



LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

THE VOICE

Reactions to Partners in Faith, Partners in Vision

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

On Saturday, October 10, 2009 eighteen members of Good Shepherd set out on a journey. Some of us gathered in the parking lot early that morning for the trip, others came on their own. We were filled with excitement and some uncertainty about what the day would bring. We were stepping out into new territory. And it was good.

We made the short trip to Trinity Lutheran Church in Joppa, MD in no time, and were met at the door by an usher with a warm smile and a friendly greeting. This was the beginning of a day filled with new experiences, new friends and new insights into our life together as people of faith.

“Partners in Faith, Partners in Vision” (a.k.a. Pif-PiV) is the biannual leadership event of the Delaware Maryland Synod of the ELCA. This year the focus for the day was “Word of God, Word of Life” and the ELCA Book of Faith initiative, a grass-roots movement within the church to engage people in the Bible as the first language of faith. Together with others from around the synod, we worshiped, prayed, read and studied scripture, ate, and discussed how we can engage the Bible and grow in faith together. Our hosts at Trinity led the worship service, a contemporary style with a poignant message. Then we attended workshops on a variety of topics including small group ministry, men’s Bible study, Bible-based leadership, scripture in liturgy, art in liturgy, evangelism and more. The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Diane Jacobson, Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary and executive director of the Book of Faith Initiative. She lifted up for us many of the barriers that prevent people from reading and studying scripture: our busy lives, our lack of experience, our shame at our unfamiliarity with the Bible, the view that the Bible is not relevant to life today, and many more; and offered a path forward in spite of all these concerns. Her message was clear and to the point about our need to connect with scripture as people of faith. It was truly exciting to see the enthusiasm and energy among our group that day.

Following the event, those who attended gathered for a follow-up conversation on what we learned, and how it might impact our life together at Good Shepherd. This was a fruitful conversation, one that will help us as we look

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Note to Contributors:

For the next issue, please turn in your articles by December 12. If you would like to send a contribution by e-mail, please send attachment in Word or Word Perfect to

goodshepherd@cavtel.net or
nancylvkoch@comcast.net

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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to our future together growing in faith. At the conclusion of that conversation, I invited members to share their thoughts on the event. Here's what they said:

"I particularly enjoyed the presentation relating our liturgy to scripture. The meaning of the words we recite are enhanced and expanded by learning the events that preceded the exchange with Jesus, i.e. 'Lord, to whom shall we go?'" --Fran Dixon

"I enjoyed the refresher and learning about Scripture in the Liturgy presented by Pastor Kathy. While I have loved and appreciated the Lutheran liturgy, I have a renewed love and appreciation for the richness of our liturgy and what that means to me. I am hoping that Pastor Kathy will find an opportunity to present that again - perhaps in more detail - at Good Shepherd. I also learned about opportunities to exploit the visual sense through Art and the Liturgy including banners, paraments, and displays that artistically tell the stories and employ our artistry and creativity." —Susan Hooper

"PiF - PiV was a great day! The activities of the day served as a re-affirmation of how critical scripture is in my life on a personal level but also in my leadership activities." —Kay Gallogly

"From the opening service to the closing sessions, the day in Joppa was filled with ideas of how Lutherans are carrying out ministry around our area. I was particularly intrigued by a session I attended on small group ministry: what it is, how best to do it, and how it benefits individuals and the church. I'd like to see Good Shepherd establish some small groups and see where it leads us." —Sharon Oslin

"I was delighted to see that so many people from Good Shepherd had signed up to attend. It was so nice to be with everyone and worship together, participate in very interesting workshops, and share fellowship at the lunch table. Trinity Lutheran in Joppa MD was a wonderful host church. The Holy Communion service was beautiful, and while the style of worship is not what we do at Good Shepherd, it was certainly spiritually uplifting and meaningful for me. The keynote speaker, Dr. Diane Jacobs, was both interesting and inspiring. I think she gave us a lot of tools that we can use in our church to become true Partners in Faith, Partners in Vision." —Kaye Tyson

Many thanks to all those who attended: **Phyllis Bierstedt, Jim and Fran Dixon, Kay Gallogly, Steve Hallstead, Susan and Craig Hooper, Ralph and Lee Klesius, Jill Mackey, Doreen McGrath, Chet Norstrom, Sharon Oslin, Kaye Tyson, Pat Umbrecht, Abby Wolfe, Pastor Bob and Pastor Kathy.**

So, where will all this lead us? I am confident that this experience will help us move ahead as a congregation in faithful discipleship. There are already conversations about small group ministry and some other steps we can take together to be more involved in Bible study together. It is an exciting time for us all!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Kathy



Music Notes

The November issue of THE VOICE may arrive in your mail in late October, the point of the year that Lutherans honor Martin Luther and the Reformation. I found a Luther quote on the subject of music that I would like to share on this occasion.

Luther on Music

Foreword to Georg Rhau's Collection, "Symphoniae iucundae".

"I, Doctor Martin Luther, wish all lovers of the unshackled art of music grace and peace from God the Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ!

I truly desire that all Christians would love and regard as worthy the lovely gift of music, which is a precious, worthy, and costly treasure given to mankind by God.

The riches of music are so excellent and so precious that words fail me whenever I attempt to discuss and describe them.... In summa, next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world. It controls our thoughts, minds, hearts, and spirits...

Our dear fathers and prophets did not desire without reason that music be always used in the churches. Hence, we have so many songs and psalms.

This precious gift has been given to man alone that he might thereby remind himself that God has created man for the express purpose of praising and extolling God.

However, when man's natural musical ability is whetted and polished to the extent that it becomes an art, then do we note with great surprise the great and perfect wisdom of God in music, which is, after all, His product and His gift; we marvel when we hear music in which one voice sings a simple melody, while three, four, or five other voices play and trip lustily around the voice that sings its simple melody and adorn this simple melody wonderfully with artistic musical effects, thus reminding us of a heavenly dance, where all meet in a spirit of friendliness, caress and embrace.

A person who gives this some thought and yet does not regard music as a marvelous creation of God, must be a clodhopper indeed and does not deserve to be called a human being; he should be permitted to hear nothing but the braying of asses and the grunting of hogs."

Martin Luther

Georg Rhau. 1488 - 1548

Luther often affords us fun and amusing reading in addition to being instructive and nurturing. Reading this made me think of how we 21st century Americans fully enjoy music. Our tastes are vast as we have such a marvelous smorgasbord of genres available to our listening and performing pleasure. I appreciated this opportunity to remember that music is a gift of God both for our enjoyment and for our opportunity to praise God.

David Bowlsbey
Director of Music

Advent Event

Come join us for a fun-filled night of crafting, singing, history, and fellowship!

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 29, 2009 from 4:30pm – 6:30pm for a cross-generational Advent experience. We will be making Advent wreaths for our homes, creating Chrismons for our Christmas tree at church and some for our own trees - singing songs about Advent and listening to the history behind Chrismons - learning more about how to celebrate Advent in our homes and with our families.

Supper for this event will feature a Chili Dump: Bring a pot of meatless or meat chili to share to be combined into big chili pots, or bring a side dish to go with the chili.

Please plan on bringing a pair of work gloves for all participants – those evergreens are prickly! Pruning clippers might also come in handy if you have them.

Donations of \$7 per individual and \$15 a family would be appreciated to cover the cost of supplies. This is a great fellowship opportunity to talk with and get to know more members of the congregation – families, friends, and people of ALL ages are more than welcome to attend this great event, so we hope to see you there!

Please let us know that you're coming to this great opportunity by calling the church office or checking the +Count Me In+ form!

If you are planning on trimming your evergreens, and can wait until the weekend of November 29, we will need greens for making the Advent wreaths. Please let Pastor Kathy or Abby Wolfe know if you can provide evergreens for the event.

—Abby Wolfe

Gather 'Round the Manger: Christmas Poinsettias and Animals in the Stable

Each year members and friends of Good Shepherd graciously and generously donate funds in memory or honor of a loved one. With these funds, our worship space is decorated for the Christmas season with beautiful poinsettia plants. As we remember the birth of the Christ child, we envision not just Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus, but also the animals gathered around the manger. This year, in addition to poinsettias, you are invited to make a gift of farm animals to help people around the world through the ELCA Good Gifts program.

Here's how you can help:

- \$10** buys chicks to provide nutritious meals of eggs for growing kids
- \$15** buys a poinsettia plant for our worship space
- \$20** buys a duck to provide an extra source of income for a family in need
- \$30** buys a pig for a family to break the cycle of poverty
- \$50** buys a goat in extreme climates where other animals cannot survive
- \$125** buys a sheep to provide wool and milk for those in poverty
- \$250** buys fish that will offer a long-term solution to hunger
- \$500** buys a high yielding cow to help sustain a village

These gifts not only provide the animals, but also provide training and help to new owners so they can sell their animals at a fair price, as well as care to ensure the animals will stay healthy.

Please make checks payable to LCGS.

Envelopes will be available on Sunday mornings or in the church office.

Thank you for your support of this mission project!

—Pastor Kathy

Christ the King Sunday: A celebration of the Seasons of the Church Year

On Sunday, November 22nd at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship we will "crown the church year" to mark the festival of Christ the King. We will sing through the seasons of the church, hear how scripture tells the gospel story and reflect on how this story forms us in life today. We will also welcome new members into our community of faith.

Come to the Table! Thanksgiving Eve Worship Wednesday, November 25, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

As God's people richly blessed we come together to give thanks for the abundance of life we have received. We will be filled with scripture and gather together around the Lord's Table as we celebrate the harvest of God's grace. All are welcome!

—Pastor Kathy

Calling All Sheep!

No, not members of this congregation, but replicas and/or figurines of sheep to be put in the display case during the Advent and Christmas Seasons.

The connection is there, however, for we are sheep of the Good Shepherd. So, loan us tiny sheep from your collections of nativity scenes and stuffed animals. Keep in mind that we want small, little animals.

Contact Phyllis Bierstedt (302-475-7448) if you are willing to loan some at the beginning of November and for all of December and the first months of the year.

Thanks,

Phyllis Bierstedt

Prayer Line Requests

PRAY FOR:

JERRY ANTALIK
SETH BLOOM
PELHAM BOOKOUT
PAUL CHOVAN
JOSEPH EVERLY
PATRICK JONES
LEE OLSON
HARRIET SHEALY
OTIS SHEALY
JIM SIMPSON
NANCY WILLIAMS

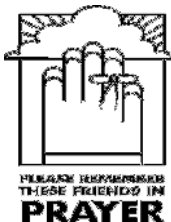
CONCERN:

Poor Health

Broken Pelvis & Thumb
Congestive Heart Failure
Cancer
Cysts on the Brain
Multiple Severe Problems
Complications from a Fall
Small Stroke
Open Heart Surgery

REQUESTED BY:

Carol Lee Waslick
Janet James
Self
Fran Dixon
Carole Lee Waslick
Nancy Wolfe
Mimi Olson
Pastor Kathy
Self
Nancy Simpson
Janet James



Friends & families of those persons removed from the prayer line thank everyone for their prayers and concerns.

Prayer requests may be made by calling Pastor Bob or Pastor Kathy at the church office, (302)-478-3030.

—Faith Moyer

Youth Auction 2009

Are you crafty? Talented? A good cook? Do you want to help the youth raise money for their 2010 Workcamp trip? The youth are looking for contributions for their auction coming up in November. The more creative the better! In the past, contributions such as art projects, home cooked meals, sports lessons, and baby-sitting hours have been big hits. Everyone has something to offer! Come for the bidding on November 15th at 1:00 pm, following the late service. A light lunch will be provided by the youth, and fun will be had by all!

—Katie Mulrey

November Youth Events

Hello everyone! The Youth Group has had an exciting fall so far, filled with Haunted Trail walks, movie nights, and Youth Group meetings. Here are some events to keep in mind for the month of November...

Youth Group and Dinner Sunday, November 8, 5:00-7:00 pm

Youth in grades 6-12 can come and enjoy a home cooked meal along with the first Youth Group meeting of the month.

Lock-In Friday, November 13 – Saturday, November 14 (time TBA)

Make sure you get a good night sleep on Thursday! The youth will have an entire night of fellowship, fun, and service opportunities.

Youth Auction Sunday, November 15, 1:00 pm

The youth will be hosting an auction after the 11:00 am service to raise money for Workcamp, 2010. There will be a variety of things up for auction, including homemade dinners, sports lessons, art projects, and much more. Come join in the bidding and enjoy a light lunch!

Leaf Raking Saturday, November 21, 1:00 pm

The youth will provide free leaf raking for the congregation as a service project. If you need leaves raked, mark it on the "Count me in" insert in the bulletin. We will have homemade chili for dinner after the raking is done!

Youth Group Sunday, November 22, 6:00-7:00 pm for grades 6-8, 7:00-8:00 pm for grades 9-12

Middle school youth will meet from 6:00-7:00, and high school youth will meet from 7:00-8:00. If you need to stay the whole time, don't worry. There will be a place to hang out and do homework while the other age group has their meeting.

Advent Wreath Making Family Night Sunday, November 29, 4:30-6:30 pm

RoadTrip Registration Deadline: December 13

If you are in high school, consider going to **RoadTrip**. RoadTrip is the Delaware-Maryland Synod high school youth event. It will take place in Ocean City, Maryland from Friday, January 22 through Sunday, January 24. Over 400 synod youth and youth leaders will be there, joining in fun, fellowship, and prayer. January seems like a long time away, but it will come up quickly after the holidays, and the registration is due by Sunday, December 13. Pick up registration forms on the youth bulletin board.

—Katie Mulrey

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
presents

“Lunch and Learn” on Sunday Nov 8th, 12:30 – 2 PM

DELAWARE HOSPICE will discuss:

Their “Transition’s program” to support people with serious illness,
Their “New Hope” grief and loss counseling program for children and
Their support for people facing terminal care at home.

ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION will discuss:

Classes available for caregivers,
Support services available,
What are signs of dementia or Alzheimer’s, and
Tips for coping with Alzheimer’s in the family.

COME TO FIND INFORMATION AND SUPPORT...

RSVP by NOV 5th
Ph. 302-478-3030 (church office)
1530 Foulk Road , Wilmington, DE 19803

Air Conditioning and Heating Task Force

As some of you may know we have been having problems with a leaking chiller on the air conditioning unit. George Huemmrich and others have done a miraculous job in keeping the unit going. This unit has been in place since the building was built. We have gotten a lot of service from the equipment. In light of the leak a task force was formed to look at the issues and to identify solutions. The task force is comprised of Tom Belk, Rick Bogda, Kay Wilde Gallogly, Craig Hooper, George Huemmrich, and John Schneeweis.

The task force decided on obtaining bids for three levels of consideration. The first would be a repair and cleaning to the existing air conditioning unit. It was understood that this would resolve the short term need. To address the longer term, the second level would be to explore any new technology that would replace the existing air conditioning unit along with the heating unit. The heating boiler has also been in place since the building was built 50 years ago. The third option was to look at the building over all for energy efficiency and improved heating and cooling. The youth room in particular is a concern. Youth Bible Study takes on a new meaning when you are wearing winter coat, hat and mittens just to stay warm. Turning the thin pages of Bibles is tough with mittens! Obviously, the third option would be a part of the long range planning for the building maintenance.

At present we have contacted three contractors. The bids and suggestions are coming in. It is expected that the options will be taken to Church Council at the November meeting. If you have any thoughts, suggestions, or concerns please contact one of the task force members. One quote for just the repair of the leaking chiller is estimated to be about \$20,000.00. It is very much appreciated that this will be a big financial undertaking, even for the ‘simple’ repair.

—Kay Gallogly

Environmental Task Force

Good Shepherd's Environmental Stewardship Task Force will have an organizational meeting on Wednesday, **November 4th in Room 12 at 7:00 PM**. Members who responded on Count Me In are asked to please attend.

Anyone else who would like to join us would be most welcome, including our youth members. Do you think "Green"? If so, we need you!

Psalm 24 begins, "The Earth is the Lord's and all that is in it". May we always endeavor to be good stewards of His creation.

Peace,

Nancy Owen Farrell

Recital

On Sunday, **November 1, at 3:00 PM** in Swears Hall, **Kaye Tyson**, soprano, will be presenting a vocal solo recital. She will be accompanied on the piano by Nicole Aldrich, Director of Music at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Newark. They will present a varied program from art songs to Gershwin.

Through the generations, the solo recital has been a tradition that has given audiences a chance to celebrate and enjoy local talent and performers a forum to demonstrate the fruits of their labor. It is unfortunate that we have seen fewer of these events in recent times. It is indeed an honor for us to have this opportunity. Please join Kaye and Nicole for an afternoon of fine music which will be followed by a reception.

—David Bowlsbey

Council met October 14 and discussed the following items after a Bible Study led by Doreen McGrath.

Council, like its committees, is setting its goals to best help the congregation meet its 5 year goals set earlier this year. Pastor Bob made a presentation on the path of the individual's personal growth in faith. Council's objective is to work with the pastors to create opportunities at Good Shepherd for personal growth to occur recognizing that our members are at different points on their faith path.

The financial report showed we've spent slightly more than we've received this year due to pledged amounts received are only at 90 % of pledges for this year. Tracking pledged amounts received against pledges is difficult because pledges are made on a weekly, monthly or annual basis. Some annual pledges could be received in December but our expenses are ongoing throughout the year.

Pastors' Report –

- ◆ The overnight confirmation retreat lead by Pastor Kathy went well.
- ◆ Sunday School is using every room available.
- ◆ Sunday morning Book of Faith class led by Pastor Bob is going well.
- ◆ John Crum will be leading a class on Dietrich Bonhoeffer.
- ◆ Partners in Faith, Partners in Vision event October 10 in Joppa, Maryland went well with 16 Good Shepherd members attending. Pastor Kathy presented a workshop.
- ◆ Bishop's Leadership Day in Dover was attended by both pastors.
- ◆ The past month has been particularly busy for both pastors with the pastoral care needs of our members as a result of personal crisis, illness or death.

Other items reviewed were –

- ◆ Inventory of church property
- ◆ Air conditioner repair quotes
- ◆ ELCA Churchwide assembly update for our congregation Oct 18
- ◆ 2010 budget
- ◆ Possible changes in Voice and Annual Report format
- ◆ Endowment fund update

Please contact any member of council with your questions and concerns. They are welcomed.

On behalf of Council,
Jim Simpson

The following passage is taken from *Firstlight*, by Sue Monk Kidd. The book was published by Guidepost Books in 2006. Sue Monk Kidd is also the author of *Dance of the Dissident Daughter*, *The Secret Life of Bees*, and *The Mermaid's Chair*.

My husband and I plodded up the steps of a shelter for the homeless as a gust of wind whisked the last bit of light from the sky. The resident manager ushered us into a large room lined with rows of cots. I couldn't help but notice a young man in a tattered green suit and canary-yellow tie moving from cot to cot, person to person, clutching a blue album. "Wanna see my book?" he asked, revealing a gap-toothed grin. No one wanted to look at it.

"That's James," the resident manager said. "He's one of a kind. A simple-minded fellow. Can't read or write. But he has a good heart."

After dinner Sandy and I wandered into the lobby. I noticed James in his sunny yellow tie, sitting by himself, absorbed in his scrap book. I tried to slip by but James was motioning to me. "Wanna see my book?"

Reluctantly I joined him on an old vinyl sofa. He slid over so I did not have to sit on a gaping tear. I gazed at his eager, childlike expression, swallowed hard and opened the book he reverently handed me. Inside was a curious collection: a paper napkin from a fast-food restaurant, a bluebird's feather, a church bulletin, a faded birthday card, a pocket calendar...

James told me about each item – how he'd eaten the most delicious meal of his life in the restaurant, how he'd found the feather in Piedmont Park where he shared his afternoons with the birds. The church bulletin came from a mission where he'd been welcomed. The card was on his cot on his birthday. The calendar was last year's Christmas "gift" from a store clerk.

Some pages were inscribed with autographs. "They're all my friends," he said proudly. One signature was from a man who'd helped him find clothes, another from a lady who brought meals.

Gradually I understood. The album represented James's list of blessings. Blessings he read and reread.

He reached into the front pocket of his suit and pulled out a stubby pencil. "Would you sign my book?" he asked.

I felt the back of my throat tighten. "To my new friend," I wrote, then signed my name and read the words back to him. His gesture in response was so soft I almost missed it. He brushed a finger across my words, as if caressing the thought. Then he stood up, tucked his album of blessings under his arm and said good night.

How about you? Where do you keep your list of blessings? Do you read and reread them? It is easy to get caught up in seeing only what we don't have. Take time this Giving of Thanks season to caress the thoughts of your blessings. What a great activity it would be, as a family on Thanksgiving day, to take the time to create your own 'scrapbooks' of your blessings.

—Kay Gallogly

Olivia Josephine Camaratta

Birth Date: August 6, 2009

Baptism Date: November 22, 2009 @ 11 AM

Parents: Louis and Mary Kay Camaratta

Sponsors: Amy McClarnon/Michael Perno



Luther Towers Needs You

Luther Towers is in dire need of Aides to work in the gift shop or as waiters/waitresses in the Pineapple Restaurant.



Please call Trudy Maier for further details.
(302) 654-1054

Congratulations!

Eric Ulmanis is now an Eagle Scout. Eagle is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America.



Support Comes in Many Forms

People often suggest that LCS should ask grocery stores for excess food. That's something we do when we have time, but often we rely on groups like the Food Bank of Delaware to handle that function. Recently, however, we worked out an agreement with one store nearby for its "old" baked goods. Technically, "old" items are not really outdated, but expire on the day we pick them up. The pick-up duties in this new effort have been shared by staff and volunteers. It's definitely been fruitful. Last time we received two overflowing grocery carts worth! Our staffer had a nice conversation with the store employee who organized the pick up. It turns out, she had herself been homeless at one time, so she convinced management to commit the energy and time to giving the food away rather than throwing it out. As a result, we are getting a regular supply of healthy baked goods for clients that need them badly.

Thanks From a Client

Near the end of the summer, LCS held a small gathering at Bellevue State Park for its Helping Others Circle. To put a face on what we do, we asked someone we had helped with a security deposit to come and say a few words. Hearing her tell how her life changed was deeply moving and she had 30 or 40 people in the palm of her hand. We didn't expect thanks from her because she was helping us; but a few weeks later, we received a beautiful e-mail: *"I was very blessed to have been given the opportunity to speak with the donors that help make it possible for people in situations such as mine to receive help. The outpouring of love and encouragement from each of the individuals there remains in my heart. It's moments like that you want to cherish and carry with you ... My grandchildren and I went to the Bellevue Park the following Saturday and it was the most perfect day. Had I not been given the opportunity to speak, I may not have gone to the park. I had been looking for a nice park where my grandchildren would be able to run freely and really enjoy themselves and they did – and so did I."*

LCS Is on Facebook...Come Be Our Fan – www.facebook.com