



THE SHEP NEWS



Weekend E-Newsletter • January 10, 2010 • Epiphany I: Baptism of Our Lord • Worship: 9AM- ELW Service; 10 AM-Sunday School; 11 AM -Sing 'N Rejoice

OUR MISSION

- To invite all people to know the unconditional love of Christ;
- To share Christ's love through words and deeds;
- To empower people to serve Christ in the world.

www.goodshepherdmd.org
www.elca.org



**God's Work
Our Hands**



Luke 3:15ff

January 3, 2010

Sermon on the Amount

Needed weekly \$6703
 Debt Reduction 560

TOTAL RECEIVED \$5796
 Needed for Budget **\$6511**
 Worship Attendance 179
 Sunday School 68
 To Make Budget \$1275
 Owed Reserve Fund 17,500
 Your help with weekly expenses is appreciated



www.mar-lu-ridge.org

When Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."
 Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

We have all longed to hear someone say to us, "Thank you. You did well. You have made me happy. I love you." In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus hears those words from his Father in heaven - and, in the waters of our own baptisms, God speaks those same words to us. We are the beloved of God; God

and Reily Piotter, Karianna and Kiandra Strickhouser, Sophie and Kallie Gilbert.

claims us and cherishes us. And unless and until we hear the voice from heaven claiming that we are cherished by a God who is "well-pleased" with us, we will never be able to truly cherish anyone or believe that we are their be-

loved as well. The voice of the Father speaks to all of us in the sacrament of Baptism; the Spirit of God descends upon us, enabling us to give to others the love God joyfully gives to us.
 [Adapted from The Pastor as Minor Poet by M. Craig Barnes.]

Thanks to all the parents who brought their kids to the rehearsals and helped to make it all happen.

Senior Lunch Bunch The January Senior Lunch Bunch will meet **Wednesday, January 20th, 12 Noon in the Community Room.** We will welcome the 'Making Happy Karaoke Singers' featuring Rev. Arthur "Pete" Baugher and Robert Edsall. In addition to entertaining groups such as ours, this group also visits 13 nursing homes encouraging people to sing. Join our luncheon and bring your singing voice. Bring also a dish to share and be sure to invite a friend or neighbor or someone from Good Shepherd who hasn't yet experienced our enjoyable potluck and fellowship.

The beloved of God

No matter how hard she tries, there is no pleasing her mother. Every effort to help make life easier for her mother, every attempt to bring joy to her mother's life, is met with criticism or cynicism. Since she was a little girl, she has longed to hear her mother say to her, "I'm proud of you. I love you."



He loves everything about her: her smile, her wit, her intelligence. But he is out of her league. She has always been kind and friendly to him, but he cannot work up the nerve to ask her out. He's waiting for the right moment, but the moments have been there - he's just been too afraid to realize them. He will never hear her say, "You're a good guy. I love you."

Mom and Dad struggle to stay afloat in the storm surge of the hurricane that is their teenager. But they constantly keep watch, always there to pick up the pieces, always ready to come to the rescue, always prepared to make everything OK. They love their child with all their being and always will -but nothing would make them happier than to hear their teenage son or daughter say, "Thank you, Mom and Dad. I love you."

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Pastor Ron

Thanks for the Pageant! Kudos to Marilyn Ayres, our tireless Pageant Director, and Lisa Long, Assistant Director, Michele Kimmel, Organist, Lucretia Reaves and the Junior Choir and, not the least, our Sunday School kids who presented 'A Traditional Christmas Pageant' on Sunday, December 27th at our 9AM Service. As always the pageant warms our hearts as the children take their roles seriously and remind us 'a little Child shall lead them.' Thanks to Aislinn, Brietta and Kallan Latham, Sarah, Adam and Rebecca Long, Claire Owen, Nate and Erin Kopit; Winter Hawk, Layke Martin, Rosie and Dan Balser, Bethani and Tori Nails, Madalyn

Next Good Shepherd Brew Night will be Friday, January 15th, 7:30-9:30PM in the Community Room. Always good fellowship and fun singing our favorite songs. Mark your calendar for a stress-free end of the week. February's Brew Night is Friday, February 18th, a post-Valentine 'love songs' night.

Prayer Concerns: Gerry Marose, Barbara Underwood, health concerns; Don Klein, at the death of his mother from cancer; Gary Stone, diagnosed with esophageal cancer; Gene Schoonover, recovering from back surgery; Patrick Covert, son of Loretta and Norm Covert, recovering from emergency surgery, New York; John Day, brother of Janet Fisher-Day; Paul Miller and Greg Miller, brothers of Evie Timberlake, Bobi Alleman (Sister of Loretta Covert); Molly, cousin of Bobbie Donaldson, Ron Knerr, Bernie Abrecht; Lee Brohawn; Lucas Phelan; Sandy Kessler, Kathleen Shook; Phyllis Culler, Dale Lutz, Carolyn Hellman; Prayer requests, phone: Peggy Beers (301) 663-9741/Marilyn Ayres (301)

663-1997; or E-mail Evie Timberlake
2timbers@verizon.net.

Adult I Sunday School meets Sundays at 10AM in the Community Room. They have begun a new study/DVD series on THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. This Sunday, the 6th Commandment is reviewed.

Adult II Sunday School meets in the Fireplace Room, 10:15 AM - open discussion of contemporary issues from NPR's "Speaking of Faith". All are welcome

Frederick School of Religion Convenes in February The Frederick School of Religion will convene its 2010 "Learning for Life" series on February 15th. Classes are being held at Brook Hill United Methodist Church, 8946 Indian Springs Rd., Frederick, MD 21702. The school is planned by representatives from area congregations and is now celebrating its 27th year. Eight different courses are offered on Mondays and Tuesdays from February 15 through March 23 with snow dates, March 29 and 30. Afternoon classes are scheduled from 1 to 3 p.m. while evening classes meet from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Courses are designed for both lay persons and clergy and the cost is \$22 per course. This year's courses include "The Book of James: How Should Christians Live? Challenging Questions, Simple Answers", "The American Jewish Experience", "The New Evangelicalism", "The Axial Age of Wisdom: Great Transformative Thinkers of Religious Tradition", "Facing Moral Dilemmas: A Basis and Method for Moral Decision-making", "Psalms, Proverbs and Esther", "Bach at 325: The Life and Legacy of 'The Fifth Evangelist'" and "Wrestling Club - Wrestling with Biblical Theology and Contemporary Issues". All courses are eligible for 1.2 Continuing Education Units. For additional information or registration: www.frederickschoolofreligion.org or you may call 301-865-2734 or 301-473-5662.

Homebound: *Becky Molesworth; Polly Carmack; Charles Thompson; Mary Nelson; Alice Willoughby; Agnes Gamer; JoEllen Gluscevic; Jo Adams; Belva Bell; Marjorie Deater; Kathleen Shook, Citizen's Nursing Home, Rosemont Ave., Frederick; Barbara Adams, Rena Hall, now at Tranquility Care, Jefferson Pike, Frederick. Dolores Beach is now at #B2, Somerford Place in Whittier.*

Remember Our Military Members: *Jason Feser, Jeffrey Feser, Eric Feser.* Prayers for Jeff Feser deployed to Iraq Wed., November 18th. His address is **1st Lt. Jeffrey Feser, HHC 1st BDE 1AD/Bravo 6-1 CAV (RSTA0 FOB Warrior, Iraq APO AE 09338.**

Lord, please hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them even as they protect us. Bless them and their families during the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.'

Thank you! *Jan Lounsbury*, teacher at Whittier Elementary School extends, on behalf of the families of children of the school, gratitude for the wonderful gathering of new warm clothing for cold weather - including hats and mittens. These adorned the Christmas tree in our Gathering Area at Good Shepherd. Because of your generosity many kids will be warmer this winter.

Passion Play August 2010 *Seats still available for Pastor Ron's 2010 trip to the Passion Play in Oberammergau in Bavaria, Germany, August 4-14 that includes visits to Prague, Budapest and Vienna- with continuing visits to Oberammergau and Munich. Reservations still open for the trip. Brochures are available in the Gathering Area. Pastor Ron ronrv@comcast.net or www.travron.com.*

Good Shepherd Preschool will host an Open House on Friday, January 8 at 9:30 a.m. Registration for the 2010-2011 school year will begin on January 12, with a priority registration period for church members, current students and alumni. The registration fee is waived for church members. For more information, call 301-695-5855.

Food Donations Welcome Please keep in mind the great needs of the community as we move into winter. Pick up just one additional non-perishable food item and bring it with you on Sundays to put in the food collection box in the Narthex. Let's keep that box full. Thanks to *Nicholas Brie* of the Social Ministry team for taking the donations to the food bank each week.

Spinning A Good Yarn Good Shepherd has received a donation of yarn, knitting needles, and other craft supplies and unfinished projects. The donor would like us to use as much as possible to make blankets, hats, and anything else we can for others who may have a need. If you would like to use some of these supplies to make blankets for children who are hospitalized, lap blankets for nursing homes or hospitalized patients, or donate new stuffed toys, please let *Pat Schoonover* (301-473-8736 - sewinglady@xecu.net) or *Loretta Covert* or goodshp14@aol.com) know. Or you can place them around the "Gift of Love" tree in the gathering area.

Christmas Blanket The winner of the Christmas Blanket made by the 7th Grade Confirmation Class was drawn on Sunday,

December 27th. The name drawn is *Sunni Sheron*. If you know Sunni, please let us know so that we can present the blanket.

Books for Our Troops *Operation Paperback* collects gently used books and sends them to American troops deployed overseas. Since 1999, they have shipped over 950,000 books to locations around the globe. If you have paperback books to donate, leave them on top of the cupboards behind the coat-rack and mark them 'Operation Paperback.' The Social Ministry team will get them to a drop-off site. Operation Paperback is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Looking for a Bible Study? We have five 'NeighborTalk' groups currently available:
NeighborTalk South *Carl and Michele Hildedrand*, 5403 Georgetown Rd. Adamstown, MD 21710 • 301-831-8628

NeighborTalk Northeast *Terri Baker*, 2627 Mill Race Rd., Frederick, MD 21701, 301-663-4013

NeighborTalk Northwest *Sue and Dan Steffen*, 5511 Bootjack Drive, Frederick, MD 21702

NeighborTalk North *Janet and Brit Fisher*, 11232 Angleberger Rd., Thurmont, MD, 301-304-0374

NeighborTalk East (Spring Ridge) *Diane and Attilo DeMarco*, 6408 Fairbanks Ln., Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-696-8886

Sign-up's available in the Gathering Area of our Church. Regardless of where you live, please feel free to attend any location. Call one of the hosts (above) to find out dates, times and locations.

Offering Envelopes are available in the Gathering Area to pick-up. Please, when you have opportunity, pick up yours. If you are able to deliver someone's envelope box, please pick them up also.

December 20th Blizzard wiped out a Sunday worship and our shared gifts to the congregation's operating funds. We appreciate your help in making up this lost Sunday. **Your stewardship does make a difference!**

Congregation Council Officers 2009

Pres: Janet Rippeon Fisher jdrippeon1@aol.com 301-304-0374
Secretary, Sandy Hagen, Sandra.Hagen@gmail.com
Treasurer : Jean Van Tassel jvantassel@aol.com
Financial Sec'y: Bill Thelemann thelemann@comcast.net