

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

SHEPHERD'S VOICE

Created, Saved, and Gifted by God, We are Called to Seek, Serve, and Share Jesus Christ



Good Shepherd's Mission & Ministry Profile

by Debbie Kempf

Our Mission and Ministry Profile was completed and reviewed on September 1 with Pastor Ed Williams, Assistant to the Bishop, and the Call Committee. Many thanks to the members of the Vision Team for their hard work this summer to complete the profile: Becky Cook, Ardith Hargrave, Connie Jones, Rich Kellstrom, Bob Sauer, Ed Thieman, Mary Ann Sauer, Roger Bauser, Jim Kempf, Dave Seltzer, Don Bennett, Gerry Harte, and Bob Dittmar.

...Many thanks to the members of the Vision Team... and the Call Committee...

Please remember that the work of the Call Committee is completely confidential and that only basic status information will be available to the congregation or Council. However, as a congregation, we can begin working now to address some of the opportunities and top priorities for ministry that were identified in the profile. The following questions and responses from the Mission and Ministry Profile are particularly relevant as we work to discern God's will for Good Shepherd.

Describe three distinct attributes of the community the congregation serves. (urban, suburban, declining economy, quality of education)

1. This is a great place to live! Kettering has an excellent public school system and offers easy access to post-secondary educational resources including the University of Dayton, Wright State University, Sinclair Community College, and the

(continued on page 3)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday

5:00 pm ~ Holden Evening Prayer

Sunday

8:30 am ~ Traditional Service

11:00 am ~ Contemporary Service

~~~~~

### Inside Your Newsletter...

|                                     |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| GSLC Mission/Ministry Profile       | page 1  |
| Editor's Corner                     | page 2  |
| First Lutheran Breakfast            | page 6  |
| Generations Swing Band Concert      | page 7  |
| Hands!                              | page 8  |
| Witness & Outreach                  | page 8  |
| Apple Butter Festival               | page 9  |
| LYC Events                          | page 10 |
| H2H Events                          | page 11 |
| Achievement Club                    | page 12 |
| Counseling Assistance               | page 12 |
| GSLC Financial Results              | page 12 |
| LWR Quilts & Layettes               | page 13 |
| Ongoing Bible Study Opportunities   | page 13 |
| OWLs                                | page 14 |
| Donations for Apple Butter Festival | page 14 |
| Labels for Schools                  | page 14 |
| Dayton Conference Roadshow          | page 14 |
| Covenant House-'Sacrificial Living' | page 15 |
| Upcoming Fall Events                | page 16 |

## Good Shepherd

937-298-0136

gslchurch@woh.rr.com

goodshepherdkettering.com

### STAFF

#### Interim Pastor

Glen Bengson

pastor@goodshepherdkettering.com

#### Director Youth & Family Ministry

Don Bennett

donbennett@goodshepherdkettering.com

#### Office Manager

Linda Newcomer

office@goodshepherdkettering.com

#### Chancel Choir/Music Director

David Keener

#### Organist/Accompanist

Deborah Macaulay

#### Praise Worship Leader

Deb DeVilbiss

### CHURCH COUNCIL

#### President

Bob Sauer

#### Vice President

Debbie Kempf

#### Secretary

Ardith Hargrave

#### Treasurer

June Newell

#### Members

Becky Cook

Connie Jones

Richard Kellstrom

Floyd Seim

Ed Thieman

### COMMISSIONS

#### Worship & Celebration

Dave Seltzer

#### Life Long Learning

Don Bennett

#### Parish Life & Response

Mary Ann Sauer

#### Witness & Outreach

Roger Bauser

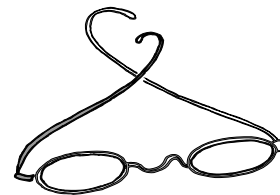
#### Resource Development

Jim Kempf

To contact any of the staff, council or commissioners, visit our website for contact information. You may also call the office or send an email to the Office Manager and she will be glad to assist you.

## Editor's Corner

by Linda Newcomer



We have another information-packed newsletter for this quarter. With more updates on our Mission and Ministry Profile and

Priorities, we are continuing our strides to make GSLC a vibrant, faith-filled congregation focused on our community.

LYC and Youth have lots of activities planned for the coming months, including classes, parties and fundraisers, and our Achievement Club will be in full swing next week.

Take a moment to check out the ongoing Bible study opportunities we have at GSLC. Surely one of these will fit your schedule and you can make this a regular part of your faith walk.

Our Witness & Outreach and Parish Life & Response Commissions have also been busy keeping our tried-and-true fellowships and outreaches going, such as the First Lutheran Breakfast and our OWLs group. Also included is a report on all the hard work of the ladies of GSLC in providing quilts and layettes for the LWR program. Consider getting involved in these programs and helping to support them.

Some new things noted in this newsletter is the Counseling Assistance program at Miami Valley Hospital, and the results of our first benefit concert by the Generations Swing Band.

It's the time of year for the seasonal activities to begin so watch for these in the coming months in the Weekly Staff and the online calendar. One such activity is the Apple Butter Festival at LOMO, so check it out as a fun day for you and your family to get out and enjoy this great time of year. Also take note of Thanksgiving and Advent activities in the coming months.

In each newsletter we try to include a few inspirational articles. The "Hands" poem and the "Covenant House Nurtures 'Sacrificial Living'" are exceptional. 🌸

This newsletter is a publication of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)  
901 E. Stroop Road Kettering, OH 45429  
937-298-0136 Fax: 937-299-1170  
gslchurch@woh.rr.com • www.goodshepherdkettering.com

The information contained in the *Shepherd's Voice* has been compiled using information and articles submitted by our members for publication. We regret any errors or omissions published in this newsletter, and inconvenience this may have caused. It is our intention to ensure that the contents of this publication are always as accurate as possible.

## Good Shepherd's Mission & Ministry Profile

(continued from page 1)

Kettering College of Medical Arts. The area offers a broad range of cultural and recreational opportunities such as the Dayton Art Institute, the Schuster Center

(theater), the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, the Five Rivers Metro Parks system, extensive bike trails, sporting events (e.g. Dayton Dragons minor league baseball, University of Dayton, Wright State University), the United States Air Force Museum, modern shopping malls, and a wide variety of restaurants.

2. There are a large number of churches in the immediate area, representing many different denominations. Some of the denominations have multiple congregations nearby. In particular, the Roman Catholic and Seventh-Day Adventist churches have sizeable membership. Even so, our perception is that many of the residents in our community are un-churched.
3. This area is in transition with respect to the type of employment available. Manufacturing jobs are being replaced with high-tech jobs such as those that are coming to Wright Patterson Air Force Base as part of the national military base realignment program. As a result of partnerships between the local academic community, the defense industry, and local businesses, Dayton is becoming a hub for research and development in fields such as aerospace, materials, and human factors. Excellent healthcare is also available in the region with hospitals that are rapidly expanding and the medical school at Wright State University. The impact on the community of this transition in employment is twofold. Many



current residents do not have the skills to qualify for the new high-tech jobs. On the other hand, these high-tech jobs are attracting new people to the area.

### What are three trends in the community that should be addressed by the congregation in the next five years?

1. Our community is currently an aging community with a large senior population. Therefore, we need to have programs and services that are meaningful to seniors. There are opportunities to explore the needs of a more mature population such as services like “check in” calls, transportation, invitations to meals, and classes of interest to seniors.
2. However, our community is also in transition and will be changing over the next five years. While there is currently a large senior population, the trend is toward a more diverse community with respect to age, ethnic and racial diversity, as well as the type of households. While there is a trend toward empty nesters, Kettering is also regaining a position as starter housing for younger families with children, including more single-parent homes. Church and religious affiliation does not seem as important to younger people as it did twenty to thirty years ago, so many of our neighbors are un-churched. This provides an opportunity to build a sense of community with our immediate neighborhood through messages that convey we care. Programs for seniors need to be balanced with continuing outreach to families with children in the neighborhood through our relationship with the Oakview elementary school across the street and programs like VBS and the Easter egg hunt.
3. The economic situation in our community has changed. As the job market has changed, there are an increasing number of unemployed people and families with lower income. More and more



(continued on page 4)

## ***Good Shepherd's Mission & Ministry Profile***

*(continued from page 3)*

people close to Good Shepherd are living at or near the poverty level. People may need basic services, including food, to get by. This is an area where we should consider partnerships with other churches to meet these basic needs.

**During the next one to three years, what are the top three Mission and Ministry priorities and goals for the congregation which, if accomplished, hold the most promise for the continued development of our ministry? (For example: outreach, service to the community, building program, adding staff or pastors, restructuring of committees or boards)**

1. Focus on the core Lutheran fundamentals of the Word, the Sacraments and grace. Focus on growth as Christians and discipleship through greater participation in worship, Bible study, Christian education and prayer. Be true to the Word of God in all we do with a strong emphasis on worship, preaching, teaching, and learning what it means to be a Christian in today's world.
2. Revitalize Good Shepherd into a growing congregation by:
  - Building a stronger youth and family ministry.
  - Building a stronger Christian education program for children, youth and adults, so that we learn God's Word and how to apply it.
  - Reaching out to the Kettering community to attract younger families to Good Shepherd and providing regular activities that draw people.



## ***Top Five Ministry Tasks required of the Pastor***

1. *Building a sense of community*
2. *Christian education*
3. *Evangelism/mission*
4. *Pastoral care and visitation*
5. *Preaching/worship leadership*

—Encouraging all members to become more actively involved in the life of the church.

—Showing concern for members who have fallen away.

—Making visitors feel welcome and encouraging them to return.

3. Build a stronger commitment to serve and care for our community and the world. Build a sense of community and teamwork within the congregation, emphasizing unity of faith and purpose. In addition to ministering to members of Good Shepherd through pastoral care and visitation, reach out in service to people living near Good Shepherd. Build relationships where we can share the love of Christ with those with whom we come into contact. Continue to support both local ministries such as We Care Arts and world-wide ministries.

**Top Five Ministry Tasks (Select the five most critical tasks required of the Pastor.)**

1. Building a sense of community
2. Christian education
3. Evangelism/mission
4. Pastoral care and visitation
5. Preaching/worship leadership

**Gifts for Ministry:** Every rostered leader can offer a variety of gifts, skills and personality characteristics that would be helpful in a ministry setting. Identify a maximum of five gifts for ministry that the rostered leader must bring to your ministry setting:

1. Help people develop their spiritual life
2. Be active in visitation of members and non-members
3. Be an effective communicator
4. Be an effective teacher
5. Be able to share leadership and work in a team

**Identify five more gifts that would be helpful in your ministry setting:**

1. Build a sense of community among the people with whom he/she works
2. Help others develop their leadership abilities and skills for ministry
3. Be skilled in planning and leading programs
4. Deal effectively with conflict
5. Bring joy and good humor to relationships

**Please list the five primary areas of activity of focus that you wish your newly-called rostered leader to give special attention to during the first year of his or her ministry at this congregation.**

1. Bring the members of Good Shepherd together as one body, united in Christ through worship, teaching, preaching and spiritual growth. Lead consistent, dynamic, and inspirational worship services with sermons related to our lives today. Teach us God's word and establish a more Bible-based program with pastor-led Bible study. Work with the music staff to foster greater cooperation, include our youth in special music, and in the selection of music that enhances worship. Help our current members grow as Christians and become more Christ-like in attitudes and actions.
2. Get to know our congregation by reaching out to all with a genuine and sincere interest in the needs and well-being of existing members. Get acquainted with as many members as possible, learning to know the members, their talents, and

their needs. Visit the sick, shut-in, and elderly.

3. Support our efforts to encourage involvement and the commitment of members.



Stimulate member participation in all areas, matching member interests and talents with programs. Encourage and work with members to equip them for ministry and leadership. Help us to help each other and the community around us.

Enthusiastically lead current members in taking the message of Christ to our community, including potential new members, inactive members, and former members.

4. Help build strong youth and family ministries and improve Christian education for all ages (children, youth and adults). Actively work with youth and children. Relate well to young families.
5. Bring fresh ideas to Good Shepherd and identify areas needing modifications or improvements. Guide the members of Good Shepherd in discerning God's plan for our congregation. Direct the development of realistic, achievable goals and objectives. Then plan, organize, and follow through on new programs while working as a team member.

**Please list five ways that this congregation will support and encourage the rostered leader during the first year in order to help her or him accomplish these responsibilities.**

1. Prayer.
2. We will strive to be realistic in our expectations for the pastor and understand that one person can't possibly do everything simultaneously. We cannot ask the pastor to be all things to all people. We will strive to exercise patience and flexibility, giving him/her time to learn who we

*(continued on page 6)*

## Good Shepherd's Mission & Ministry Profile

(continued from page 5)

are at Good Shepherd so that he/she can discern where his/her strengths will best serve God's plan. flexibility, giving him/her time to learn who we are at Good Shepherd so that he/she can discern where his/her strengths will best serve God's plan.

3. We will strive to be willing to change, to put aside individual differences, be open to new approaches, and support new ideas for our ministry, not expecting things to be done the way we have always done them. We will strive to support leadership decisions, limit negative comments, and react to conflict with thoughtfulness rather than confrontation.
4. We will respect our pastor and value his/her contributions. We will strive to praise the things that he/she is doing well and enthusiastically support the lead of our new pastor in evangelism in the broader community. We will strive to put forth additional effort to ensure that the new pastor has total support from this congregation. Open and honest communication is essential. We will invite him/her to church activities for all ages as a way of becoming acquainted with members of the congregation.
5. Each of us will strive to be a team member, volunteering and participating when asked. We will strive to support activities, mission goals, and the church's needs with fair donations of time, money and enthusiasm. We will participate in Christian education ministries and commit (or recommit) to bein God's hands, feet, and voice on earth. We will establish a Mutual Ministry Team to address issues. 🌸



## First Lutheran Breakfast Partnership

by Mary Ann Sauer

Members of Good Shepherd have been serving the homeless around First Lutheran Church downtown for some time now.



How do we do that? We arrive at First Lutheran about 6:30 am on the second Sunday of each month. Some of us meet at Good Shepherd at 6:00 am to load up the food and then travel downtown, and others meet us at First Lutheran. We serve scrambled eggs, sausage, hash brown potatoes, oatmeal, biscuits and gravy, and fruit. We also serve rolls and coffee cake provided by the men who pick up day-old bakery items taken to area shelters. The folks at First Lutheran provide coffee, juice and dry cereal. When we arrive we find people already there waiting for us. We serve about 100 hungry folks each time we go, and Thrivent for Lutherans helps us fund the program.

An email is sent each month to all interested people so that we have an idea how many we will have on hand each month to serve. We need a good list of volunteers so those serving aren't obligated every month. Each of us who has taken part in this ministry has found that these people are truly a blessing. Come join us! If you would like to get involved or have questions, please call Mary Ann Sauer at 439-9742. 🌸

# Generations Swing Band Benefit Concert is BIG Success

by Roger Bauser



The Generations Swing Band is an inter-generational group of musicians that doesn't care about making money. They just *loooooove* to make music! That was obvious on Thursday September 22, when they performed a benefit concert in our Fellowship Hall. About sixty listeners showed up to listen, hum along, and tap their toes to the smooth sounds of the seventeen-member band as it played its renditions of the big band standards of Ellington, Sinatra, Basie and many more.

By the way, the band made some money, too – for a great cause: fighting hunger in our area and around the world. The generous listeners contributed more than \$300 to help bring relief to the victims of the severe drought in Somalia and other East African countries. The money will be donated to the ELCA Hunger and



Disaster Relief Program which helps fund Lutheran World Relief efforts in that and many other areas. In addition, our Neighbor-to-Neighbor (Greenmont-Oak Park Church) food pantry collection box received many “bonus” donations above and beyond our usual first-Sunday-of-the-month collection.

The band, which has been meeting to practice once a week in our choir room for about a year, wanted to present the concert as a way of saying thank-you to Good Shepherd for generously providing them the space for their rehearsals. According to one of the band's organizers, Pam Wall, they had been looking without much luck, to find a home when they contacted us. We're glad they did! Thanks to the band and the audience for a very successful and enjoyable evening. 🌸

# Hands!

from Roger Bauser

*A thought-provoker  
from the internet...*



A basketball in my hands is worth about \$19.

A basketball in Michael Jordan's hands is worth about \$33 million.

It depends whose hands it's in.

A baseball in my hands is worth about \$6.

A baseball in Roger Clemens' hands is worth \$4.75 million.

It depends whose hands it's in.

A tennis racket is useless in my hands.

A tennis racket in Roger Federer's hands is worth millions.

It depends whose hands it's in.

A rod in my hands will keep away an angry dog.

A rod in Moses' hands parted the mighty sea.

It depends whose hands it's in.

A slingshot in my hands is a kid's toy.

A slingshot in David's hand was a mighty weapon.

It depends whose hands it's in.

Two fish and five loaves of bread in my hands is a couple of fish sandwiches.

Two fish and five loaves of bread in Jesus' hands fed thousands.

It depends whose hands it's in.

Nails in my hands might produce a birdhouse.

Nails in Jesus Christ's hands will produce salvation for the entire world.

It depends whose hands they are in.

As you see now, it depends whose hands it's in. So put your concerns, your worries, your fears, your hopes, your dreams, your families and your relationships in God's hands because...

...it depends whose hands it's in. 🌸

# Witness & Outreach

by Roger Bauser

## Wednesday Fellowship Dinner

Come join us for the Faith Fellowship Dinner every Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. A simple meal is served for all who wish to attend and a free will offering is accepted to help defray expenses. You don't need to bring anything but a healthy appetite. Take a night off from cooking and join us.

## Remember Your Film Canister Quarters

We continue to collect our quarters and send our gifts to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Pick up your empty film canisters in the narthex and drop your filled canisters in the offering plate. To receive offering credit for tax purposes, mark your canister with your name. These offerings go to support the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Relief Funds.

## Jesca's Story

*An example of how our quarters are put to work around the world...*

Jesca Noah, a widow with four children, was one of the participants in the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) water-management training course in Tanzania. "It can take me four hours to fetch a single bucket of water during the dry season. When they told me all of my water problems could be eliminated for the cost of only three goats, I laughed out loud. I was so happy, but I didn't believe it was possible."

In the LWF training, Jesca learned how to build a simple rain water collection system, using a 1000 gallon tank, plastic tarps, and a bamboo funneling system. Now she has her own collection system and she says, "It only takes a little to realize a dream."



**Just a thought** – The next time you shower or bathe or turn on the faucet, pray for all those in the world who struggle to meet even minimal daily needs for adequate, clean, safe water at home. 🌸

You're invited to the fun,  
the food,  
and the festivities

**Apple Butter Festival**  
**Sunday, October 9, 2011**  
**11:00am - 5:00pm**  
**Lutheran Memorial Camp**

Exit 140 off I-71, north on Route 61 to Fulton, Ohio

**Free  
admission and  
parking**

**Free shuttles**

**Hay Rides**

**Call for details  
419-864-8030**

**Benefit Auction -  
proceeds benefit  
summer camperships**



- **Petting Zoo**
- **Inflatable bounce and slide**
- **Scarecrow contest**
- **Face painting**
- **Dunk tank**
- **Give aways**
- **Homemade apple butter, pies,  
cider, and more...**



[lomocamps.org](http://lomocamps.org)

# LYC Events

by Don Bennett

**Breakfast Club** - The LYC (Lutheran Youth Corp) has restarted the Breakfast Club for this school year. We meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month at Panera Bread behind Town and Country Shopping Center. The focus of the meetings is largely social, but we also discuss questions about God, faith, and religion that the youth have. Friends are invited to join us. We meet before school from 7:00 to 7:30 am.



## First Watch

**Brunch** - On Friday October 14, local schools will be closed for the day. To celebrate, the LYC will have brunch at First Watch at 10:00 am.

Following the meal, we will meet in the Youth Room to clean and to build a pop-can table. We are also asking that everyone bring a can of food for the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Food Pantry.

**LYC Lock-In** - Due to popular request by our youth, we will have an LYC lock-in on the evening of November 11. The theme of the lock-in will be prayer. In addition to participating in the congregation's monthly prayer vigil that night, we will be doing some other late night activities involving prayer.



**Ladies' Shopping Spree** - For a fun fellowship event, Don is taking the ladies of the LYC shopping on December 3. A destination hasn't been decided yet, but the Easton Towne Center in Columbus and the Kenwood Towne Centre in Cincinnati are both likely candidates.

**Christmas Party & Broomball** - This year the LYC is combining two events into one: the "Christmas/Broomball Party" and the "Christmas Lock-in." It will take place the first night of Kettering's winter break, Wednesday December 21.

For the Christmas party, we'll have a "white elephant" gift exchange. For the lock-in, we'll have a game of hide-and-seek. And of course, we'll have bible study time, and we'll play broomball, along with other fun games. The youth of Peace Lutheran have been invited to this party, as are former LYC youth, and friends of our current youth.

## Triennial ELCA National Youth Gathering -

Next summer, instead of going on a regular mission trip, the LYC will attend the triennial ELCA National Youth Gathering, which will again be held in New Orleans. Since New Orleans is one of the few cities that can accommodate 36,000 youth at one time, and because it is still recovering from Hurricane Katrina, mission opportunities for the youth abound.

In order to make this trip possible, we are going to need your support. **First and most important, we need your prayer support.** Please start praying now that the trip will have a deep positive impact on our youth's faith lives, that schedules will work out for everyone who wants to go, and that planning goals and timetables will all be met.

Second, the expense of going to the gathering is not cheap, with hotels, transportation, food, and New Orleans' high cost of living. In order to keep the cost down as much as possible, without outright begging for money, we are going to have a series of fundraisers. The first of these will be a repetitive one. Starting on Sunday October 2, and repeat the first Sunday of every month, **LaRosa's Pizza on Wilmington Pike will give the LYC 20%** of the gross receipts they take in from people who have one of our flyers. We're not sure how LaRosa's makes money on us, but we're more than willing to take a 20% cut. Flyers for the LaRosa's fundraiser are available on the website.



Our second fundraiser is back by popular demand. This Advent season, starting November 13, we will be **taking orders for gift jar mixes of soups, cookies, etc.**

The gift jars will be available for pickup on December 18, just in

time to wrap for Christmas. These jars make great gifts for coworkers, teachers, or any of those people for whom you'd like to give a gift without spending a bundle.

Speaking of Christmas gifts, if you need another idea, you might want to consider **buying gift cards**. We carry a wide variety of cards, including restaurants, gas stations, clothing stores, and more. Orders for cards are taken on Sundays and the cards are here by the following Sunday.

One more fundraiser coming up is **raking leaves**. If you need some help getting your leaves raked this fall, call Don Bennett at 475-9445.



He'll round up some LYC folk and take care of that for you. Just be sure to call well in advance so he can get enough youth to help.

Again, while we hope that you can help support us financially through our fundraisers, what we really ask from you are your prayers, for the youth program in general, and for next summer's youth gathering in particular. 🌸

## H2H Events

by Don Bennett

This year our Head to Heart (H2H) catechism students are studying The Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments during their Sunday morning classes and they're studying a variety of "hot topics" during their monthly Sunday evening classes. The class, while small, is made up of some deep thinkers and it should be a great year. The evening classes are on October 2, November 6, and December 4.

We will have other activities outside class as well: a retreat at Lutheran Memorial Camp (LMC) and the annual Chicken Noodle Dinner.

**LMC Retreat** - The retreat at LMC is to help the camp prepare for and run their annual Apple Butter Festival. Our group will head up there on Saturday and stay until late Sunday afternoon. More information on the festival can be found on page 9 of this newsletter.

**Chicken Noodle Dinner** - This year's Chicken Noodle Dinner will be on Saturday October 29 at 5:30 pm. Tickets will again be \$6 in advance, \$7.50 at the door for adults, and \$3 in advance, \$3.50 at the door for kids ten and under. Family passes are still \$15 in advance. Please invite family and friends to this delicious meal of chicken and noodles, green beans, cole slaw, and apple crisp a la mode. Proceeds will go to help fund H2H's winter retreat in Cincinnati. 🌸





## Achievement Club

Our after-school Achievement Club starts up on Monday October 3. If you'd like to volunteer or

just come by and see what we do, we meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:30 to 4:00 pm. Don Bennett stopped by Oakview School to drop off some flyers and had two children cheering when he told them we were starting up in two weeks. Our thanks to Ferne Reilich, Connie Jones, Kathy Seim and Duane Tackis for volunteering this year to help Don with this wonderful program. Through us, God is making a difference in the lives of some young people in our neighborhood. 🌸

## Counseling Assistance

Good Shepherd is a member of the Covenant Society for Pastoral Counseling of Miami Valley Hospital. Trained and certified counselors are available to congregational members at any time, whether for a crisis or for ongoing help. This service is confidential and anonymous, if you choose. You do not have to go through the pastor or church to access this service. If you have a need simply call 937-208-6606 (or 800-628-9343), tell the staff you are a member of Good Shepherd, and what your need is at the moment. Because Good Shepherd is a member, the cost to you is one-half of any non-reimbursed portion (for example, through insurance coverage) of the normal charge. For further information on this service you can call the above numbers, or talk to Pastor Bengson. Information sheets are also available in the narthex. 🌸

## Miami Valley Hospital



## GSLC July 2011 Financial Results

by June Newell

### Net Income

Through July 2011, we have a positive net operating income of \$23,312. The positive results are the result of spending less than budget across all commissions and offerings greater than budget.

Total offerings year-to-date are \$258,436 favorable to budget by \$8,436 through July. Offerings include contributions made directly to the Heritage Fund of \$3,682 which are helping to repay the parking lot note. Over the past six months, direct contributions to the Heritage Fund have been declining and

therefore we were required to replenish this fund from our PNC operating account in order to make the parking lot payments. Total expenses were \$235,123 which is favorable to a budget of \$237,699.



### Assets

The ending current cash balance as of July 31 is \$92,109, including \$11,407 designated for the memorial fund. Also included in this cash balance are: past donations of \$9,800 for the future screen project, \$3,330 in the general scholarship fund and \$13,686 in a bequest. We have approximately \$50,000 available for operating expenses. The balance on the parking lot note is \$23,893. 🌸

# Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Layettees

by Evelyn Bergstedt



A big THANK YOU to those who gave monetary donations and items to help with the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) layettes and also to the Monday Quilting Group: Lova Lilly, Carol Rismiller, Carol Wicks, Shirley

Osburn, Mary Ann Sauer, and Rufena DeVilbiss, who gave of their time and talent to sew quilts, backpacks, receiving blankets, and sweatshirts.

The Quilting Group, along with the helping hands of Kate Steinger, Anita Apple, Anna Lee Sawdey, Diane Miller, Carol Wade and Connie Jones assembled and packed 20 layettes, 40 school kits,

20 personal care kits and also 12 quilts. These boxes were taken to Faith Lutheran Church where they were loaded into a semi-trailer and taken to the LWR warehouse in New Windsor, Maryland by the Cheeseman Trucking Company at no cost to the churches.

Last year 319,610 quilts; 213,350 school kits; 174,975 health kits; 85,100 layettes; 24,375 sewing kits; and 38,570 pounds of soap were distributed by LWR and their partner agencies, to 838,302 people in 24 different countries. Small amounts multiplied into thousands through God's blessing.

“Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, He gave thanks and broke them.

Then he gave them to the disciples to set before the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.”

(Luke 9:16-17) 🌸



## Ongoing Bible Study Opportunities

**Men's Prayer Breakfast** - Join the men of the church each week on **Thursdays at 6:30 am** at Bob Evans Restaurant on Wilmington Pike. This is a great way to fellowship and study the lectionary readings for the coming Sunday.

**Women's Bible Study** - The ladies of the church meet monthly for good conversation and enlightening study. Now there are two times available, covering the same topic each month:

—**Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm.** The next study is on October 11.

—**Thursday afternoon at 12:30 pm** for fellowship, 1:00 pm for study. The next study is on October 13.

**Saturday Bible Study** - Every **Saturday morning at 8:00 am** this group gets together for a full breakfast and then Bob Sauer leads a Max Lucado study of Philippians.

**Pastor Bengson's Sunday School Class** - Join Pastor and others as they continue studying the Lutheran Small Catechism. The class is held **Sunday during Lifelong Learning hour at 9:45 am.** Check the Weekly Staff for specific topics and occasional Sundays when the class is not meeting.

**Lifelong Learning - Lectionary Study** - Roger Bauser leads a study at **9:45 am each Sunday** of the lectionary readings as a “jumpstart” to the coming week.

## OWLs

by Mary Ann Sauer

The OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans) is a group of senior citizens who enjoy each other's company. We like to travel to restaurants or other activities to enjoy each other's company. We are open to anyone from Good Shepherd or any other senior who would like to join us. (We do have two friends from St. Paul Lutheran who join us regularly.) We would like to meet once a month but need help in planning and taking reservations for the meetings. If you would like to serve on the committee to help plan or have an idea for a meeting, please call Mary Ann Sauer at 439-9742. 🌸



## Labels for Schools

by Paula Bennett

Several area schools collect various food labels to receive points or money for school programs. A BIG THANK YOU to those of you who have been saving these labels over the years! If you would like to help out in this regard, Indian Riffle Elementary in Kettering collects the following:

- Campbell's Soup UPC labels
- Tyson labels
- Box Tops (off General Mills cereals and a variety of other products)
- Caprisun pouches



This is FREE money, folks! If you would rather support your local school, call and ask what you could collect for them. Otherwise, Paula Bennett would be happy to collect for her school, Indian Riffle. Thanks so much for the extra effort! 🌸

## Donations for Apple Butter Festival

by Paula Bennett

The LMC's annual Apple Butter Festival at Lutheran Memorial Camp is coming soon on Sunday October 9. If you have anything that you would like to donate to the Grand Auction, please make arrangements with Paula Bennett, so she can take the items to camp on that day. Some big sellers are: quilts, OSU merchandise, toys, Pampered Chef items, themed baskets, sets of books, jewelry, and decorative items. All the money raised that day goes to the Campership Fund to help children attend camp who would not be able to go without financial help. Greene County Thrivent is matching the proceeds of the auction up to \$1500. See the flyer on page 9 for full details of the Apple Butter Festival. 🌸



## Dayton Conference Roadshow

The Dayton Conference Road Show, led by the Southern Ohio Synod, will be held **Thursday October 6** from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 155 E. Thruston Boulevard, Dayton. This is an opportunity to learn about activities in our synod and interact with members of other congregations. Pre-registration is not required. Contact Debbie Kempf at 848-3459 if you would like to share a ride. 🌸



# Covenant House Nurtures 'Sacrificial Living'

from *LivingLutheran.com*

by Justin Rimbo



On his way to class one day, Lorne Hlad passed an odd-looking church with a sign that said “Jacob’s Porch.” He ventured inside and discovered a community of university students eager to talk about faith. It was exactly what Lorne had been looking for. Jacob’s Porch is the ELCA campus ministry at Ohio State University in Columbus.

As an undergraduate, Lorne spent his first two years at the university without any involvement in a faith community. He started at Ohio State in 2004. After his sophomore year, Lorne was deployed to Iraq with his Army Reserve unit and returned to college in 2007. “Upon returning home from war, I knew that I needed a community in which to wrestle with God. But I didn’t know where to begin looking,” he says. Ohio State has more than 50 Christian campus ministries. “That was a bit overwhelming,” he says.

It’s been four years since that first visit to Jacob’s Porch. Today Lorne is a seminary student at ELCA Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus. Still living on the Ohio State campus, Lorne is “pastor” of the Porch’s living facility called the Covenant House.

## Considering the needs of others above your own

Jay Gamelin, pastor of Jacob’s Porch, says the community at the Porch isn’t something that’s offered as an option but rather a “demand of the gathered. We take the idea that community is central and use that to guide our work and worship.” Appreciation for community is what inspires residents of the Covenant House, a place where seven men live together in small rooms. They make an intentional effort to care for one another, which is a challenge when living in close quarters.

“At the beginning of each year, we put all the men’s names in a hat and draw ‘lots’ for rooms,” Lorne says. “This reinforces our vision for the Covenant House. It’s not just a place to be where friends live together out of

convenience, but it’s a place to understand sacrifice. We’re trying to live against the consumer mindset that says, ‘I will worship with, socialize with, and love the people with whom I choose.’ By drawing lots, we trust in God’s spirit to pair men together who might not otherwise consider living together.”

Residents of the Covenant House are constantly redefining what it means to serve one another, as well as the world outside their doors. “I knew living in an intentional community would involve personal sacrifice,” Lorne says, “but I had no idea how it truly is the core of healthy living among others. It’s especially in the little things like turning down your music so your brother can study, or cleaning up your dishes right away after you cook so your brother doesn’t have to clean a mess before he eats. All of these little things teach us a much larger, important truth about community. The goal is not to have clean pots and pans or a quiet house but to consider the needs of other’s above your own.”

## A better way of living

The Jacob’s Porch Covenant House is on its way to becoming what Jay had in mind when it began four years ago. “I wanted to see a community come together that would teach and mature disciples into sacrificial living,” Jay says. “It would teach living skills but more so *how* to live in love for one another, to truly put your own needs and wants aside to better a community.”

For Lorne, living out our baptismal promise and sense of community is a lifelong journey. And along the way, members of communities like Jacob’s Porch and its Covenant House get to share the joys and frustration that are part of a life of grace. “This is what really excited me about serving the Covenant House,” Lorne says. “I get to be there for six young men as they go through the identity crisis that is college. I’m privileged to point to a better way of living. It’s truly a blessing to be there for the guys when they feel as though they are up on the cross, and it’s so much fun to celebrate with them when they come across the empty tomb.” 🌸

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
901 E. Stroop Road  
Kettering OH 45429-4688

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Dayton, OH  
Permit No. 884

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you did not receive your newsletter  
by mail and would like to be added to  
the mailing list, contact the church office.

Contact us at 937-298-0136 or [gslchurch@woh.rr.com](mailto:gslchurch@woh.rr.com).

Visit us at [www.goodshepherdkettering.com](http://www.goodshepherdkettering.com).

---

## Upcoming Fall Events

**Thanksgiving Service** - Join us on Wednesday November 23 at 7:00 pm to celebrate the goodness of God's harvest and blessings. We will also gather for the traditional Pumpkin Pie Fellowship following the service. Join your church family for the service and then share some fun and laughter with friends at GSLC.

*He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." Mark 4:26-29 NRSV*



**Advent Services** - We start our Christmas season off with our continuing Advent services, starting on Wednesday November 30 through December 18. These services will occur immediately after the Faith Fellowship Dinner. Let us join together as we prepare for the Christmas season.

*See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me,  
and the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.*

*The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight —  
indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. Malachi 3:1 NRSV* ❁

