

GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL CONGREGATION MINISTRY MEETING AGENDA Sunday, June 9, 2019

Call to Order – Suzanne Westberg, Congregation Council President

- a. Attendance (Quorum = **37**)
- b. Recognition of members attending for the first time (please stand).
- c. Purpose of this meeting: Review congregation's 2018-19 ministry year; elect members to our Congregation Council, and Nominating Committee
- d. Prayer – led by Pastor Chelsea Miller
- e. Guidelines for our discussion
Our Congregation Council, at its May 2004 meeting, adopted the following guidelines for discussion at our Congregational meetings:
 - ◆ Any voting members wishing to speak to an issue will have an opportunity to do so.
 - ◆ After all voting members wishing to speak to an issue have had the opportunity, any voting member wishing to speak again on the same issue will have one additional opportunity.
 - ◆ The Chair can limit the length of time allotted each speaker if there are 5 or more members who wish to speak on an issue.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes of Congregational Meetings

- a) Congregational Ministry Meeting of June 10, 2018 (*page 3*)
- b) Congregational Financial Meeting of January 27, 2019 (*page 6*)
- c) Special Congregational Meeting of September 16, 2018 (*page 7*)

Nominating Committee – Nancy Waltermire, Convener (non-voting)

Duties of Congregation Council Members (*see page 31*)

Bios of Candidates for Congregation Council (*see pages 33- 35*)

Nominating Committee recommends:

- A. THAT THE CONGREGATION ELECT TO THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL: (*see page 32*).
 - ◆ *Motions from the floor may be made.*
 - ◆ *If there are additional nominations, a motion needs to be made and seconded that nominations be closed.*
 - ◆ *After congregation votes to close nominations, then the congregation votes on the recommendations by written ballot.*
- B. THAT THE CONGREGATION ELECT **JULIE BURT** TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR A 2-YEAR TERM ENDING MAY 2021 (*see page 32*).

Statistical Reports

- Membership Report to the NJ Synod and ELCA
- Parish Register

Staff and Lay Leader Reports

- Chelsea E. Miller, Pastor
- Jamie Dungey, Deacon
- Charles German, Organist/Music Coordinator
- Laura Meerovich, Office Administrator
- Suzanne Westberg, Council President
- Carrie Rieble, Worship Steward Scheduler

Committee/Ministry Teams (*Members may ask questions or make brief comments*)

- Adult Ministry Team
- Caring Ministries
- Children, Youth, & Family Ministry Team
- Daycare Ministry Team (including its Director, Iolene Hadley)
- Evangelism Ministry Team
- Finance Ministry Team
 - Financial Book Review Team
 - *Financial Secretary and Treasurer reports were received at the January Financial Meeting*
- Memorial Fund Action Team
- Property Ministry Team
- Social Ministry Team
- Stewardship Ministry Team
- Technology Planning Team
- Thrivent Financial Partnership with GSLC
- Worship Planning Ministry Team

Affinity, Support and Task Groups

- Crafters
- Military Services Support
- Comfort Creators
- Shepherd Stitchers Quilt Group
- Daughters of Eve
- Lutheran Men in Mission
- Sixty Plussers

NJ Synod Assembly Report (verbal update) – Jeff Davis and Nancy Waltermire

New Business

Thank you to outgoing members

- Congregation Council: Donna Walsh, Karen Smith, Phoebe Chen, Jim Bonastia, Bridget Eilers
- Nominating Committee: Richard Alagona, Bob Day

Announcements

- *Feel free to keep this report but if you don't need it, please hand it in so it may be given to new members joining Good Shepherd this year.*

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer

**GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL CONGREGATION MINISTRY MEETING MINUTES
Sunday, June 10, 2018**

Call to Order – Joyce Jonat, Congregation Council President, called the meeting to order at 10:50 AM.

- f. Attendance – 56 members attended.
- g. Recognition of members attending for the first time (please stand).
- h. Purpose of this meeting: Review congregation's 2017 - 2018 ministry year; and elect members to our Congregation Council and Nominating Committee.
- i. Prayer – led by Pastor Chelsea Miller
- j. Guidelines for our discussion

Our Congregation Council, at its May 2004 meeting, adopted the following guidelines for discussion at our Congregational meetings:

- ◆ Any voting members wishing to speak to an issue will have an opportunity to do so.
- ◆ After all voting members wishing to speak to an issue have had the opportunity, any voting member wishing to speak again on the same issue will have one additional opportunity.
- ◆ The Chair can limit the length of time allotted each speaker if there are 5 or more members who wish to speak on an issue.

Approval of Agenda – VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR; RECOMMENDATION PASSED

Approval of Minutes of Congregation Meetings

- a. Congregational Ministry Meeting of June 11, 2017 – **VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR; RECOMMENDATION PASSED;**
- b. Congregational Financial Meeting of January 28, 2018 – **VOTE: APPROVED AS AMENDED; RECOMMENDATION PASSED.**
- c. Special Congregational Meeting of April 22, 2018 – **VOTE: 55 FOR, 1 ABSTENTION, RECOMMENDATION PASSED.**

Nominating Committee – Donna Walsh, Convener (non-voting)

Duties of Congregation Council Members

Bios of Candidates for Congregation Council

Nominating Committee [Richard Alagona, Stephanie Meister Rob Shugan] recommends

A. THAT THE CONGREGATION ELECT TO THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL FOR A 3-YEAR TERM JOHANNA SCHOLL, JIM BONASTIA, LYNN FRANCESONI, PHOEBE CHEN, SKIP SCHAEFFER ENDING JUNE 30, 2021 AND BRIDGET EILERS FOR A 1 YEAR-TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2019. VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR; RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

B. THAT THE CONGREGATION ELECT BOB DAY TO THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE FOR A 1-YEAR TERM ENDING MAY 2019. VOTE; ALL IN FAVOR; RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

C. THAT THE CONGREGATION ELECT JEFF DAVIS AND CARRIE RIEBLE TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR A 2-YEAR TERM ENDING MAY 2020 VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR; RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

Statistical Reports

- Membership Report to the NJ Synod and ELCA
- Parish Register

Staff and Leader Reports

- Chelsea E. Miller, Pastor
- Charles German, Organist/Music Coordinator
- Laura Meerovich, Office Administrator – Joan Grace wanted to thank Laura for being bilingual (Spanish)
- Peter Volk, Council President
- Carrie Rieble, Worship Steward Scheduler

Committee/Ministry Teams *(Members may ask questions or make brief comments)*

- Adult and Family Ministry Team
- Caring Ministries Team
- Children and Youth Ministry Team
- Daycare Ministry Team (including its Director, Pat Whitehead)
- Evangelism Ministry Team
- Finance Committee
 - Audit Committee – *Audit in progress*

Financial Secretary and Treasurer reports were received at the January Financial Meeting

- Memorial Committee
- Property Ministry
- Social Ministry Planning Team
- Stewardship Ministry Team
- Technology Planning Team
- Thrivent Financial Partnership with GSLC
- Worship Planning Ministry Team

Affinity, Support and Task Groups

- *Crafteers* Needlework Group
- Military Services Support Group
- Comfort Creators (formerly Prayer Shawl Ministry Team)
- *Shepherd Stitchers* Quilt Group
- Daughters of Eve
- Lutheran Men in Mission
- Sixty Plussers

NJ Synod Assembly Report (verbal update) – Jeff Davis and Nancy Waltermire.

NEW BUSINESS - Pastor Chelsea stated that Jamie Dungey has been hired for 10 hours per week to help Pastor Chelsea.

Thank you to outgoing members

- Congregation Council: Joyce Jonat, Bob Wollenberg, Florindo Gallicchio, Ethan Eilers
- Nominating Committee: Stephanie Meister, Rob Shugan, Carl Shultz.

Announcements

- *Feel free to keep this report but if you don't need it, please hand it in so it may be given to new members joining Good Shepherd this year.*
- *Newly elected Council members, please come to front table to pick up packets.*

Adjournment and Lord's Prayer – The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Dilks

Recorder

CONGREGATIONAL FINANCIAL MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, January 27, 2019 ~ 10:45 AM

Joyce Jonat, Congregation Council President, presiding

Call to Order, meeting was called to order by Suzanne Westberg at 10:49 AM.

- a. Attendance – 58
- b. Recognition of members attending for the first time.
- c. Purpose of this meeting: review congregation's 2018 financial year and adopt a spending plan for 2019.
- d. Prayer – led by Suzanne Westberg, President
- e. Guidelines for our discussion

Our Congregation Council, at its May 2004 meeting, adopted the following guidelines for discussion at our Congregational meetings:

- ◆ Any voting members wishing to speak to an issue will have an opportunity to do so.
- ◆ After all voting members wishing to speak to an issue have had the opportunity; any voting member wishing to speak again on the same issue will have one additional opportunity.
- ◆ The Chair can limit the length of time allotted each speaker if there are 5 or more members who wish to speak on an issue.

1. Financial Review of 2018

- a. 2018 Financial Secretary's Report – Eric Westberg
- b. 2018 Treasurer's Report – Jill Weidner

2. Financial Projections for 2019

- a. Weekly Envelopes, Special, and Plate Offerings – Eric Westberg
- b. Other Income – Jill Weidner, Finance Chair
- c. Presentation of the Spending Plan – Suzanne Westberg

❖ Recommendation from Congregation Council:

THAT THE CONGREGATION ADOPT PROPOSED 2019 SPENDING PLAN, TOTALING \$531,902. VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR, RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

❖ Discussion of the Plan from the Floor

3. Approval of Good Shepherd Christian Daycare Spending

❖ Recommendation from Congregation Council:

THAT THE CONGREGATION ADOPT THE PROPOSED 2019 GOOD SHEPHERD CHRISTIAN DAYCARE SPENDING PLAN TOTALING \$478,678. VOTE: ALL IN FAVOR; RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

4. Lord's Prayer

5. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 11:27 AM with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Dilks
Recorder

**GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
Sunday, September 16, 2018 – 10:30 AM**

Suzanne Westberg, Congregation Council President, presiding, called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM.

Call to Order

- a. Attendance: 76 members
- b. Purpose of meeting to vote on recommendation from Council regarding Solar Panel Installation at GSLC.
- c. Prayer – led by Nancy Waltermire, President Elect.
- d. Guidelines for our discussion

Our Congregation Council, at its May 2004 meeting, adopted the following guidelines for discussion at our Congregational meetings:

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- ◆ After all voting members wishing to speak to an issue have had the opportunity; any voting member wishing to speak again on the same issue will have one additional opportunity.
- ◆ The Chair can limit the length of time allotted each speaker if there are 5 or more members who wish to speak on an issue.

❖ Recommendation from Congregation Council:

THE COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THAT GSLC CONTRACT WITH EZENERGY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS AND WITH SHAMPANORE ROOFING FOR NECESSARY ROOF REPAIRS/REPLACEMENT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000.

Christine Duque made motion to amend recommendation to add 20-year contract. Seconded by several members.

THE COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THAT GSLC ENTER INTO A 20-YEAR CONTRACT WITH EZENERGY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS AND WITH SHAMPANORE ROOFING FOR NECESSARY ROOF REPAIRS/REPLACEMENT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000.

VOTE TO AMENDED RECOMMENDATION: 69 FOR, 2 OPPOSED, 5 ABSTENTIONS.

Pastor Chelsea made motion to amend amended recommendation. Seconded by several members.

THE COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THAT GSLC CONTRACT WITH EZENERGY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS AND 20-YEAR CONTRACT WITH BRAGGA-WATT AND WITH SHAMPANORE ROOFING FOR NECESSARY ROOF REPAIRS/REPLACEMENT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,000. VOTE TO AMEND RECOMMENDATION: 74 FOR, 2 ABSTENTIONS. VOTE ON AMENDED RECOMMENDATION: 70 FOR; 3 OPPOSED; 3 ABSTENTIONS. RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

5. Lord's Prayer and Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Dilks
Recorder

**REPORT TO NEW JERSEY SYNOD
Calendar Year 2018**

Baptized Membership as of December 31, 2017	587
 Members received during 2018	
By baptism	11
By affirmation of faith	7
By transfer of membership	10
Total members received this year	28
 Members removed during 2018	
By death	7
By transfer	3
For other reasons	1
Total members removed this year	11
 Baptized Membership as of December 31, 2018	 604
 Confirmed Membership as of December 31, 2018	 486
 Confirmed and Active Members on the Roll	 362

STATISTICAL COMPARISON

Year End:	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Baptized	787	743	743	732	704	718	721	677	687	692	686	558	574	592	587	604
Confirmed	542	519	528	523	514	529	530	512	541	557	533	466	481	499	478	486
Confirmed – Active/Voting	491	497	489	478	455	474	473	441	480	474	450	389	346	357	351	362
 Worship Attendance	 280	 250	 246	 223	 209	 207	 207	 226	 221	 209	 197	 174	 175	 170	 159	 162

PARISH REGISTER ~ June 10, 2018 – June 8, 2019

BAPTISMS (12)

2018

June 10 Xander Milt Petrushun Schuster
 June 24 Madison Joy Cory
 August 26 Lucas Theodore Sapiezynski
 December 9 Abigail Suzanne Crewdson
 December 16 Margaret Lee Bell

2019

January 20 Joshua Alex Zycband Jr.
 February 10 Izabella Luz Salgado
 March 10 Robbie Joseph Petrone
 April 7 Katherine Iris Rivera
 April 28 Rosie Marie Arnold
 May 5 Vincent Joseph Breen
 May 26 Martin Richard Puntillo

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**WEDDINGS (1)**

**2018**

*Non-Member\**

November 24 Matthew Scholl & Samantha Richard\*

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CONFIRMATION (4)

Rite of Confirmation - June 2, 2019

Paige Hoyda
 Sean Jacquish
 Michael Marsigliano
 Zoe Sterner

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**FUNERALS (7)**

*Non-Member\**

**2018**

July 9 Marge Thompson  
 July 26 Mark Halverson\*  
 September 22 Betty Schroeder  
 November 27 Donna Connolly  
 December 27 Kevin Lindenmuth\*

**2019**

April 13 Florence White  
 May 18 Hildegarde Moore\*

**NEW MEMBERS (55)**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**July 29, 2018**

Lesly Abril  
 John Balla and children  
 Thomas, Chelsea, Melanie and Jason  
 Keith Brotherson  
 Jack Farmer and daughter Shavaun

Louise Mattice

Brett & Laura Paknis

Adam & Jasmine Plaunt and  
 children Aiden and Madison

**January 13, 2019**

Kim & Kevin Buchanan and daughters Lia and Cayla

Jack & Mary Anne Denys

Lynn Lefin

Gene Lepelletier

Laura Nobile

Mike & Joanne Padula

Dennis & Janet Petrone

Regina Petrone

Emily Sapiezynski

Bill & Colleen Stitt

Wes & Francesca Thielke

**May 19, 2019**

Timothy Breen & Sophia Nittoli

Cullen & Erica Caughron and daughters

Meghan and Madeline

Granville Holder

Alyssa Hosie and son Owen  
 (son Connor to be baptized)

Eric & Carol Laustsen

Veronica & Nhan Ngo  
 (sons Jonathan and Brian to be baptized)

Angela Puntillo

Alyssa & Brian Simicsak and daughter Riley  
 (children Greyson and Grace to be baptized)

Elyse & Ryan Steinberg and daughter Ella

## STAFF REPORT Chelsea E. Miller, Pastor

*“Set yourself on fire with passion and people will come from miles to watch you burn ...”*

Dear Partners in Ministry –

If there is one thing I can say for sure, it is that the people of Good Shepherd are full of passion! You can feel our passion for God in our worship. You can feel our passion for one another in our fellowship. You can feel our passion for growing in faith in our children and families. The energy is palpable on a Sunday morning and many other times throughout the week!

It has certainly been an exciting congregational year! We welcomed 55 new partners in ministry to our mission and 12 children into the baptized body of Christ. Deacon Jamie Dungey joined our staff and has been a great asset in our caring ministries, preaching once a month and leading our Thursday worship. Our ministry teams continue to think creatively about how we best accomplish God’s mission in this place. We certainly have much to celebrate!

And we continue to wonder about where we go from here. In the fall of 2018, along with five other NJ congregations, we began a program out of Luther Seminary called Leadership for Faithful Innovation. I’ve spent the first year of the program meeting with my colleagues learning more about how we creatively and faithfully live into being the church going forward. This fall, a leadership team from Good Shepherd will join me and will begin to lead us in the navigation of what this looks like for our congregation. I’m excited to see where God will lead us and I know the passion and faithfulness that exudes from this place and you all will surely steer us toward who and how we are meant to be in the years to come.

I would be remiss if I didn’t offer a word of thanks to our other staff members who work tirelessly to ensure Good Shepherd’s forward movement. They are essential to our work and I am extremely grateful for them. So- Jamie, Laura, Charles, Iolene, Debbie, Nick, Alba, and David – my deepest gratitude to you and to God for the gift of being able to work alongside you!

And of course, a challenge for us all (you had to know it was coming!): *how will you be part of the mission and ministry happening at Good Shepherd in this next congregational year?*

Our Faith in Action theme this year is “Many Gifts, One Spirit”. There is a great deal of truth in those four words. In our baptism we are reminded of the many gifts the one Spirit shares with each of us. Together we can do far more than we could ever do alone. I pray that as we continue to grow and live together as the Body of Christ that we each find our way to actively participate in what God is up to at Good Shepherd!

Peace,



Pastor Chelsea Miller

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **Jamie Dungey, Deacon**

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. Ephesians 1:3*

What a blessing this past year has been!!! I am so honored to serve alongside the members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. I would like to thank you all for your support in my new role. I would especially like to thank Pastor Chelsea, Charles and Laura for all of their support. And I would like to thank the Adult and Family Ministry Team, the Caring Ministry Team and the Social Ministry Team for the opportunity to minister with you all.

The definition of a deacon from the ELCA website states that deacons connect the church with the needs of the world and work to equip others to lead a living, active and caring Christian life. I am honored and humbled to be able to serve in this role within the church.

As a member of the Adult and Family Ministry Team, I have led a discussion on the movie “The Shack”. I have led Faith Talks where we have had some lively conversations.

As a member of the Caring Ministry Team, I have had the opportunity to visit with homebound members or members who have been in the hospital. I am so blessed to visit with these members and to hear their faith stories and to remind them that we are all of God’s children. I have the chance to get to know members and their families and to share in Holy Communion with them.

As a member of the Social Ministry Team, I have had the opportunity to participate in outreach projects such as “God’s Work, Our Hands”, to deliver Advent wreaths and poinsettias to home bound members and to be involved in preparing food backpacks for children.

I am so blessed to have the opportunity to participate in “Ashes To Go” on Ash Wednesday, to assist with worship on church holidays, to preach once a month and to co-lead the Thursday night worship services. I continue to be amazed at how God is working in the church, the world and our lives.

My hope is that we can continue to share our blessings and the love of Jesus Christ with others as we live out our faith!!!

Peace,

Deacon Jamie Dungey

## STAFF REPORT

### Charles German, Organist/Music Coordinator

*Praise God with shouts of joy, all people. Sing to the glory of his name.*

Psalm 66:1 – 2a (GNT)

Praising God in worship at Good Shepherd comes in various forms: traditional (blended) worship, *Grace Alive!* worship, Worship on the Lawn. *Psalm 66:1 – 2a* tells all the world to praise God.

*Grace Alive!* worship expands our way of “singing a song to the Lord,” whether it is a contemporary song, or an older song (with new additional words) with keyboard, guitar and drum accompaniment instead of the organ or piano. *Grace Alive!* Song Leaders and instruments have included youth as well as members of the congregation that are not involved with the choir. This past year we upgraded the keyboard and drum kit used for *Grace Alive!* services. We also tried a *Grace Alive!* style Christmas Eve service.

Traditional (blended) worship services use the organ/piano for leading the liturgy and worship songs, along with the choir for music leadership. Festival traditional worship services also include trumpets, French horns, and trombones.

Planning worship services (traditional-blended or contemporary) takes time to plan the different elements of the worship service, to find the right music that fits with the theme and scripture readings for a particular service, and to find the best placement for the music for this service. If the music is printed in our worship bulletin, it needs to be covered by one of our two reprint licenses. On March 18, 2018 we started to stream our worship services on Facebook Live. I am working with Jeff Davis to make sure that our music in our worship services (including videos) are covered by our streaming/podcast licenses.

I am a member of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) since 1989. I go to their annual conferences in the summer to expand my knowledge in traditional and contemporary worship and to help expand Good Shepherd’s worship experience. I also attend American Guild of Organists (AGO) conferences. In July, 2018, I attended the ALCM conference in Valparaiso, Indiana.

I also want to thank all Song Leaders, instrumentalists, and sound techs that participate in the *Grace Alive!* worship services. I want to thank Nadine Pitti, Alexis Pitti, Joyce Jonat, Emma Grace, Julie Burt, Carrie Rieble, Susan Soldivieri, Jill Weidner, Debbie Gelormine, Jeff Davis, Adam Plaunt, Daniel Tenenbaum, James Presti, Florindo Gallicchio, Dan Groth, Alex Duque, and others that have helped out participating in the *Grace Alive!* band and Song Leaders. We are always looking for more people to be involved. *Grace Alive!* rehearsals are on Wednesdays. Please check the *Good News from Good Shepherd* and *The Shepherd’s Voice* for rehearsal dates.

Praise the Lord!

Charles German

- *Good News Translation*® (Today’s English Version, Second Edition).  
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## **STAFF REPORT**

### **Laura Meerovich, Office Administrator**

*“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:34-35*

What I love so much about Good Shepherd is the love I see here, for God, and for each other. ☺

In January I marked my fifth anniversary as your office administrator! In this past year:

- We continued to reduce our consumption of paper, combining the many different offering envelopes into one envelope with checkboxes for the various types of offerings. We also created “Prayers for Healing” pew cards and stopped printing the worship copyrights in the bulletins, both of which have enabled us to save pages in the worship folder. (One copy of the copyrights is filed in the office, available to anyone who would like to see them.)
- I re-designed the Faith in Action results spreadsheet, and created a more efficient method of distribution to Ministry Team Leaders and all participants.
- Pr. Chelsea and I created an annual event calendar to enable us to anticipate our needs for the upcoming church year.
- I documented the New Member procedures and re-imagined and re-designed the New Member paperwork, especially necessary in a year which saw more than 50 new members!
- We created a “Re-Member” form and asked everyone to remind us of their interests and skills.
- Other documents that I updated (or created) include the Thursday Evening Worship bulletins, Member Directory, fall Stewardship materials, seasonal postcards, the Faith in Action form, this report, and more.

The office would not be able to function efficiently without the efforts of our many volunteers: Mary Ann & Cindy Schwarz faithfully assemble the weekly bulletin; Sharon Krebs and Michelle Lee enter info into the database; Bea Allen writes memorial acknowledgements+; Nancy Davis pokes the refreshment volunteers; Sandy Alexander records and deposits special offerings; Dean Levin and Ed Gould pay the bills (and more); Eric Westberg keeps track of your donations; Bonnie Gould processes the payroll reports; and Jill Weidner updates the personnel handbook+.

Stephanie Meister enters the calendar information on the website, helps with data entry and more. The MSP Schedulers Carrie Rieble & Charlene Walker make sure that our Sunday services have the necessary Worship Stewards. Myla Groth, Linda Matarazzo, & Jill Weidner create the scrolling screen. Our holiday bulletins and special mailings are assembled by Bea Allen, Margaret Cotton, Darlene Day, Susie North, Roxanne Powers, Janice Reinhardt, Pam Ruggini, Carol Shutack, Barbara Stockhoff, Joyce Van Vooren (aka the chief!) and Connie Zylman.

Joan Grace edits the newsletter, among many other things. Bob Wollenberg, Jack Farmer, and Bob Day help me with property concerns. Jeff Davis & Kevin Whitehead handle IT issues. Many others just get stuff done, including Bill Jonat, Erwin & Kathy Kuhblank, Ed Kunkel, Buck LaFever, Ellen Parker, Lowell Reinhardt, Linda Rolando, Melissa Syage and Lynn Weckworth. To all of you I extend my heartfelt gratitude and love!

A special word of thanks to Connie Zylman, who, after many years of administrative service to the church, has decided to retire from her roles making reminder phone calls, organizing offering envelopes, and entering communion records into the database. I will truly miss her Monday-morning visits to the office, and wish her a much-deserved, happy retirement, with lots of love and appreciation for all she has done.

I am grateful to all who helped out this past summer as I recovered from surgery, in particular, Susan Capetta, who stepped back into her role as administrator, enabling me to feel confident that the congregation was in good hands during my recuperation!

I also extend my gratitude to Suzanne Westberg, Council President, and all Council members for their leadership, and last but not least, to my fellow staff members: Pastor Chelsea Miller, Jamie Dungey, Charles German, Iolene Hadley, Debbie Gelormine, Nick Jankucic, David Scholl, and Alba Buitrago - my thanks for your expertise and your support!

God’s peace, *Laura Meerovich*, Office Administrator

**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT**  
**Suzanne Westberg**

Fellow Members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

I was on our website recently, and under the tab "About Us" found this statement:

**At Good Shepherd, we believe that each and every person is a beloved child of God. Whoever you are and whatever your life journey has been, one thing is certain - God loves you. We respond to this amazing, indescribable love that God has for us by loving God and loving other people. Our basic theology can be summed up in the belief statement, "Because God loves us, therefore we love one another."**

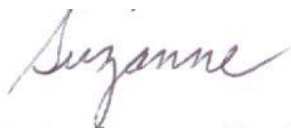
Although I have seen these words many times before, they had new meaning for me as I sat down to write this message. They reach to the heart of who we are and the work we have done together this year.

Our congregation is blessed with abundant resources in time, talent and financial support, and we have put those resources to work. Under the Leadership of our Pastor, and with the hard work and support of our Staff and Ministry Team members, Good Shepherd has grown in size and continues to welcome new members to share in worship and the Lord's work. It is truly exciting to be part of this community and to feel the energy! As you read the reports from our Pastor, Staff, Ministry Teams and Affinity/Support and Task Group leaders, I think you will agree with me that this is a joyful and vibrant place. Amazing things continue to happen at Good Shepherd.

Our ministry teams are designed to manage the work of our church, whether it be community and social outreach, operations support, member support or planning for educational opportunities and activities for all ages. Our Affinity/Support and Task Groups provide a wide variety of activities and services based on shared interests and abilities, and ideas for new groups are always welcome. There are many different ways to serve others and satisfy our own spiritual hunger here at Good Shepherd.

I invite you to celebrate what has been accomplished and join us as we continue to grow in faith and serve the Lord.

In peace,



Suzanne Westberg  
Council President

## **Worship Steward Scheduler**

- Creates and adjusts service templates and worship steward profiles in the Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP) software program for volunteer assignments throughout the year.
- Alternates with Charlene Walker to assign stewards for Sundays and special services in 3-month scheduling periods. Charlene is also the backup during my vacations and when I am otherwise inaccessible! Thank you!
- Oversees MSP on a daily basis providing approximately 187 active volunteers with automatic email reminders and a system to easily request substitutes, accept substitute requests, update contact information and ministries, and specify “cannot serve” dates.
- Ensures scheduling of each steward at frequency rates to accommodate personal preferences and “cannot serve” schedules, tweaking MSP parameters to accomplish this.
- Works in conjunction with the ministry scheduling “team” (Charlene Walker, Laura Meerovich, Pastor Chelsea, Charles German and Debbie Gelormine). Thanks to all of you!
- Works to improve volunteer experience with the MSP software program by providing email support and personal instruction to members upon request.
- Inputs any Faith in Action data changes into member profiles prior to the start of the “worship steward year” on July 1.
- Enters counting team rotations provided by Lowell Reinhardt into MSP prior to schedule publication (thanks, Lowell!), and contacts other ministry leads such as Rob Shugan (ushers), Ellen Parker/Pam Ruggini (altar guild) and Jeff Davis (prayer ministers and streaming) as needed to adjust teams or for help filling open positions for the week.
- Is thankful for Connie Zylman for all the reminder phone calls made to ministry stewards.
- Is grateful to Office Manager, Laura Meerovich, who relays volunteer requests and updates received by the church office to me; prepares the easel of volunteers weekly, contacts our members who do not use the internet, and alerts me of schedule changes. Thank you!

In God’s service,

Carrie Rieble — Worship Steward Scheduler, on behalf of the scheduling team

## ADULT MINISTRY TEAM

**Team Members:** Deacon Jamie Dungey, Dan Groth, Janice Reinhardt, Lee Wollenberg, and Lynn Francesconi (Council Liaison).

The focus of Adult Ministry is to foster adult faith formation through a variety of opportunities for study and discussion, prayer and devotions, fellowship and service.

**Faith Talk** – Sunday morning adult forum for learning and discussion. **Facilitators included:** Deacon Jamie Dungey, Debbie Gelormine, Dan Groth, Jill Weidner, Lynn Weckworth, and Lee Wollenberg.

As we've done in past years, we offered multi-session DVD and discussion opportunities including:

- A seven week DVD series - *Dream. Think. Be. Do.* (including sessions on compassion, taking the Bible seriously, prayer, and thinking theologically)
- YouTube videos: *Welcome to the Movement* by Bishop Michael Curry  
*Who did they say He was? Jesus in text and context* by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine
- A three week PBS series - *Jesus, Countdown to Calvary.*

In addition, working in conjunction with Social Ministry, guest speakers joined us roughly once a month to spotlight local organizations and projects which Good Shepherd supports, or topics of concern within the NJ Synod and the national ELCA including:

- *The Giving Network*
- *Visions and Pathways*
- *Safe and Sound*
- *Somerset Chaplaincy to the Elderly*
- *SHIP*
- *Interfaith Hospitality Network - IHN*
- *Advocacy 2.0 and Synod Memorials and Resolutions*, by Rev. Sara Lilja
- *ELCA Social Statements* by Rev. Bruce Davidson

**Bible Study and Small Group Leaders:** Good Shepherd is blessed to have many leaders who coordinate the small groups that engage in study and prayer, service and fellowship. This year's leaders include: **Sandy Alexander** (*60+ers* and *Thursday Bible Study*), **Janice Brunsbach** (*Shepherd Stitchers*), **Granville Holder** (*Veterans Outreach*), **Bill Jonat** (*Go Green, Go Hike*), **Dean Levin** (*LLM-Lutheran Men in Mission*), **Brenda Linton** (*Grief Support*), **Stephanie Meister** (*Daughters of Eve*), **Roxanne Powers** (*Crafteers and Comfort Creators*), **Janice Reinhardt** (*Caring Ministries*), and **Lee Wollenberg** (*Book Discussion*).

**Book Discussion Group:** This group now meets regularly from 9:30 – 11 AM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month. Books read and discussed this program year include:

- *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time* by Marcus J. Borg,
- *The Power of Love* by Bishop Michael Curry,
- *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus* by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, and
- *The Wisdom Jesus, Transforming Heart and Mind – a New Perspective on Christ and His Message* by Cynthia Bourgeault.

**Lenten Series:** Pastor Chelsea led a weekly lunch-time discussion of the book *The God We Can Know: Exploring the "I Am" Statements of Jesus* by Rob Fuquay.

**Pizza and a Movie:** Last summer, we watched and discussed **The Shack** (based on the book by William Young).

I am very grateful for the support and leadership of the Adult Ministry team, facilitators, and small group coordinators, without whom these adult faith formation, educational, and fellowship opportunities could not occur.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lee Wollenberg, Chair



## CARING MINISTRIES

John 21: 16 *Jesus said: ... "Take care of my sheep."*

The mission of GSLC Caring Ministries is to follow Jesus' teachings and example – caring for one another. The organized ways that love and support are shared with the GSLC community include:

- Home Communion Ministers
- Flower Delivery – each Sunday and holidays – Faith & Action sign up
- Caring for Caregivers
- Grief Support
- Casserole Ministry – as needed
- Prayer Ministers
- Greeting Card Ministry
- Community Resource Liaison
- Driving Members to Church

Deacon Jamie Dungey has supported this ministry with weekly visits and home communion to our homebound members. Individual Home Communion Ministers also visit there assigned GSLC member. Thanks to Gail Jorgensen for refreshing the communion kits each month.

Grief Share Support Group meets once a month, co-coordinated by Brenda Linton and Naeem Harry. For those walking this journey, the group has been a blessing.

Roxanne Powers coordinates the Greeting Card Ministry and faithfully sends supportive cards to the sick and grieving as well as happy occasions such as First Communion and Confirmation.

Janice Reinhardt coordinates Caring for Caregivers and Community Resources at the Caring Ministries Corner once a month after worship. Stop by for conversation, support and more information about volunteering. Consider this ministry on your Faith in Action Form this year.

MANY acts of caring and kindness happen spontaneously within our community of faith and for this we are truly grateful. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Janice Reinhardt, Coordinator

# CHILDREN YOUTH and FAMILY MINISTRY TEAM

Members: Louise Eilers (chair), Pastor Chelsea Miller

Staff: Nursery Professional – Alba Buitrago

*Our ministry team provides opportunities for our children, youth, volunteers, and staff to:*

**KNOW the Word | GROW in Faith | SHARE thru Service**

## Christian Education

We offer age-appropriate, Bible-centered, Christian Education for children and youth ages 3-12.

- Youth Group grades 7-12
- Confirmation Class grades 7-8
- Holy Communion Retreat Grade 3
- Jr Youth Group grades 3-6
- Family Faith Formation for families with babies – grade 2

## Worship

We encourage children and youth to participate in all aspects of worship

|           |                       |                         |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| • Acolyte | • Worship Assistant   | • Gifts of Bread & Wine |
| • Usher   | • Communion Assistant | • Welcome Team          |
| • Reader  |                       |                         |

## Enrichment

We support and nurture children, youth and families throughout their faith journey

- Bibles--Age 3, Grade 3, Grade 7
- Fall Family Retreat at Cross Roads
- Intergenerational movie
- Fill My Cup Youth Gatherings at Starbucks - Grades 7-8, Senior High Youth
- Lock-in, Fall Grades 7-12,
- Lock-in, Spring Grades 6-12
- Young adult service day
- College Care packages
- Youth Service Days

## Retreats

We promote participation in retreats outside of GSLC.

- October 2019 Rally for Crossroads Retreat
- March 2020 Crossroads Middle School Retreat

## Opportunities to Give and Serve

We encourage our children and youth to act in love for others.

|        |                                                                                                                                        |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Summer | Food Drive at Somerset Patriots Game                                                                                                   |
| Fall   | Advent Wreaths; Christmas Shopping Spree for Somerset County Jail residents; God’s Work, Our Hands, SHIP sandwiches, Christmas Pageant |
| Winter | Souper Bowl of Caring, cards for homebound members, Backpack food bags                                                                 |

## Nurture and Training

Respectfully Submitted, Louise Eilers, Children & Youth Ministry

## DAYCARE MINISTRY TEAM

**Team Members:** Gale Murphy (Chair), Nancy Davis, Brianna Pitti, Johanna Scholl (Church Council Liaison), Iolene Hadley (Center Director), Pastor Chelsea (Church Staff Liaison)

The Daycare Ministry currently provides the following care options to members of the community and the congregation:

- Traditional daycare on a full-time or part-time basis between 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM
- Before and After Care program for Adamsville School children (currently Adamsville is the only candidate school due to transport issues)
- Pre-school
- A safe Christian environment
- Current enrollment is over 80, and we are taking applications for the summer and the 2019-20 academic year. Our school year enrollment over the past several years has been at or near capacity.
- Our highly trained staff offers engaging curriculum that includes field trips, chapel time, gardening, music, story time, cooking, summer programs and family focused activities.

We are grateful for the service of our talented and dedicated Daycare staff. Iolene Hadley has taken the helm the new Director of our Daycare. Under her leadership, our enrollment has remained high, staff turnover is minimal, and she has worked tirelessly this year to ensure that her transition to Director was smooth.

Thanks to all congregation members who donated their time including office support, nap times, gardening, and story time. Thank you to all members who made donations to our scholarship program and/or allocated Thrivent funds to the Daycare. We strive to help children in need in our community and currently have several students on partial scholarships.

If you would like to join this ministry team, please contact Gale Murphy, Chair.

Submitted by Johanna Scholl, Church Council Liaison

## EVANGELISM MINISTRY TEAM

*In light of the Gospel, we are called to invite people into the joy and life we have experienced in Christ – in Christ’s words: “COME and SEE” (John 1:38-39) and to “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation” (Mark 16:15)... “GO and TELL”*

**Team Members:** Janine Shugan (chair), Nadine Pitti (council liaison), Roxanne Powers, Ed Schrum, Pastor Chelsea

**Other Contributors:** Stephanie Meister, Ellen Parker, Brent Ritchey

### Goals:

- Create an internal awareness of Evangelism by encouraging members to *COME and SEE* and *GO and TELL*.
- Work on building relationships in our church and in our community.
- Keep website current and fresh to show visitors how the spirit is alive at Good Shepherd.
- Host event(s) to increase awareness of our church in the community.
- Find new ways to advertise and spread the Word.

The Evangelism team continues its focus to COME and SEE what God is doing at Good Shepherd and GO and TELL others to join us in our faith journey. Below are highlights and accomplishments this past year and some upcoming events.

- ✓ Connections Magazine ads for Christmas and Easter
- ✓ Posting church events and Sunday worship on Facebook
- ✓ Post card mailings for Christmas Eve services, Living Nativity, Holy Week and Easter services
- ✓ Hosted a Hospitality Awareness Workshop
- ✓ Added “*COME and SEE*” needle point above the sanctuary entrance, and “*GO and TELL*” needle point on the balcony overhang to see on the way out of the sanctuary made by our very own Crafterers
- ✓ Hosted the Living Nativity – Approximately 400 visitors! Christmas “Believe” pins attached to business cards with worship time/address were given as gifts to visitors
- ✓ Follow-up cards and phone calls to visitors who sign the Guest Book
- ✓ Welcome Kits for visitors
- ✓ New Name Tag wall – remember to wear your name tag 😊
- ✓ Connect Cards on the Welcome Desk and in church pews to learn more about our visitors
- ✓ Re-Member questionnaire for all members to provide updated personal information to the church database
- ✓ Community Block Party in July with free food, games and outdoor evening worship
- ✓ Blessing of the Animals in October

Please let me know if you have interest in helping with this ministry! We welcome new faces.

Submitted by: Janine Shugan (chair)

## **FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM**

The Finance Ministry Team meets the second Monday in the month after every quarter end (April, July, October, January). Members of the team include Ed Gould (treasurer), Jim Bonastia (council liaison), Jill Weidner (chair) and Pastor Chelsea. While we are a small team, we are supported by many volunteers who help keep us moving forward. We would be glad to have others join the team!

Book Review Teams were established to review both the Daycare and Church's financial records for 2018. Many thanks to these folks for donating their time to help ensure the fiscal soundness of the financials and helping us complete the requirement of the NJ Synod. (Team members listed in Financial Book Review section, below.) Our team has been shrinking year over year - if you are someone who is good with numbers and tracing transactions, please contact Jill Weidner - the more folks we have the faster we can complete the review!

Many thanks also go out to Ed and Bonnie Gould (treasurers), Dean Levin (expense payment disburser), and Eric Westberg (finance secretary) for the hours of time they donate to keep our books running and properly recorded. There are hundreds of transactions each month for expenses and income and these folks keep extremely accurate books. It is a thankless job that they all do with skill and expertise.

Amanda Rochow is also supporting the team by assessing our insurance coverages and speaking with brokers as we put our account out for bid in 2019.

For 2018/19 the team also reviewed the proposed solar contracts, provided comments on areas of risk, and recommended council obtain legal counsel to review the contracts and speak with the contractor, Braggawatt.

The team also participates with council in defining the spending plan each year, preparing for the financial congregational meeting in January, providing guidance and recommendations on financing and recording of large expenditures and overall financial reporting and analysis.

Submitted by Jill Weidner

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## **FINANCIAL BOOK REVIEW TEAM**

We have reviewed the Cash Receipt, Cash Disbursement, Payroll and Cash Balance records and the financial statements of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Daycare as of December 31, 2018.

While our review was limited to testing the transactions and balances and would not necessarily disclose all errors, we found no evidence of significant errors or omissions in the financial statements of the church or the daycare.

Daycare Team: Martin Linton (Lead), Joyce Jonat, Cindy Dilks, Janine Shugan, Jill Weidner

Church Team: Jill Weidner (Lead), Lee Wollenberg, Joyce Jonat

Submitted by Jill Weidner

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## **MEMORIAL FUND ACTION TEAM**

Members: Ed Gould, Evelyn Kruck, Stephanie Meister and Karen Smith

The role of the Memorial Fund Action Team is to oversee the funds in the *Undesignated Gifts* line of the Memorial Fund. These funds are the result of donations given in memory of a person or in thanksgiving for a special event. As requests are received from Ministry Teams and groups within GSLC, the Memorial Committee meets to prayerfully discuss the requests. The team then makes a recommendation to Council regarding each request for their final approval. Donations to the Memorial Fund can be made using the giving envelopes found in the pews.

This year we:

- Purchased a new drum set for Grace Alive services
- Acknowledged receipt of a large gift to begin work on expanding the Memorial Garden.

Karen J. Smith ~ Chairperson

## PROPERTY MINISTRY TEAM

The Property Ministry Team is responsible for the following:

- Oversight, repair and maintenance of all facilities, inside and outside including review and administration of property contracts (fire and door alarm, waste management, pest control, drain cleaning, boiler testing, fire extinguishers and alarm testing), landscaping and maintenance
- Support of custodian responsibilities
- Coordinating and scheduling of congregation-wide work/clean-up days
- Any other items that come up related to non-administrative facilities

This past year has been a year of major projects, exciting changes and improvements. We still have a couple of vacancies and can always use new hands and ideas to help maintain our facilities.

There is a constant challenge to reorganize and recruit knowledgeable people to serve on the Ministry Team. Please thank each of these coordinators personally for the incredible job they have done this year. The team currently consists of the people listed below and their area of responsibility.

|                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Martin Linton         | Exterior                      |
| Bob Day               | HVAC                          |
| <OPEN>                | Cleaning Services             |
| Jack Farmer           | Plumbing/Appliances/Restrooms |
| Erwin Kuhblank        | Electrical                    |
| Bob Wollenberg        | Interior                      |
| Dean Levin            | Grounds                       |
| Bob Wollenberg        | Records                       |
| Open                  | Building Systems              |
| Open                  | Youth Coordination            |
| Nick Jankucic         | Custodian                     |
| Pastor Chelsea Miller | Staff Liaison                 |

### Some of the accomplishments this year:

- Held two workdays with 8 - 15 volunteers at each event.
- Resolve Fire Department violations noted by Somerville fire inspection.
- Ongoing review of outside lighting and conversion to LED
- Renewed cleaning contract with Heits cleaning service
- Treated lawns with fertilizer and weed killer
- Ongoing project of conversion to solar power
- Replaced two parking lot light fixtures and converted to LED Bulbs
- Renovated Kitchenette in Narthex
- Renovated Luther Hall Kitchen
- Continue to save electric costs by using a third party supplier
- Repaired snow blower
- Placed Park type bench outside of Narthex entrance
- Purchased new riding lawnmower

### In the Works:

- Final Touches on Luther Hall remodel project
- Upgrading all thermostats to provide remote access.
- 

Please continue to donate to the Capital improvement fund so we can continue to make needed repairs and upgrades.

Personnel: We have a number of vacant positions and would welcome additional volunteers to fill these positions. If interested in finding out more please contact Bob Wollenberg or any member of the property team or attend one of our monthly meetings which are held at 8:15 prior to the Sunday service. Watch for specific dates in the weekly church bulletin and the monthly calendar.

Respectfully submitted by Robert Wollenberg, Acting Chair.

## SOCIAL MINISTRY TEAM

Through the power of the Holy Spirit and in response to God's love as revealed in the Gospel, the mission of GSLC's Social Ministry is 1) to serve those in our local community who hurt, who are in need, or who have limited choices; 2) to respond to crisis within our world; and 3) support ELCA social ministry initiatives.

### SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

It is through the and benevolence of volunteers in our congregation that we can serve those in need.

#### God's Work Our Hands Day:

- *Somerville Senior Housing\**: Bingo and desserts for 24 residents
- *First Friends Stamp Out Despair\**: packaged 230 folders with stationery for immigration detainees at Elizabeth Detention Center
- *Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (S.H.I.P)*: made 24 pans of chili and 10 meatloaves for the homeless
- *Giving Network*: collection of household goods for those in need
- *Fleece blankets*: knot-tied 4 blankets for families in shelters
- *Backpack Meals\**: 126 weekend backpack meals for children assembled

#### Feeding the Hungry:

- *Holiday Food Baskets\**: Collected and distributed food to families in need for Easter, Thanksgiving & Christmas
- *Food Bank and GSLC Food Pantry*: Staffed the food bank Saturday mornings for 3 months; collected cans of tuna fish & 341 rolls of toilet paper; collected non-perishable foods at Somerset Patriots Ballpark
- *Souper Bowl of Caring*: 448 cans of soup collected and \$200
- *Backpack Meals\**: Assembled more backpack meals in Feb for children so they have weekend meals.
- *ELCA World Hunger*: Collected enough loose change to purchase several cows to help a family sustain itself

#### Caring for the Homeless:

- *Interfaith Hospitality Network*: Hosted and fed homeless families one week at a time, 6 times during the year.
- *Project Homeless Connect*: Collected 220 articles of clothing including 103 hats from the Shepherd Stitchers

#### Caring for those in Need:

- *Backpacking for Others\**: Provided LSMNJ with 518 backpacks filled with school supplies for children in need
- *Angel Tree Christmas Giving\**: Gifts collected for clients of Visions & Pathways and Safe+Sound
- *Diaper Drive\**: Collected diapers for clients of IHN & the Food Bank.
- *Advent Wreaths for Homebound*: Assembled and delivered Advent Wreaths for 9 homebound members.
- *First Friends*: Tested donated pens to make sure they work for immigration detainees.
- *Blessing Bags\**: Personal care bags for seniors to be distributed by Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ

#### Caring for our Military and Veterans:

- *Lyons Veterans Hospital\**: Provided gift bags filled with clothes, personal care items, and personal notes.
- *Paracord Bracelets*: Made quick deploy paracord bracelets for emergency use by US troops.

#### Faithful Ecology: Sponsored a Caring for the Earth and its People project

**Advocacy:** Small group discussions on the ELCA Draft Social Statement on Women & Justice; provided Advocacy information in newsletter and in narthex.

**Faith Talks:** Coordinated Faith Talks on Advocacy 2.0 and Synod Memorials with Pastor Sara Lilja, ELCA Social Statements with Pr. Bruce Davidson; and with representatives from The Giving Network, Visions & Pathways, Safe + Sound, Somerset Chaplaincy to the Elderly, SHIP, and Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Throughout the year, GSLC responds to emergency requests for food, clothing, and other necessities.

\*Projects supported by Thrivent grants.

## **MONETARY SUPPORT**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church continued to provide monetary support to S.H.I.P, FISH, Safe+Sound Somerset, Food Bank Network of Somerset County, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ, Somerset Chaplaincy to the Elderly, Somerset Jail Chaplaincy, Somerville Rescue Squad, and the Somerville Fire Department.

Extra Mile Giving campaigns were held for the ELCA Family Farm Initiative of the ELCA Youth Gathering; Backpacking for Others; stocking the GSLC food pantry & purchasing ShopRite gift cards; ELCA Disaster Response for hurricane victims; Scleroderma Foundation of Delaware Valley; Veterans at Lyons VA; Holiday Food baskets; and First Friends (immigration detainee support).

Thanks to the many volunteers who contribute their time and talent to serving our Community Organizations and neighbors. Special thanks to our coordinators Bill Jonat, Peg Bernhardt, Charlene Walker, Brenda Linton, Brett Paknis, Debbie Gelormine, Joan Grace, Ellen Parker, Nancy Waltermire, Nancy Davis, Sharon Schwarz, Carol Westlund, Richard Alagona, Ed and Bonnie Gould, Karen Smith, Jason Smith, Lisa Staib, Gail Jorgensen, Dean Meister, Jill Weidner, Rosemary Hoehler, Jamie Dungey; and to the Social Ministry team members Peg Bernhardt, Charlene Walker, Bonnie Gould, Nancy Davis, Donna Walsh, Jamie Dungey and Pastor Chelsea. And thanks to Janice Brunsbach and the Shepherd Stitchers and to the Comfort Creators for contributing their skills to initiatives.

Volunteers and ideas for service projects are always welcome. Let us continue in our mission of service together!

Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Meister and Lynn Weckworth, Social Ministry Co-Chairs

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## **STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM**

**Team Members:** Bonnie & Ed Gould, Karen Smith (Council liaison), Kathy Kuhblank, Lynn Weckworth, Pastor Chelsea Miller and Joyce Jonat (Chair).

The Stewardship Team continued its work to provide two major opportunities during the year for people to express their faith by sharing their time, talents, skills, and pledges for the sake of strengthening the mission and ministries of GSLC. This took place during the fall stewardship pledge campaign, and the spring commitment of time and talent using Faith in Action forms as well as a booklet describing each volunteer opportunity.

**“Living Generously – God to Us, Us to Others”** was the theme for the 2018 fall pledge campaign. Every year, the team spends time developing the stewardship message, plans how to communicate the theme’s message through letters, articles in the newsletter, and inviting congregational members to share the theme’s message during worship’s Moments for Mission for several Sundays leading up to Commitment Sunday. The team sends hand written thank you notes for pledging.

**Faith in Action:** Members are invited to review their current volunteer involvements at GSLC and/or enlist for new volunteer opportunities. This was the fourth year that on-line registration for volunteer activities was available. Whether registering on-line or by paper copy, on Faith in Action Sunday we make commitments to use our time, talents, and skills in service to God’s people, and to express our gratitude for the many blessings that God bestows on us every day.

Respectfully submitted by Joyce F. Jonat



## TECHNOLOGY PLANNING TEAM

The mission of the Technology Planning team is to ensure that the staff and members of Good Shepherd have the technology tools that they need to do the work of God at and through Good Shepherd. We support the existing systems and plan for future directions.

We keep all the church's computers up and running; keep the server, network, and internet up and running; maintain the website and Facebook pages; keep all the tools used by staff and members up and running, including Church Windows, Constant Contact, QuickBooks, Ministry Scheduler Pro, etc.; and providing audiovisual tools for the church.

This has been the first full year that Good Shepherd has streamed our worship services over the Internet. Anyone with a Facebook account can log in and be a part of our worship live on a Sunday morning or as a recording afterwards. This has been a benefit to members who are away or homebound, as well as for people who want to see what Good Shepherd is about. We have had at least 100 or more visits for each weekly recording. Now that we have proven the benefits we are looking at moving to a more sophisticated system that will also allow us to stream via YouTube and other venues for people who are not on Facebook. Meanwhile, we would love to have more people interested in helping to run the streaming!

While we have been successful at providing a good network and services, we are looking at ways to move more of our systems and services off-site to better ensure stability and backup of data as well as relying on outside support resources. We will always need GSLC people for support, but this will enable quicker responses to staff needs.

I want to thank the members of the team for all of the support that they provide for the staff and members. This includes Ed Gould, Kevin Whitehead, Werner Kruck, Nick Dininno, Parker Lawton, and Kyle Chu. Thanks, too, to Pastor Chelsea for her support and guidance for our technology directions.

Submitted by Jeff Davis

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## THRIVENT PARTNERSHIP WITH GSLC 2018-19 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

**Thrivent Choice** is a charitable grant program and a unique member benefit. Eligible Thrivent members are designated Choice Dollars that they can direct to enrolled charities. Since 2010, eligible Thrivent members have used the program to help direct more than \$270 million to nonprofits nationwide. In 2018-19 GSLC members directed \$2,913 to GSLC and \$34 to the Daycare. There are about 50 GSLC members eligible to allocate their Thrivent Choice dollars. If you are one of the 50 or so people with Choice dollars to donate, **don't let this opportunity pass!** Call a Thrivent customer service representative and let them help you find out if you have Choice dollars and how to allocate them. Just call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice."

### **\$250 Action Team Grant Recipients 2018-19:**

Angel Tree Ministry

Backpacking for Others

Diaper Drive

Backpack Bags for Food Bank

Easter Food Baskets

Blessing Bags for LSMNJ

Gift Bags for Lyons VA veterans

NJ WELCA Thank Offering Service/In-Kind Offering

For GWOH: Somerville Senior Housing Social  
Backpack Bags for Food Bank  
Stamp Out Despair

## WORSHIP PLANNING MINISTRY TEAM

**Team Members:** Pastor Chelsea Miller, Skip Fuller, Debbie Gelormine, Charles German, Gail Jorgensen, Denise Kozloski, Ellen Parker, Nancy Waltermire (Chair & Council Liaison),

Worship Planning continues to work from the assumption that worship is a unifying event in the life of a congregation. As the congregations Worship Ministry Team, we are called throughout the week, both within our building and in the community, at large to enable Gods children to live out the commandment to give glory to God; to equip all of us through Word and Sacrament; and to send all of us into the world as His disciples. It is the one time when all members can join in a common purpose—to worship and thank God for God’s grace given to all in Word and Sacrament.

Altar Guild Lead Ellen Parker and Pamela Ruggini continue to do awesome work to organize the sacristy and maintain inventory of all items. This is another way we manage our budget and costs.

Worship Committee would like to thank the many Worship Stewards. Each Sunday it takes 31 VOLUNTEERS to assist Pastor Chelsea & Deacon Jamie Dungey through God’s word, water, bread and prayer nurture us in faith and send us out into the world. *“May the Lord now show you kindness and faithfulness, and I too will show you the same favor because you have done this” (2Samuel 2:6)*

**The Worship Ministry Team, in cooperation with our Pastor, Organist, & Choir Director, is responsible for worship services and devotional aids to the congregation that meet the diverse worship needs of the congregation and are consistent with the liturgical worship practices of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

Our Worship attendance continues to grow. 2018 Average attendance was 162, our current avg. attendance as of April is 187. We continue to challenge ourselves to try new ways of sharing our worship service with those who are unable to attend Worship Services on Sundays.

- Pastor Chelsea continues to lead the family service once a month which has been gaining momentum and participation by our young children.
- Pastor Chelsea & Deacon Jamie have been providing a Thursday evening worship service. Avg. attendance has been 11. We will continue to monitor attendance for this service.
- This year we have scheduled 3 outdoor worship on the lawn Sundays June 16, August 18, & September 8  
God’s works our Hands
- We will be working closely with other committees jointly on issues that do have impact on worship.

We are excited about moving forward with continued planning of meaningful worship opportunities for all members of Good Shepherd as well as meeting the challenges of moving Good Shepherd forward in mission.

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy A. Waltermire, Chair & Council President Elect

### Choir Report

During this past ministry year our choir has again had the privilege of sharing our gifts of music to enhance our congregation’s worship. We always welcome new members, whether for a long term or seasonal commitment (Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter).

In preparation for planning the music selections, last August I attended “Music in the Mountains,” a workshop and reading session sponsored by Shawnee Press and Hal Leonard, publishers of many of our new anthems.

In addition to regular musical offerings, we incorporated Joseph Martin’s cantata “Whispers of the Passion” into our Good Friday evening worship service.

We have also partnered with the CSGP Dancers as they offer their gifts in worship, and look forward to supporting them in the future.

Many thanks to our members for their continued dedication, to Charles German for his talent, support and flexibility, and Pastor Chelsea, the Worship Team and this congregation for their affirmation of our musical ministry.

Respectfully Submitted, Debbie Gelormine

## **CRAFTEERS**

This group has been creating needlecraft mementos to celebrate life events within our church family as well as decorative items for the church since 1980.

This year we have been happy to present needlework gifts honoring many joyous occasions including Baptisms, Weddings, Confirmation and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade First Communion. In addition, we have done small tokens for those in need of spiritual/medical healing (homebound or hospitalized). This also includes small crosses for the home communion kits. Our cross-stitch samplers appear throughout the church. Our latest projects include “COME AND SEE” located in the narthex and “GO AND TELL” heading out of the sanctuary. We have also completed a wall hanging, soon to be hung in the conference room.

Thank you to the special members of this group that give so freely of their time and talent. They include Lynn Blenderman, Margaret Cotton, Alice Cotton, Joan Grace, Roxanne Powers, Janice Reinhardt and Connie Zylman. We also welcome and thank three recent contributors, Janice Brunsbach, Stephanie Meister and Linda Rolando.

All are welcome to join us. We meet most Wednesday mornings 9:30am – noon. Always to be had are good fellowship, devotions and refreshments. Kits are available for those who cannot attend and wish to stitch at home. If anyone would like to learn cross-stitch or plastic canvas needlepoint, we can teach you.

Submitted by Roxanne Powers

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## **MILITARY SERVICES SUPPORT GROUP**

We continue to keep in prayer and give thanks for the men and women who have served, and continue to serve, in the armed forces, especially the following members of GSLC:

Air Force: Bryan Davis

Army National Guard: Matthew Scholl

Navy: Christian Gallicchio, Kyle Mountney

Marine Corps: Billy Mone

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## **COMFORT CREATORS**

Knitting and Crocheting for the sick, grieving, homebound and to people in need of knowing that someone is praying for them. Our projects have been funded by Thrivent Action Teams and donations of yarn and supplies from members of the group and congregation. We also receive knit/crochet items from friends in the community outside of our church.

In the past year, we have knit or crocheted projects for the following:

Lyons VA Hospital – 12 lap blankets

Hats For The Homeless – 50 hats & 16 scarves

Pregnancy Aid – 27 baby blankets, 4 baby sweaters and 1 hat

Friends and Family of the Congregation – 14 prayer shawls and 3 lap blankets

Thank you to the talented members of our group that so generously share their creative gifts – Peg Bernhardt, Margaret Cotton, Gail Jorgenson, Joan Grace, Roxanne Powers, Pam Ruggini, Lisa Staib, and Connie Zylman.

All are welcome to join us the first Saturday of every month in rooms B/C from 10:00am – 12:00pm. If you can't make the meetings, but want to knit/crochet at home, we will supply everything you need to complete a project. We offer crochet classes as well, same time, same place.

Submitted by Roxanne Powers

# SHEPHERD STITCHERS

*Good Shepherd Cares* – a label of love sewn on quilts made by creative hands God has given to a group known as the *Shepherd Stitchers*. Our ministry continues to grow, and this past year our gifts have been shared with:

## Quilts

- IHN Guests
- Safe + Sound Somerset
- Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN
- GSLC Baptized Babies
- Quilts for Kids – Fairless Hills, PA
- Homebound GSLC Members

## Fleece Hats

- VA Hospital, Lyons, NJ
- Project Homeless Connect of Somerset County

## Tote Bags

- IHN Guests

## **The *Shepherd Stitchers* include:**

|                  |                         |                     |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Peg Bernhardt    | Mary Lou Gorman         | Elsbeth Rogaczewski |
| Lynn Blenderman  | Bonnie Gould            | Linda Rolando       |
| Martha Brockman  | Joan Grace              | Lauren Shotwell     |
| Janice Brunsbach | Peg Hauschild           | Carol Shutack       |
| Margaret Cotton  | Janice Johnson-Richards | Julie Stevens       |
| Nancy Davis      | Dean Meister            | Cathy Thornton      |
| Mary Anne Denys  | Peggy Reier             | Pat Whitehead       |
| Christine Duque  |                         |                     |

Please feel free to join us on the first and third Mondays of the month from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM and the following Tuesday afternoon each month from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. All you need to bring is yourself. We provide the sewing machines, fabric, quilting supplies, laughter and good conversation.

Special thanks to all the good “shepherds” for their generous contributions and support.

Janice Brunsbach - Coordinator

## DAUGHTERS OF EVE

All women of Good Shepherd are invited to informal gatherings with a focus on women's issues and outreach. The Daughters of Eve support the Ronald McDonald House in New Brunswick, which serves area hospitals, as their outreach ministry. The following events were held this year:

- June 7 – Christine Peterson Duque organized a dinner at Soriano's Parkside for all women of GSLC. The program speaker, Vicar Serena Rice, spoke to us about how to be faithful to our baptismal promises in our advocacy.
- July 11 – Our Annual Potluck Picnic was hosted by Suzanne Westberg. As always, there was great food and fellowship!
- August 2 – Pastor Chelsea led a discussion on the proposed ELCA Social Statement on Women and Justice at the home of Stephanie Meister.
- September 9 – Participated in a variety of *God's Work Our Hands* projects assembling the "Stamp Out Despair" packets (which included hand-written notes), making casseroles for S.H.I.P., packing Weekend Backpack Meals for Kids for the Somerset County Food Bank, and playing Bingo with the Somerville Seniors among others.
- October 1 – Pat Whitehead hosted us as Charlene Walker presented her trip to Mongolia which was fascinating!
- November 2 – Back by popular demand! We created beautiful glass pendants with Debbie Lawton at Church with refreshments provided by Joan Grace.
- December 10 – We donated 36 dozen cookies for the GSLC Living Nativity at our Annual Cookie Exchange held at the home of Suzanne Diaz.
- January 11 – Nancy Davis & Pat Whitehead hosted our Annual Game Night at Church. Joan Grace led us in a group game of "Left-Right-Center" which raised money for Ronald McDonald House.
- February 7 – Karen Smith graciously helped us mold Valentine chocolates to take home one last time before she and her family move. She challenged us with an updated quiz on chocolate facts and shared the history of her family's chocolate business which included their participation in the war effort. We will miss you, Karen!
- March 9 – GSLC hosted the annual NJ WELCA Thank Offering Service. In-Kind Offerings of toiletries were collected for *Blessing Bags* for Lutheran Social Ministries of NJ. Thank you to Julia Sabella who did a beautiful job organizing this event.
- March 13 – Brenda Linton & Myla Groth hosted an evening of food, fun, fellowship and fitness at *On Fire 4 Fitness*. Suzanne Diaz provided additional refreshments.
- April 17 – Joan Grace provided all the supplies to color Easter eggs: marbled, striped, tie-dyed and more so that we could decorate our hard-boiled eggs to take some home and have 5 dozen for the Easter Sunday coffee hours at Church.
- May 19 – Bonnie Gould arranged a guided tour of the Willowood Arboretum in Chester Township after lunch at her home.
- At each event, items from the Ronald McDonald House Wish List were collected. Monetary donations of **\$330** were also collected. **Thank you to everyone who participated!** Thank you also to Laura Meerovich for all her efforts on our behalf.

Please help us help Ronald McDonald House by saving aluminum pull-tabs. There is a container in the Narthex. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Meister

## **LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION (LMM)**

Lutheran Men in Mission is the men's ministry of the ELCA at Good Shepherd. Through our ministry we strive to strengthen our Christian faith, and build relationships in our homes, congregation and community. By supporting and sharing within our group we hope to achieve our goals by study, actions and deeds.

LMM meets once a month on the third Saturday of each month. This is our typical breakfast meeting. The past half year while the kitchen in Luther Hall was being remodeled, we met at the "Time To Eat" diner. In addition to our monthly meeting, we want to increase participation by having a service project or recreational program/activity.

This past year LMM has supported the Somerset County Jail Chaplaincy by collecting personal care items for the inmates.

LMM meets the third Saturdays of the month throughout the year in Luther Hall. Meeting time is 7:30 AM, with breakfast at 8:00, followed by sharing. All men, young and old, are invited to attend our low key, friendly meetings.

Dean Levin

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## **SIXTY-PLUSSERS**

Once again, the 60 Plussers had an exciting and varied selection of programs from September through June.

- Ed Kunkel presented a program about medical marijuana.
- Janice Reinhardt coordinated a Medicare Workshop with Laurie Roome, Community Educator from the Somerset County Office on Aging.
- Donna Walsh presented "On the Road Again," sharing her adventures traveling the country while living out of her RV
- Joyce Van Vooren coordinated the Annual Vo-Tech Christmas luncheon followed by a Christmas carol sing-a-long with Charles German on piano, at GSLC
- Charlene Walker presented "Travels in Mongolia," sharing her photos & experiences from her recent trip.
- Bob Rolando shared his expertise about working with stained glass.
- On Fire 4 Fitness's Myla Groth & Brenda Linton taught us about keeping ourselves fit at all ages.
- "Getting to Know You" was a social interaction activity where we shared something new about ourselves.
- Bonnie Gould presented a program on "The China Painting Craze of 1880-1920."
- End-of-year party

Sandy Alexander, Coordinator

# **GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH DUTIES OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS**

(from our Constitution)

The duties of the Congregation Council shall include the following:

- a. To lead this congregation in stating its mission, to do long-range planning, to set goals and priorities, and to evaluate its activities in light of its mission and goals.
- b. To seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support.
- c. To oversee and provide for the administration of this congregation to enable it to fulfill its functions and perform its mission.
- d. To maintain supportive relationships with the pastor(s) and staff and help them annually to evaluate the fulfillment of their calling, appointment, or employment.
- e. To be examples individually and corporately of the style of life and ministry expected of all baptized persons.
- f. To promote a congregational climate of peace and goodwill and as differences and conflicts arise, to endeavor to foster mutual understanding.
- g. To arrange for pastoral service during the sickness or absence of the pastor.
- h. To emphasize partnership with the Synod and church wide units of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as well as cooperation with other congregations, both Lutheran and non-Lutheran, subject to established policies of the Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- i. To recommend and encourage the use of program resources produced or approved by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
- j. To seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel.

The Congregation Council shall:

- be responsible for the financial and property matters of this congregation.
- see that the provisions of this constitution, its bylaws, and the continuing resolutions are carried out.
- provide for an annual review of the membership roster.
- be responsible for the appointment and supervision of the salaried lay workers of this congregation.
- submit a comprehensive report to this congregation at the annual meeting.
- normally meet once a month. Special meetings may be called by a pastor or the president, and shall be called at the request of at least one-half of its members.

[Council currently usually meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.]

# NOMINEES FOR CONGREGATION COUNCIL

## Youth Representative - 1 year term:

**Sabrina Eilers** 2019-2020

## 1<sup>st</sup> 3-year term

**Jill Weidner** 2019-2022

## 2<sup>nd</sup> 3-year term:

**Skip Fuller** 2019-2022

**Nancy Waltermire** 2019-2022

**Suzanne Westberg** 2019-2022

## 2-Year Replacement Term

**Glen Denys** 2019-2021

**Bill Schafer** 2019-2021

## 1-Year Replacement Term

**Richard Alagona** 2019-2020

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Current Council Members:

Lynn Francesconi 2018-2021

Nadine Pitti 2017-2020

Skip Schaeffer 2018-2021 (2nd term)

Johanna Scholl 2018-2021

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## NON-COUNCIL NOMINEES

### The Nominating Committee recommends the following persons:

**Julie Burt**– Nominating Committee - two year term – 2019-2021

**Open** – Nominating Committee - two year term – 2019-2021



## COUNCIL NOMINEE BIOS

### First 3-Year Term

#### **Jill Weidner**

Member of GSLC since 1964

Family - married to Tim Weidner

Occupation - recently retired Executive Program Director at Ericsson

Current Participation:

- Finance Ministry Chair
- Counter
- Senior Youth Group Chaperone
- Grace Alive! Singer
- Synod Fiscal Management Team

Prior Participation

- Council President
- Stewardship Chair
- SCS Teacher
- Confirmand, Youth Group Participant

### Second 3-Year Term

#### **Skip Fuller**

Member of GSLC since 2006

Family: Married to Lana for 25 years; 2 children, Alayna (22) & Josh (19).

Occupation: Sports performance director and fitness coach. I enjoy football, golf, hockey and classic cars.

Current Participation:

- Council
- Worship Ministry Team

#### **Nancy Waltermire**

Member of GSLC since 2001

Family: Married to Robert for 10 years. One stepson, James

Occupation: Chief Compliance Officer in Health Care Government Programs

Current Participation:

- Council President-Elect
- Worship Steward (Worship Assistant, Altar Guild, Communion Assistant, Reader, Usher)
- Youth Group Volunteer
- Worship Ministry Team
- Music Committee

Prior Participation:

- Council
- SCS Teacher
- 2015 Youth Gathering Chaperone

Other:

President of the Delaware Valley Scleroderma Foundation Board of Directors and Vice President of the Somerset County Chaplaincy Board of Directors.

**Suzanne Westberg**

Member of GSLC since 2008

Family: Married to Eric Westberg for 47 years. Two adult children: Kristen and Brian (Amy) and two grandchildren.

Occupation: Retired Special Educator, LDT/C and Intermediate/Middle School Principal

**Current Participation**

- Choir Member
- Church Council President

**Prior Participation**

- Council
- Daycare Ministry Team
- Audit Team
- Capital Fund Drive Planning Team

**2-Year Replacement Term****Glen Denys**

Member of GSLC since 1974

Family: Married with 2 children, Graham (8), Harrison (4). Wife, Ruth, teaches preschool in Bridgewater

Occupation: 5th grade teacher at Oak Street School in Bernards Township

Glen and his family participate in Family Faith Formation and Family Worship.

**Bill Schafer**

Member of GSLC since 2015

Family: Married to Helen since 1966

Occupation: Retired teacher

**Current Participation**

- Faithful Ecology Group
- Building Maintenance
- Kitchen Renovation Committee

**Prior Participation (Hope Lutheran, 15 years)**

- Council
- Property Chair
- Sanctuary Renovation
- Solar Project Chair

## **1-Year Replacement Term**

### **Richard Alagona**

Member of GSLC Since 1966

Family: Married to David Katz since July 2005. We have two rescue dogs Tink, a Schnauzer mix, and Bella, a Scottie mix. Father-in-law Martin lives with us.

Occupation: Sales Supervisor for Imperial Distributors, Inc. Auburn, MA. I supervise 16 full-time and 2 part-time service reps in NJ and NY. Board member of the NJGMC, singing with them since 1992.

#### Current Participation:

- Communion Assistant
- Food Bank Coordinator
- Co-coordinator Holiday Food Baskets
- Counting Team

#### Prior Participation:

- Sunday School Teacher
- Assistant Minister
- Youth Council Member
- Altar Guild
- Singing in the choir (on and off for years)
- Day Care Ministry team
- Reconciling in Christ Planning Team
- Memorial Committee

## **Youth Representative**

**Sabrina Eilers** is a current sophomore and incoming junior at Hillsborough High School. Sabrina enjoys attending youth group, serving in the church as an Usher, and attending youth events such as “Lock-ins” and “Fill My Cup”. She attended the National Youth Gathering this previous summer alongside Good Shepherds Youth Group. As Assistant Director of the church’s “Living Nativity”, Sabrina helps conduct and manage the “Living Nativity” alongside Director Ellen Parker. In her free time, Sabrina enjoys playing volleyball, going hiking with her family and friends, as well as weightlifting. Sabrina is ecstatic to be able to serve not only for the church she grew up in but also to serve alongside the people who had helped her grow up in the church community. If given the opportunity, Sabrina would be thrilled to serve on Church Council and offer the youth’s perspective to the Council in order to support GSLC in its growth and success within the community.