures in heaven or as the epitaph reads, “What I gave, I have.” How do we store up treasures in heaven? When we give cheerfully and generously to God through our churches, we store up treasures in

heaven. What are these treasures? Well, what is the only thing that goes to Heaven? Is it gold and silver? Maybe stocks and bonds? How about that car or mansion? No! The treasure is people! God is blessed and honored through our faithful giving because, through it, the Gospel is preached and taught and souls are saved.

In a quote from Joe Seaborn we read:

“In a real sense, giving to the cause of Christ is nothing more or less than laying aside eternal investments so that when we stand before Christ in heaven, we have gold, silver, and precious stones that we have been laying at His feet all along. The crown that we talk about laying at His feet will just be one more thing that we give, our final offering, in a long string of offerings that began long before.”

May God grant us the wisdom and then the strength to store up for ourselves treasures in heaven rather than treasures here on earth.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"ONE-OF-A-KIND-ZOO"

THE LIVING SEAS

"A ONE-OF-A-KIND FISH and A ONE-OF-A-KIND LESSON"



The devotion for the day teaches children about the beauty and blessing of the oceans. That devotion will lead into the story of Jonah and the big fish.



LAWN CARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

No experience required! Prayerfully consider a few hours this season to help keep the grounds mowed! The time you spend is up to you. Most sections will only take 1 ½ hours. Both riding and push mowers used, as well as gas weed wackers. You need to be at least a freshman in high school* * or older. Training is available. If you're able to spare some time, please contact Maureen Puricelli at 732-536-6202 or email MoeMoe57@optonline.net.

(* A note to high school students--time volunteered would qualify as National Honor Society service hours or other school service hours you might need.)



Is there something taking the joy out of things?

Getting you down?

playing over and over in your mind?



Are you asking yourself, “How do I restore a relationship that was good once but is now tense?”, “How do I forgive someone I simply don’t want to forgive?”, or “I’m not sure I can stand to continue to work under these terms.”



What happened to our peace and joy?

Let’s take conflict, look it squarely in the face and see if we can’t do something about this by turning to the most loving power in the universe—the Gospel.

Come join us at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd on Saturday, May 7 for an introductory workshop on Christian Peacemaking. Session will run from 9am – 5pm. Pack a sandwich, but soup will be provided. Please sign up at the counter before Wednesday, May 4

Our facilitator:

Bryce Thomas is almost retired as a trial attorney to devote more time to his passion of peacemaking. He frequently teaches and leads peacemaking workshops across the United States and internationally. He also serves as a conflict coach, mediator, arbitrator and instructor in Christian conciliation. He and wife, Nancy, are Certified Christian Conciliators through Peacemaker Ministries and have also completed advanced training in church and marital conflict.

Bryce and Nancy worship at St. Stephens Lutheran Church in Hickory, North Carolina and are actively involved in its ministries, including leading home bible studies and serving on the Peacemaking Team at their church.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

Matthew 5:9





LYF NEWS

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

We would like to thank everyone who came out to see the LYF play "Capisce?" We hope you enjoyed the play as much as we enjoyed doing it. In addition to those who attended, we'd like to thank those who helped us put it all together:

Joanne & Tom Jocus – Cooking all those Lasagnas
Greg Ricca – Recording all of the music and rehearsing with our vocalists
Tony Hansen – Assisting with the lights
Marie Bergfeldt – Playbills

We would also like to especially thank our five seniors for all of their dedication and hard work with the play as well as with the LYF. We will miss them next year, but we know that they will be back to visit. We pray that they will succeed in college and their chosen careers.

Greg O'Connor – Pre-Med (Orthopedic surgery)
Kelly Doran – Secondary Education (English & History)
Emily Jocus – Mechanical Engineering
Jessica Nathanson – Architecture
Sabrina Yoniak – Art Therapy



Congratulation to :

Joy & Tommy Doukas

And

Peggy & Kevin Blumenstock

joined in marriage on April 30.

THE VISION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL —IT'S FOR LIFE! SUNDAY SCHOOL AND THE FAMILY



Sunday School News

The question concerning the relatedness of Sunday school and family raises the issue of the

purpose of Christian education and a much larger question about the interrelatedness of religion and society. Since attending the “Truth Project” sessions on Thursday evenings, I have really been thinking about this!

Should we stand against the dominant culture like the Sadducees in order to remain distinctive? Should we take a stance like the Pharisees and appropriate portions of the culture that do not compromise faithfulness? Or perhaps, in order to remain pure, should we separate ourselves altogether like the residence of the Qumran community?

Just as Judaism at the time of Jesus had many suggestions on how to be faithful in the Greco-Roman world, so today Sunday school and families seeking to be faithful are presented with a lot of solutions.

The answers we are presented with today cover a wide territory, including recovering a lost heritage of values, adapting our teaching methods to the modern means of

communication, and questing for a new means of education that reintegrates civic and religious identities. No single solution holds all the correct answers; each offers

insight into understanding the setting in which we practice our faith and seek to help others practice theirs.

Special Dates

May 1 – Opening – 9:15 in the sanctuary
Earth Friendly – host Abby Eaton

May 30 – April 1 – Confirmation Retreat

June 5 – Confirmation Sunday

June 12 - Opening – 9:15 in the sanctuary –
Youth Group Hosting

June 19 – Last day of school and Father’s
Day!

Yours in Christ,

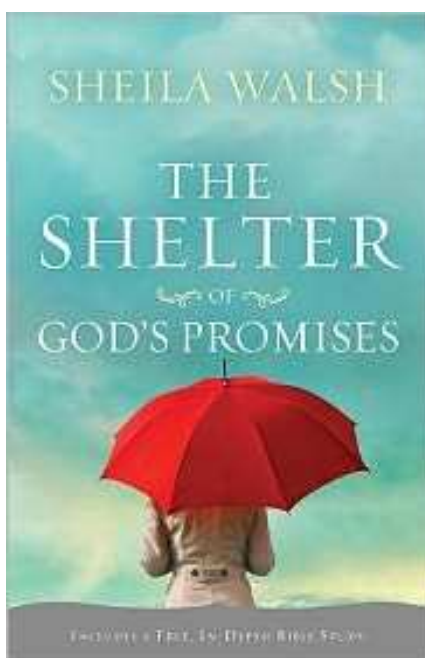
Lorraine Morrison,
Sunday School Superintendent

LIDS – LIDS – LIDS

(Recycle & Reuse)

The Sunday School and VBS students are in need of the following items: **ANY** plastic lid: BIG or small, round or oval can be recycled in upcoming art projects. We can use items such as Gatorade lids, water bottle lids, soda bottle tops, Bunny ice cream lids, frosting lids, coffee can lids, and bread crumb lids. Any of these that you have now, save and bring to drop off at church.

There will be a container in the Kitchen area for you to “recycle” your lids.



ENJOY SOME SUMMER READING AND JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER FOR BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION!

In a world of uncertainty, pain and struggle, where do you find solid assurance and unshakeable truth? Gifted Bible teacher and inspiring Women of Faith speaker, Sheila Walsh, offers powerful, heart-filled teaching on ten bedrock promises of God, providing the foundation for daily confidence, joy and hope.

In *The Shelter of God's Promises*, Sheila searches Scripture for what God has promised us, what God's promises mean, and how encounters with Christ are the eternal fulfillment of His unrelenting commitment to us. In this riveting walk through some of the Bible's most compelling stories, Walsh unveils ten foundational promises of God that secure our lives during even the most difficult times. Sheila weaves her hallmark storytelling, inspiring personal experience, and Scripture to help readers gain a trust in God that will sustain them for a lifetime.

I've already ordered my copy, since Kathy Hogan will be starting off the **Book Club** on **September 20 at 7 p.m.**, in the Library of the Church. Won't you order your copy today and join us in September for some great discussion, coffee and fellowship.

Jill O'Connor, Christian Ed Chair.

MARK THESE DATES

MAY 2011

Saturday Evening Services at 5:00 PM – May 7, 14, 21
NO Saturday Service on May 28th

April 29 – May 1	Confirmation II Retreat
May 7	Peacemaker Workshop 9 – 5 (Bring a sandwich)
May 8	Mother's Day
May 30	Church Office Closed

JUNE 2011

Saturday Evening Services at 5:00 PM – June 4, 11, 18, 25

June 5	Confirmation Sunday
June 12	Music Sunday – Congregational Meeting
June 19	Baccalaureate Sunday
June 26	Switch to One Service 9:00 am
June 26 – 30	VBS – 6 – 8:00 PM – pick up a brochure

OCTOBER 2011

Save the Date, Sunday October 2, 2011
50th Anniversary Gala Event
one worship service at 9:30 AM
Dinner @ Palms Plaza at 1:00 PM

*(If you have not received an invitation in your mail box, please call the church office.
If you wish to attend, please RSVP with your payment by June 19th.
\$75.00 per person confirmation age and older.)*



Cooking with Grace
Celebrating 50 Years of Recipes
Mother's Day Sale

Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him! *Psalm 34:8*

Ever wonder how to make that delicious dish or dessert that someone made at the pot luck? Well, many of those recipes that you've had here at Good Shepherd can be found in the Cooking with Grace cookbook!

**LAST CHANCE...LAST SALE....
GET THEM WHILE SUPPLIES LAST:**

Cooking with Grace Cookbook - \$15

back to 'pre-sale' price!

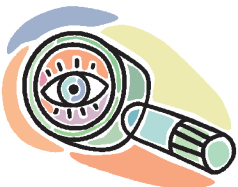
Set of 20 blank sheets for Cookbook – **FREE**

w/ Cookbook Purchase! OR just **\$1.00/set**

Prices in effect April 24 - May 31, 2011

All proceeds will go towards refurbishing the church kitchen

Sales will be held at the counter after Sunday services
For more information, contact Jamie Toth, rj.toth@verizon.net



In the June Staff, look for recipe comments as well as editorial changes to recipes in the cookbook



Those Recovering

Mardell Bonfiglio
MaryAnn Turk
Rose Sydor
Gloria Carias
Michele Carlson
Michael Junco
Christine McGrade

Those in Nursing Homes

Jerry Bosco – Brother of Rosemarie Staudinger
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 Smith – brother of Joanne Louth
Tony 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

Ron Rutan – nephew of the Rutans – USS R. Reagan
Chrystal Rutan – niece of the Rutans – USS Preble
Andrew DePasquale – nephew of June Hullings
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...

Shaun Humiston	5/01		
Joey LoDrago	5/01		
Joanne Jocus	5/02	Margaret O'Connor	5/23
Bethanne Meyer	5/02	Barry Larkin	5/23
Janet Schuster	5/02	Alex Cox	5/23
Mackenzie Stemming	5/02	Paul Jordan	5/24
Timothy Schuster	5/03	John McGrade	5/24
Michael Junco	5/03	Rebecca Rutan	5/24
Sandy Wolven	5/04	Stephanie McGrane	5/26
James van Riemsdyk	5/04	Catherine Palomba	5/27
Marion Morgans	5/04	Stephen Schuster	5/27
Jessica Verello	5/05	Lauren Puricelli	5/30
Barbara DiMaggio	5/07		
Alexandra Tucci	5/09		
Alyssa Sardone	5/09		
Kathy Cole	5/09		
Tim Skrok	5/10		
Mary Ann Turk	5/11		
Caleb Rutan	5/13		
Christian Campbell	5/15		
Enrique Junco	5/16		
Matthew DiMaggio	5/17		
Sarah Mallepalle	5/17		
Juan Nieves	5/17		
Lois Raba	5/18		
Thomas Rutan	5/18		
Timothy O'Connor	5/19		
Jake Campbell	5/21		
Christiana Jordan	5/21		
Patricia Breitweiser	5/21		
Kate Larkin	5/21		

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

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GS Children's Center Director
Mrs. Lorraine Campo
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Sexton
Frank Lylo

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

Happy Anniversary to...

Anthony & Maureen Puricelli	5/04
Annette & Wayne Olsen	5/11
Robert & Nora Schmitz	5/16
Eugene & Katrina Clapsis	5/20
Jamie & Richard Toth	5/29

IS MOTHER'S DAY A CHRISTIAN HOLIDAY?

It Couldn't Be More So ...

Many people see Mother's Day as a secular holiday, designed by the greeting card industry, promoted by restaurants, beloved by florists. Some clergy agree, objecting to the commercialism of the holiday. Does Mother's Day have religious meaning? If so what is it? Just consider the witness of its founder, Anna Jarvis.

American consumers typically spend about \$10 billion each year on Mother's Day for greeting cards, flowers, restaurant meals, and other presents for mom. But the numbers don't tell the whole story, by a long shot.

The religious and deeply Christian origins of Mother's Day reflect the faith of the woman credited as its founder, Anna Jarvis.

The Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia, is called "the Mothers Day Church" because Anna Jarvis was active there; her former home in Grafton is a national landmark. Anna Jarvis was inspired by HER mother, Anna Reeves Jarvis who organized "Mothers' Work Day Clubs" in the 1850's in the area. The clubs provided medicines for the poor, inspected milk for children, provided nursing care for the sick, and shelters for children with tuberculosis.

When the Civil War broke out she called together several of her clubs and asked them to make a pledge that friendship and good will would not be a casualty of the war. In a remarkable display of courage and compassion the women nursed soldiers from both sides and saved many lives.

A peacemaker who healed the wounds of war

As if that weren't enough, Anna Reeves Jarvis became a genuine peace maker after the war. The wounds and animosity between families who fought on either side were deep. So Anna organized "Mothers' Friendship Days" to bring together families across the Mason Dixon line.

Anna Jarvis was born in 1850 and was an impressionable child and teenager when her mother was at the peak of her courageous work. So in 1907, two years after her mother's death, she organized the first "mothers' day" in Grafton so that the work of peacemaking and the war against poverty which her mother waged would not be forgotten.

If Mother's Day has become too commercial, Anna Jarvis would have been the first to object, indeed, she did protest the profiteering that had become part of Mother's Day even during her lifetime. The remedy for the excesses of this popular holiday, is not to ignore them, but to lift up the story of its founder, and her own mother, Anna Reeves Jarvis, both of whom exemplified the very best that the Christian faith has to offer.

**The Lutheran Church of the
Good Shepherd**

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The Rev. Ben Mallepalle, Assistant Pastor

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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 Thursday at 7:15 PM

Sunday at 9:30 AM and 1:00 PM

Saturday Evening Service @ 5:00 PM

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

*The Lutheran Church
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3139 County Road 516
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God's love at work here!