



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!

November 2011



What a glorious day Good Shepherd had on October 2, 2011 – the day our Church celebrated its 50th Anniversary! Approximately 150 members began the day at a meet-n-greet coffee hour put together by Kathy Hogan, where 50 years of memorabilia was presented. There were old photo directories and several of the Church's record books.

People were seen giggling over finding their own baptism, or their parents' wedding or confirmation dates! Our past Pastors were on display with special service bulletins for special ministry events that occurred during their time with us. On display were building plans then and now and annual reports dating back to 1966, with many of the founding members referenced. We even displayed albums with many years of pictures associated with the thriving thespian adventures we have had. It was the beginning of our perfect day!

Our Worship & Music committee members who were involved with the worship details should be commended for putting together an excellent commemorative service. President Klettke was with us to preach the sermon and do the re-dedication. Pastors Johnston, Mallepalle, and Steinbronn all assisted with readings and liturgy. Most of our Deacons celebrated the day with the congregation, and took turns participating in the service or choir. A special thank you to our own Senior Choir and Sunday School children (both directed by Greg Ricca) and to Joshua's Trumpet for complimenting our worship with their instruments and voices, singing praise and thanksgiving to our God.

The culminating event was a fabulous Gala at the Palms Plaza! As people started to arrive they were immediately impressed with the stunning display of cold and hot appetizers, the warmth of the room, and all the smiling faces to greet them. All in all 95 people attended the dinner, and they won't forget the excellent food and company any time soon. We moved from the room where the cocktail hour was held to the main ballroom, decorated in our signature deep red and gold colors for the 50th with festive balloon centerpieces on every table. Our afternoon event began with Greg Ricca and those choir members present leading the congregation in "How Great is our God," after which Pastor Schonberg led us in prayer and gave us the blessing before we began our meal. Joshua's Trumpet played beautiful music before and after dinner. Dinner consisted of fruit cocktail, Caesar salad, and your choice of prime rib, chicken francaise or red snapper. Between courses and during dinner we all gleefully watched a video presentation that AJ Ford had put together from hundreds of pictures he had received. Everyone laughed and aaaaahed and even applause filled the room, when loved ones who have passed, or long-time members, were seen on screen. We heard from the President of the congregation, Randi Rutan, and each committee member read notes from 3 of our previous pastors and Vicar Tim, now Pastor Utton.

An absolutely beautiful specialty cake was presented by the 50th Anniversary committee, decorated by an artist to include our own Shepherd's window. That delicious cake was coupled with pastries at every table. The evening was complete with a custom made 3-D specialty 50th Anniversary ornament, in 24K gold overlay, for each family attending as a memento of our wonderful fellowship together. The celebration closed with a special blessing by President Klettke. Everyone was stuffed, and thankful, and happy.

Many compliments have been received and the committee thanks all those who were able to attend any, or all the festivities of the day. A special thanks goes to all those who assisted, in any way, in making the day so very special.

Would you like a 50th Anniversary Ornament for a keepsake in your home?

The committee purchased extras, and will have them on sale at the counter for a cost of \$15 for one or \$25 for two. Also we will take orders for copies of the video shown at the dinner made by AJ Ford for \$5 each. In addition, there is a limited supply of the **50th Anniversary Cookbook**, which we are selling for \$15 each until they are gone (yes, back to pre-sale price)! If you haven't picked one up yet, it is a must have, especially for the holiday cooking! Please have exact cash or check available for the committee members at the counter.

The 50th Anniversary Committee

Faith Caban, Marie Bergfeldt, Debbie Onorato, Toni Pryor, & Jamie Toth.

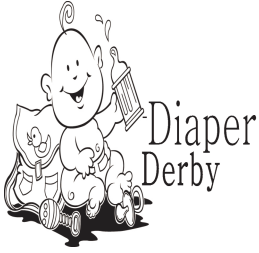
Below are some of the comments we have received:

We had such a nice time at the party -- everything was outstanding -- very well planned and thought out. Many thanks for your efforts to make the gathering something to remember and treasure.... CK

Gayle Ferreira and her husband said they had a wonderful time.

Had a message on the answering machine (name unknown) how wonderful the worship service was. Music was uplifting. Would be back to visit again.

Dave and I had a wonderful time seeing friends from church outside the church. The food and service was excellent with an open bar. The entertainment with JT, the choir and Greg was so nice especially watching some of the wait staff singing with us. The slide show was just GREAT seeing how we all look when we were younger and seeing some of our past members. We both are so glad we went it was will worth the cost and the committee did an excellent job. Alexis Dill



The Diaper Derby

Good Shepherd Old Bridge takes First Place in the Diaper Derby!

We won First Place! Thank you very much to everyone who donated money or diapers to the Diaper Derby this year. We donated 6,131 diapers, which was more than half of the total number of diapers donated by all of the churches in the entire Derby!

I believe this is the first time LCGS has ever won *First Place*, but as always, the real winners are the babies in need. The diapers are given to mothers at the Open Door Pregnancy Center in Toms River, the Pregnancy and Health Center in Shrewsbury, and the Getaway Pregnancy centers in Irvington and Elizabeth.

Second Place went to Good Shepherd of Point Pleasant with 3,043 diapers. Third place went to Faith church with 1,844 diapers. Redeemer Lutheran Church in Manchester hosted the Ingathering this year. They donated 776 diapers, and there were some new churches in the mix this year including Village church with 358 diapers and Luther church with 78 diapers. You can see our First Place "trophy" on the table in the narthex.

Thank you to Linda Cinquegrana and Jessica Shipley for helping get all the diapers to the Ingathering. Thank you so very much to everyone who made this year's Diaper Derby such a tremendous success.

Sincerely,
Sandy Shipley
Mission's chairperson



If you would like to help with the Angel Tree, the Diaper Derby, any of the Amandla Crossing drives, or any of the Good Shepherd Missions, we would love to have your help. Even if you only have a little spare time, we always need help, making announcements in church, collecting items at the counter, and many other easy, short term tasks. Many hands make light work, so if you'd like to lend a hand, put a note in Sandy Shipley's box, or leave a message at (732) 446-1121. Thank you.

Saturday, November 19, 2011 Angel Tree goes up.
Sunday, December 4, 2011 Angel Tree gifts due back at church



FALL WORK DAY

Many hands make light work. This was the case on Saturday, October 8th. Some of the repairs accomplished were:

- clean kick plates on outside of red doors
- glue down kick plates in hallway
- add handles to exit doors in rooms #1,2,3,4
- replace slats on dumpster corral
- clean Pastor's office windows and window sills
- empty cigarette receptacle
- clean vents in bathrooms
- pick up trash & branches around grounds
- build a compost bin
- clean out and organize shed #3
- put brick around parking lot lights on islands to make mowing easier
- put new light at door #5 (by kitchen) to one that has motion sensor
- paint trim on playground shed
- clear out weeds blocking sign
- tighten pew pedestals
- replace broken shade in office
- scrub down bathroom floors
- fix more chairs in resource room
- replace outdoor emergency lights
- trim weeds by doors #19, #20
- clean gutters by Route 516
- add light to top section of audio closet

A Big Thank You to those “hands” that helped with these many tasks were:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Bill Burke | Eileen Loughman | Sandy Shipley |
| Laurie Burke | Bianca Medina | Nick Sommer |
| Andrew Cecil | Ed Medina | Allison Van Riemsdyk. |
| Linda Cinquegrana | Suzanne Ogborne | |
| Abby Eaton | Robert Ohliger | <i>Thanks! Tony Hansen</i> |
| Leslie Green | Pat Pryor | |
| Christina Hoffner | Maureen Puricelli | |
| Lori Laflower | Tony Puricelli | |
| Dan Landgraf | Joanne Russell | |
| Barry Larkin | Randi Rutan | |
| Daniel LoDrago | Tom Rutan | |
| Joe LoDrago | Bob Shipley | |



Caroling

All are welcome to join us on Saturday, December 17th at 12:00 pm to go Christmas Caroling around the Old Bridge area. Two places already lined up are in the Shoppes at Old Bridge on Route 9, and in front of Rite Aid on Cottrell and Route 516. Other locations are being “scouted out”. For more information please see Greg Ricca or Marie Bergfeldt.

Good Shepherd Children's Center

WHAT'S NEW AT SCHOOL



This month for November, the children will once again be participating in our food drive for needy families that live in our area, which we find with the help of Marie in the church office. GSCC families donate turkeys, and money so that we can buy gift cards to Shoprite in order to provide holiday dinners for those families who are struggling during this upcoming holiday season. Last few years we were able to help at least 5 families that normally would not have been able to provide a holiday dinner, and it's a program I'm quite proud to be involved with. Containers are placed in each of the classrooms and the children are able to place their donations in the container and know they are helping out people who really need it. It's an awesome learning experience, and it makes me appreciate all that I have every day. If you know someone in need, make a difference in their lives this holiday season or contact Marie and we will try to make it happen.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Lorraine Campo, Director GSCC

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Membership Transfers

We wish God Speed to our longstanding members, the O'Connor Family and the McGrane Family, as they have transferred to another church. They will all be missed. Peggy & Kevin Blumenstock, who have been frequent visitors to our church, have found a church closer to their home in which to be a part of and get involved with Bible Studies, etc. We wish them well.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School News

Are there advantages for children to attend Sunday school classes? Sunday School lessons and principles for kids deliver socializing with some other young ones, conversation together with mature role models, and most importantly the backdrop to have a friendship with God.

When going to Sunday classes, children are fortunate to get quality time interacting with different small children inside of a Godly environment. Indeed, they may be able to get connected to various other kids at elementary school, within their communities, or maybe at the park. However, the advantage of the small group **at** Sunday school, children are receiving this same connection even while being directed in Spiritual guidelines. They learn how different children are attempting to live their own lives, as per the plan of God. And that encourages the children to seek to live their life for God, as well.

As a result of Sunday instruction for children, teachers have the ability to talk with the children as fine adult role models. Many of the children in the reach of our church ministry are generally missing one of their parents. Because of this, **they** may be missing at least one gender of grown-up role model, in their lives. And so a Sunday school teacher can be vital to a child. The Sunday school "coaches" today are able to use Sunday school instruction for the children to show the way they live their unique lives and try to follow The **L**ord's strategy with regard to their particular lives. By way of this, they are able to inspire the kids in their lessons to adhere to their examples.

Sunday school taps into Biblical principles to compliment the friendships between the pupils in their class. Sunday school teachers are in the position to tap into those Scriptural guidelines as they exhibit the way they comply with those rules in their own lives, and perhaps as they share particular situations they may have in their own personal lives.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 30 – Reformation Sunday – 7th & 8th Grade singing at 10:30 AM service with Choir

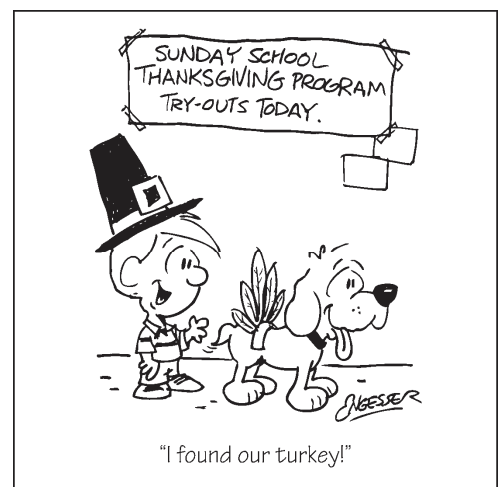
November 6 – musical performances at the 10:30 AM services (dates for classes to be announced)

December 17 – Saturday – Sunday school rehearsal for Christmas Program

December 18 – Sunday - **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** – 10:30 AM **Service** all children expected to attend!

December 25 – January 1 – **NO Sunday School Classes**

Yours in Christ,
Lorraine Morrison
Sunday School Superintendent





Those Recovering

Joe Kotora
MaryAnn Turk
Rose Sydor
Gloria Carias

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

James D'Andrea
Jack Kaplan – nephew of Marie Bergfeldt
Cookie Rose – sister of Marie Bergfeldt
Michele Carlson
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

Please review this list and let Marie know in the office if anyone needs to be added, or removed. Thank You.

Those Struggling with Cancer

Kathy Hogan
Robert Pedersen – son of Elizabeth Pedersen
John Smith – brother of Joanne Louth
Tony DeLuca – friend of the Bergfeldt's
Ed Siclari
Trish Ead
Vincent 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
Elizabeth Pryor—aunt of Pat Pryor

Those in the Military

Jared Renda – friend of the Bergfeldt Family
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
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

For Your Information

Happy Birthday to...

Connor Jordan	11/03
Riley Wolven	11/04
Cathy Jordan	11/06
Joe Dimaggio	11/06
Ian Palmer	11/10
Audrey Ford	11/12
Debra Onorato	11/13
Meg Palmer	11/14
Mardell Bonfiglio	11/15
Jenna Geyer	11/15
Zachary Cuisinier	11/15
Joanne Russell	11/15
Alisa Guzman	11/16
Don Van Handel	11/17
Paul Oliva	11/17
Bernadette Margolis	11/17
Richard Toth	11/20
Margaret George	11/22
Maureen Puricelli	11/23
Mary Artache	11/24
Micah Margolis	11/24
Linda Cinquegrana	11/28
Joseph Frank Massa	11/30



Happy Anniversary to.....

David & Marie Bergfeldt	11/06
Robert & Sandra Shipley	11/07
Paul & Beth Oliva	11/14
Robert & Carol Hahl	11/21
Rudy & Karen Tucci	11/21
Eileen & Bill Sabino	11/27



Bill, I and our family would like to thank all our friends at Good Shepherd for their prayers, calls and cards. Knowing we are cared for helps during this time.

Laurie Burke

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

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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
pastorj1121@yahoo.com

FLEETING CONTENTMENT

Submitted by Pat Pryor

What makes us content? It is safe to say that many equate financial security with some measure of contentment. We feel that, when we no longer have to stretch that paycheck to cover the month's expenses but can splurge on some luxuries, we'll be content. Maybe when we have enough socked away to cover the kids' college tuition we can rest easy and be content about our lives.

Jesus met a man who was in such a situation, and he was still a young man. The heading in the Bible in Mark 10: 17 reads, "The Rich Young Ruler." This man came to Jesus with a question: "'Good teacher,' he asked, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?'" Apparently, since he came to Jesus with this question, he was not content. If he had been, he wouldn't have felt the need to prove himself to Jesus, which as we read on, we find to be his motive, nor would he have been disturbed about his eternal future, a concern he must certainly have experienced after his conversation with Jesus. In the end, we see that it was his wealth that kept him from true contentment. Jesus offered it to him. Jesus said, "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in Heaven. Then come, follow Me" (Mark 10:21). But he

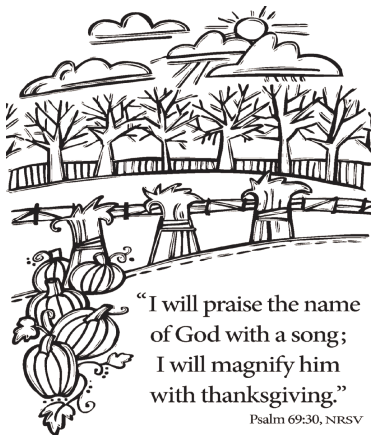


STEWARDSHIP NOTE

couldn't part with his riches and exchanged real contentment through a relationship with Christ for fleeting contentment through riches which are gone tomorrow.

St. Paul gives us another perspective on contentment. In Philippians 4:11-13 he writes, "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 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."

Hanging onto our money, depending on our wealth for security, building up our assets may bring us fleeting contentment. True and lasting contentment, however, contentment that endures no matter what circumstances we encounter is a result of dependence on our Lord Who enables us to do all things through the strength that He alone can provide us.



"I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving."

Psalm 69:30, NRSV

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Starting October 16, through November 13, the Mission Committee will be collecting monies, or gift cards to give out to families in need for Thanksgiving. If anyone has a turkey they would like to donate, please let Marie in the office know. You may bring to church and place in the freezer, but let Marie know you have donated it. You can purchase gift cards at the kitchen counter on any Sunday, or leave a check/cash in the basket by the big sign in the narthex. If you have any questions, please see Sandy Shipley.

BOARD BRIEFS

Notes from the Admin Board's Meetings on September 15th, 2011

The Board met on September 15th at the Church in the Resource Room. I was not present as I was away on business **so these notes are directly from** the official minutes (that are available to all congregants in the church office).

The Treasurer's report was reviewed and while there is currently no need to borrow from the Building Fund, August was a bad month due to the loss of donations from Sunday, August 28th, because of Hurricane Irene. This loss is a prime example of the importance of our Simply Giving program which provides the Church with your donation even if you're not there to place the envelope in the plate. If you're interested, speak to Tony Puricelli.

Pastor Ben presented his report and announced that if a Saturday service is cancelled he will still be available in the sanctuary for prayer. The "Lost Sheep" project has been folded into the Deacons' Care Groups. When the Care Groups were created, the Deacons reviewed old membership rosters, and essentially recreated the "Lost Sheep" list. The Deacons are prioritizing contact to those folks who have been absent from our midst, reaching out in Christian concern, offering support and inviting them back to church.

The Board received a letter from President Klettke informing everyone that arrangements had been made for beginning the reconciliation process between Pastor Ben and the Admin Board. President Klettke informed us that Pastor Taylor

would serve as the reconciler. Pastor Taylor will preside over and mediate the process.

The question of Pastor Ben's vacation was discussed. While Pastor Ben's Ministry Agreement does not include a provision for vacation, a final determination was not reached on this front. If you have an opinion on this, please share it with a Board member.

The Board discussed the Fall Congregational Meeting to be held on November 6th in the fellowship hall. The importance of the completing the revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws by then was emphasized to those members of the sub-committee present. Pastor Schoenberg suggested that the meeting include some discussion regarding the alteration to the budget for a full time pastor as we anticipate starting the call process.

The Board discussed the idea of an "Automated Notification System" which would automatically notify those who sign up about emergencies and special events by electronic means – e mail and texts. A subsequent electronic vote was held and the engagement of a vender was approved.

Pastor Schoenberg brought up the Call Process. It is hoped that we can start the groundwork for the process in November.

Respectfully Submitted
Bob Shipley

Wednesday, November 30th @ 7:30 pm
Wednesday, December 7th @ 7:30 pm
Wednesday, December 14th @ 7:30 pm
Wednesday, December 21 @ 7:30 pm



MARK THESE DATES

NOVEMBER 2011

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



NOVEMBER 6

November 6

All Saint's Sunday
Congregation Meeting 2:30 pm

November 23

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service @ 7:30 PM

November 19

Angel Tree Goes Up

November 24 & 25

Church Office Closed – **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

November 27

First Sunday in Advent

November 30

Mid Week Advent Service @ 7:30 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:15 pm by the Admin Board

DECEMBER 2011

**Saturday Evening Services at 5:00 PM – December 3, 10, 17
December 7, 14, & 21 Mid week Advent Service 7:30 pm –
meals will be served at 6:15 pm**

December 4

Angel Tree Gifts Due Back

December 10

Care Center Christmas Program

December 17

Sunday School Rehearsal

1 - ??? Christmas Caroling (*see Greg Ricca for details*)

December 18

Sunday School Christmas Pageant 10:30 am

December 24

**Christmas Eve Worship Services at
5 pm, 7:30 pm and 11:00 pm**

Please note, we will have 3 worship services on Christmas Eve.

December 25

Christmas Day Worship Service at **10:00 am**
NO Sunday School 12/25 and 1/1/12



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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

Saturday Evening Service @ 5:00 PM

Midweek Advent Service at 7:30 PM

November 30, December 7, 14 & 21

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50 Years of Service to our Lord!