



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Serving Rockland County, NY & Northern Bergen County, NJ

Reaching and Risking to Welcome the World in the Word that has come among us in Jesus.

Vol. 49, Issue 6

The Shepherd's Voice

July/Aug. 2011

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays—9:30 a.m.
June 12th through Sept. 4th

Monday Evenings—7:30 p.m.
July 11th through August 29th

CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

June 27th through Labor Day

Monday & Tuesday—9 am to 1 pm

Wednesdays—Office is Closed

Thursday & Friday—9 am to 1 pm

SUMMER FUN

While we all look to enjoy some time for relaxation during the summer, more people are focusing on just keeping their heads above water. Many continue to be without jobs and the food pantries in our area, including our own supply line are challenged. Please remember to support world and local hunger needs this summer.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Six weeks and counting until Good Shepherd hosts Vacation Bible School. VBS will be taking place from August 1st through August 5th. Fulfilling our mission of reaching into the community, this program attracts both members of our congregation, and non-members.

This year's safari theme will focus on John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Over 60 students, from Pre-Kindergarten to the 4th grade, will explore the meaning of this verse through teaching, crafts, music and games, as they enjoy the week-long journey of fun activities.

As preparations for VBS take place, we ask for your help in painting the backdrops that will be used throughout the week. We will meet on three Sundays in July, the 17th, 24th, and 31st, after worship, for one hour, from 10:30 am-11:30 am. Please join us for one or all of these decorating Sundays.

We look forward to the first week of August and we, as a community, thank all the volunteers beforehand for all their work and dedication. Most of all, we keep in our prayers all who share the love of God that is manifested in his only son, who was given for us so we might all live in God's eternal glory. Thanks be to God.



**The Evangelical Lutheran
Church of the Good Shepherd**

112 North Main Street
Pearl River, New York 10965

OUR MISSION

**“Welcoming the World in the
Word that has come among us
In Jesus Christ”**

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays: 8:15, 9:30, 10:30 a.m.

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE

Sundays: 9:30 a.m.

CONTACT US

Church Office: (845)735-2243

Fax: (845)735-0819

E-mail: office@gspr.org

Web site: www.gspr.org

Parsonage: (845)624-3615

Vicarage: (845)735-3662

Creative Play Pre-School: (845)735-2737

AT YOUR SERVICE

John W. Havrilla - Pastor

Jonathan Recabarren - Vicar

Ione Mensing - Diaconal Assisting Minister/
Ministry Coordinator

Robert Bergman - Treasurer

Nancy Carlson - Creative Play Director

Dale Damon - Church Secretary

Steve Damon - Bookkeeper

Brenda Ferguson - Organist/Choir Director

Don Widmayer - Council President

Dagmar Klein - Church Administrator
Youth Administrator

John Lampkin - Composer in Residence

Alex & Alma Nika - Sextons

John R. Taylor - Pastor Emeritus, FL.

Check it out.... www.gspr.org

2011 CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Donald Widmayer - Council President

Eileen Kennedy - Council Vice President

Robert Bergman - Treasurer

Kim Arcidiacono - Council Secretary

Susan Baumeister - Social Ministry

Rob Bayer - Property

Werner Boecker - Financial Secretary

Barbara Bow - Worship & Music Liaison

Brian Brooker - Property

Frank Getchell - Finance Chairman

April Hanna - Youth Representative

Herman Mensing - Stewardship Chairman

Kenneth Merring - Personnel

Tracey Miller - Youth

Greg Sealander - Ministry Asset Management

Lin Simeti - At Large

Barbara Sloane - Fellowship

John W. Havrilla - Pastor

Jonathan Recabarren - Vicar

LIFE STATIONS

Baptism

Mason Edmond O'Mara

date

6/19/11

Funerals

Audrey Neus

died

6/7/11

service

6/14/ 11

General Memorial Fund

In memory of Audrey Neus, given by Joan L. Channell

In memory of Audrey Neus, given by Randolph & Patricia Valz

ELS Fund

Given by Don & Penni Widmayer in honor of the wedding of Joan and Dan Duonnolo

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Congratulations to Matthew Gable for receiving the rank of Eagle Scout. Matthew is a scout in Good Shepherd's Troop 36.

GET YOUR COPY OF THE "VOICE" E-MAILED....

It will be exactly the same Voice that you've been receiving through the mail, but delivered via e-mail instead. That way you receive your copy faster, and we save on mailing expenses. To sign up for the e-Voice, send an e-mail to secretary@gspr.org, as well as the e-mail address that you'd like us to use.

FROM THE VICAR

Grace and peace to you all from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

What a year it has been for me here at Good Shepherd. How quickly time has flown by. I'll already be preparing my final evaluation for the seminary in fewer than two months. In my introduction to the first sermon I preached, during Labor Day weekend, I emphasized to the entire congregation that I came here to learn and that each and every one of you would be my teachers throughout this internship year. I feel very fortunate and am grateful to you all for making this experience an enlightening one.

Every month, when I go home from our Council Meeting, I leave meditating and praying that someday I would have a congregation such as Good Shepherd.

The reason I say this to myself is because I see the time and dedication each of you share in the ministry of this congregation. One can truly see the power of the Holy Spirit working within both your hearts and minds, whether it is working on the exterior of our church, day-to-day activities in the church, or planning to establish the "vision" for our beloved church, as we move forward in determining the "What" we need at Good Shepherd, "Why" we need it, and "How" the people of Good Shepherd will accomplish that.

All these activities, functions and events take place because each and every one of you plays a role in the life of Good Shepherd, and often, many roles. To be able to experience and be a part of such a vibrant congregation, with people who truly care about their Christian faith and the involvement of all the members in the body of Christ, is truly a blessing. Not only is it a blessing for us locally, but for the Church at large.

During the past couple of months, our Church Council has been addressing these three words, "What, Why and How," with much enthusiasm and reflection, with an eye to the future. The amount of work and dedication many members contribute is a wonderful representation of what the word and sacrament of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ means to us, but most of all, it is a response to the question: What is the Holy Spirit calling us to do? With much dialog and many meetings, not only have we been able to learn more about each other and how we can all work as one, but with the Spirit working among us, we are paving the way for the Good Shepherd of tomorrow, and beyond.

As I reflect on the first half of my internship here, I can see how much I have learned. I thank you all for being not only my brothers and sisters in Christ, but also my teacher in Christ and having a profound impact in my development in ministry.

Jonathan Recabarren, Vicar

BUDGET RESULTS THROUGH APRIL 2011

Our giving thus far in 2011 is below last year and projecting a budget deficit of at least \$24,000.

Very shortly we will be entering the "slow" months for church giving which could bring on a cash crunch this summer.

Please check your annual planned giving and if you have fallen short try to catch up so that we can continue our ministries without the need for reductions.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.



Voice Publication Deadline

Items to be included in The Shepherd's Voice must be submitted to the church office by August 12th **for the September issue**. Electronic submission (e-mail) is preferred. Articles submitted after the deadline may not be published, due to space and time restrictions. Please e-mail articles to: secretary@gspr.org.

SUMMER NOURISHMENT FOR ALL

Summer, hopefully, is a time to step back...a time to re-create...a time to nourish our bodies and our souls. We meander through local farm markets, and fill our bags with fresh corn and tomatoes, blueberries and peaches...or even grow our own. We gather 'round our tables with friends and family, at barbecues and picnics. We take time to do those things that help us unwind, that build our spirit, strengthen our families, fill those empty places in our lives. Worship and gathering around the table that God offers, gives us strength and nourishment that the world cannot.

Yet, for some, hunger takes no vacation and their tables are empty. We, whose tables are blessed, are called to share....to fill those who hunger. Let's keep our food bin filled so that *People to People* can reach out and nourish those who are struggling during these difficult times. And to those whose hunger goes deeper, we are called to invite them to Good Shepherd...to the Word and to God's table, that they also might be filled.

CALLING ALL ART LOVERS!

We are looking for people who are interested in lifting up visual arts in faith and/or life. Painting, carving, sculpting, crafts, stained glass...and other art forms. We will be meeting on August 22nd following the Monday night service. Come...share your talents, thoughts and ideas.

DEDICATION OF NEW PENTECOST BANNER AND STOLES

Special thanks is extended to Audrey Balison, Florence Johnson, Jayne Johnston, Helen Cooper, Martha Traynor, Debbie Davis, and Marlene Seybold, for making the beautiful red stoles and banner that were dedicated on Pentecost Sunday. We are grateful to have such talented members in our congregation.

SUMMERTIME WEEDERS WELCOME

If you are into weeding, (and who is) please contact the office by phone 845 735 2243 or email office@gspr.org and give the days and times when you are available. You will receive a "map" of the grounds with an area marked for you to weed. It doesn't matter how many weeds you pull. You can pull one or 10,000, spend one minute and use the remainder of the time to enjoy the church gardens or work like the devil or angel pulling weeds. The point is that there are always weeds, and while we know our Lord's thoughts on the subject, we have a different approach when it comes to the planted areas around the church. You will need to bring a brown paper bag or two or you can use the brown refuse pail that is kept by the staff parking area near the back of the garage. Wear clothes and bring a hand tool, if you have one, to assist in weeding. While weeding, take sometime to enjoy the life God has given us and try not to get a backache. You may even want to say a prayer or two, since there is no more place divine than a garden. Leave with the satisfaction that your weeding is done out of care for a community that gathers at North Main and Hunt Avenue and extends around the world and right "up" to heaven. This is a place of beauty, and it is a curious thing as we notice people placing (not planting) more and more artificial flowers and building unnatural waterfalls in the most unusual of places. Surely, these attempts are yearning for signs of beauty in a harsh world. God has planted in us a need to behold beauty but beauty can never come expediently. It takes lots of time, and of course, weeders. :-)

CREATIVE PLAY HAPPENINGS

Another fun and exciting year comes to a close. Our Creative Play graduations were a wonderful send-off for the 4 year olds and their families. We graduated over 100 students from our Creative Play classes and 60 children from our UPK classes. The children did a super job singing their special songs. Many thanks to all our families for their help in making 2010-2011 a successful school year.



This summer Creative Play will be running a summer camp three weeks during July. As of now, there are limited openings in our 5 & 6 year old age group. Please call the Creative Play office, (845)735-2737, if you have any interest in joining in the summer fun.

We are also planning a Kindergarten Enrichment program for children in the Pearl River School district, since they attend half day kindergarten. We are having a morning and afternoon session, and families can arrange to have their children picked up/dropped at Creative Play. Applications are available in the Creative Play office.

The office will be open during the summer months, but call ahead, as we will be in and out over the summer.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS - JULY / AUGUST 2011



8th through 12th graders

Saturday, July 30th - Suffern Soup Kitchen - 10:15am - 12:15pm

Join us at the Christ Episcopal Church, 65 Washington Ave, Suffern, NY.

Items needed for donations will be in the weekly bulletin during the month of July; drop off box will be in the entrance to Education building and the entrance to the narthex beginning July 10th.

6th through 12th graders

Tuesday, August 9th - Rockland Boulder's Baseball Game - begins at 7pm

Join Pastor John and Vicar Jonathan at the new baseball stadium, home to the Rockland Boulder's baseball team. Tickets are \$18, which includes a food voucher for a hot dog, drink and chips. If you are interested, please contact Dagmar in the church office.

Please join us for summer worship at either the 9:30 am Sunday Service or 7:30 pm Monday Evening Service

Thank You

Thank you again to all our parent volunteers for helping to make the youth events possible.

On behalf of all the parent volunteers and Good Shepherd youth, I would like to offer a special thank you to Tracey Miller for all her help with the youth events this year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...SAVE THE DATE...MARK YOUR CALENDARS...SAVE THE DATE

Family BBQ - 3rd through 12th graders - Saturday, Sept 10th from 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Join us for our kick-off youth event - we will be having a family BBQ and swim party. The location will be announced in early September.

If you have any questions, please call Dagmar in the church office.

Sunday, September 18th - Ma-He-Tu Meeting for Junior Chaperones - 11:30am

Come down to Fellowship Hall and grab a hot dog...stay for the Ma-He-Tu planning meeting.

Confirmation Retreat - Camp Ma-He-Tu - Fri, Sept 23rd through Sun, Sept 25th

Our annual Weekend in the Woods...encouraged for all Confirmation students...9th through 12th graders may participate as Junior Chaperones.

FOR PARENTS

Sunday, September 11th - Confirmation Parent Meeting - 11:30 in the church

HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE SUMMER

Good news for all Music Lovers and who are interested in Good Shepherd events. Many DVD recordings are now in the Good Shepherd library and can be ordered. A kiosk with catalogue and order forms is temporarily in the Church Narthex and will eventually find its home in the Parlor for easy viewing and ordering. The Good Shepherd DVD recordings are made available through the Good Shepherd Outreach Program and sponsored by the Good Shepherd Music Department, Brenda Ferguson and Church events. Funds we receive are used for the Music Outreach Program . Many have asked to obtain recorded events.....feel free to order for friends and family.

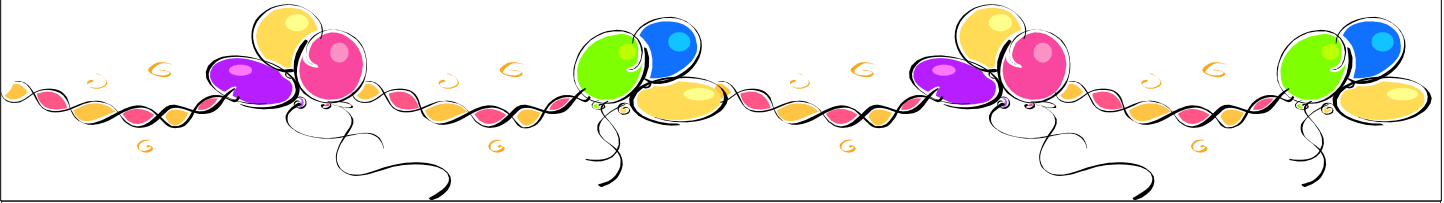
Music Sundays @ Noon Concerts

Evening Bells

Anthems by Youth Choirs

Good Shepherd Family Theatre

Worship Services –Anniversaries & Celebrations



Dear Good Shepherd Families,

We wanted to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone who participated for your help throughout the year with our Family Life events:

Harvest Fest Advent Event Easter Eve SCS Picnic

You have made them memorable and joyous for our children and families. Our children will remember the fun and enjoyment they shared with each other as they grow in our Good Shepherd Church.

A heartfelt thank you to the following families:

Balison-Kennedy	Damon	Girard	LaPoma	Munno	Simonsen	Tuohy
Bernard	DeVisser	Hampton	Lauer	Nostra	Smellegar	Verde
Bow	Diffley	Healy	Luciano	Ofelt	Smith	Young
Callan	Duffy	Klein	Martini	Santucci-Spero	Sneath	
Callanan	Filatov	Kowalski	Marzec	Servidio	Stemmerman	
Coyle	Gallet	Kunow	Miller	Shedler	Tricarico	

A very special thank you to:

Our Master Grillers: John Bow, Greg Sealander and Eric Simonsen

Our Chocolate Fountain Expert:: Sharon Martini

Our Fire Chief: Ken Smellegar (for supplying the Fire Engine, hats, booklets and stickers)

Our Senior and Junior Youth for creating and running our carnival game tables.

Without your help and donations our events would not have been so successful. Many Thanks.

Gratefully yours,

Cindy Sealander and Karen Coyle
Family Life Committee