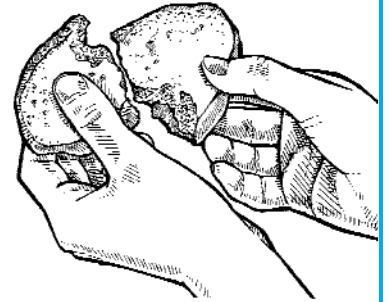


BREAKING BREAD

Good Shepherd Catholic Church



Peace Circles Need Everyone's Piece of the Puzzle

by Meriel Christensen

In light of some opposition to signing post cards to ask Congress to take up Immigration Reform our study group at Good Shepherd decided to hold Peace Circles on Sunday morning, June 13. We had two circles each with eight people. A "talking piece" was passed around the circle four times. Each person talked only when they were holding the talking piece and for the allotted time. This spread the responsibility for peacemaking to all participants, promoted better listening, and controlled the emotional content of the discussion.

In round one, we introduced ourselves and said why we decided to spend an hour together on such a hot topic. Each group had a facilitator who was also the time-keeper.

In round two, topics included:

- Families being separated
- The fear immigrants live under
- The fear we have of losing jobs
- The drain on our Social Security system
- Drug lords making their way across the border from Mexico, and how each side of the border adds to the problems.

One person talked about our need for immigrants in our economy while another person was concerned with the affect of the Free Trade Agreement on people's need to emigrate from their own country. The concern's of our Catholic Bishops were raised in regard to Catholic Social Teaching and human dignity for all God's people.

In round three, some of the responses were in regard to solidarity and the use of the term "those people." Someone wondered if Americans would take the jobs done by immigrants. Perhaps, but would

they do it for the same pay? Perhaps not, and what would that do to the cost of restaurant meals, hotel rooms, milk from Wisconsin, and fresh produce from California? Some agreed that actions are illegal but people are not.

In round four the feeling was unanimous that there are injustices, which need to be resolved, but how do we do it? Unfortunately we were all on the same page and we wished people with differing view points would have been in our circles. The laws are broken and can be fixed. To do that we all need to add our "piece" to the discussion.

"A 'talking piece' was passed around the circle four times. Each person talked only when they were holding the talking piece and for the allotted time."



Meet Your Council: Gigi Rentmeester

By Sara Eldredge

One of the newer members of the Parish Council is not really very new! Gigi (Georgene) Rentmeester has been a parish member for 40 years and continues to be involved and active here. Gigi's mom, Kathryn Strand, was a member until her death last year.

Gigi has been a Eucharistic Minister for the past 20 years and had been

in some of the original *Renew* Groups. Her spirit of serving is what probably led her to discernment for the Parish Council. She is still trying to figure out why she was nominated but she is willing to "dive in" and see where the Holy Spirit is leading her! She is interested in seeing how the council "works" and then she intends to channel her energies where she is

needed. Her good work ethic and sense of humor will be a welcome addition.

Gigi enjoys gardening and knitting but the knitting will have to wait until winter when she cannot be in the garden! If you see Gigi at church or anywhere else, introduce yourself. You will find her very friendly and willing to visit.



Gigi Rentmeester

2010-2011 Pastoral Council

Four new members join the 2010-2011 Pastoral Council: Tony Witkus, Joseph Goveas, Janet Dunn, and Gigi Rentmeester.

- Jeff Bloedorn, Chairperson
- Tom Moran, Vice Chairperson
- Julie Nolan, Secretary
- Tony Witkus
- Pat Taugher
- Joseph Goveas
- Erin Birschbach
- Janet Dunn
- Gigi Rentmeester
- Steven Grieb
- Beth Gonstead
- Mary Oswald
- Tom Dueppen

Trustees

- Bob Wachowiak
- Marty Hassenfelt



FAITH
IN OUR FUTURE

UPDATE: Faith In Our Future as of June 30, 2010

Good Shepherd is in the "follow-up" stages of the Faith In Our Future campaign. We are heading toward the end of our first year of the three year pledge participation period. The following is an update of total pledges made and received as of June 30, 2010.

Total Pledge Amount	% of Pledged Received	Total Collected	Good Shepherd Portion
\$294,351.10	35.9%	\$105,738.01	\$63,442.81

Much Given, Much Received by Matthew 25 Local Work Campers

by Mary Ann Erdtmann

Much was given and much was received by the 17 youth and 13 adult participants in our parish's first Matthew 25 local work camp. They served at six different sites in Milwaukee, including "The Gathering" at St. James Episcopal Church, Repairers of the Breach Homeless Shelter, Catholic Worker House, Guest House, St. Ben's Community Meal Program and the United Community Center.

Here are comments by some of the youth participants:

Dan Weggen: The homeless may not have a lot, but they have pride in what they have and their community. I learned a lot about myself and the experience made me realize



Brandon Toboyek, David Christensen, TJ Snarski, Mike Pletta and Nik Gardipee wash windows at Repairers.

what I have.

Nicole Weggen: The camp helped me understand how fortunate I am. I realized how I can help the less fortunate...My favorite site was Repairers of the Breach because it felt like an actual family.

T. J. Snarski: It was a fun experience that was quite meaningful. [I got a good] feeling from seeing someone smile, shake my hand with a tear in their eye and say, "Thank you."

.....
"I learned a lot about myself
and the experience made me realize
what I have."
.....

Jacob Mohar: This week was all about "serving and not being served." This was a quote from Suzanne that I had to keep telling myself especially when I had to do deep cleaning in the kitchen at the Guest House....The feeling of accomplishment at the end was awesome.

Michael Pletta: It is an experience you could never explain with words...I never expected [it] to be so life-changing. I thank the people of Good Shepherd for giving me this experience.

Erin Crossover: Each event taught me something I would not have learned elsewhere. The people I met were very inspiring and I will never forget them.

Morgan Mahnke: We had many meaningful experiences and met many wonderful people. From cleaning to painting, we had a variety of jobs. I made new friends within the group as

well as the places I visited.... I am definitely coming back next year.

Jared Nimmer: Even though we were helping others, we were receiving and helping ourselves more....I liked that we got tours of every facility because it gave me a better understanding of what each place did....I would advise everyone to sign up.

Maggie Bezanson: The work camp was a great opportunity to meet new people along with going out in the community and help others. My favorite events included working at The Repairers of the Breach and the United Community Center.

Brandon Toboyek: I really loved the Repairers of the Breach. Everyone there



Erin Crossover, Morgan Mahnke, Hayden Crossover, and Nik Gardipee serve breakfast to the homeless at "The Gathering."

was so welcoming and positive even in their tough situations. It was amazing to see how they were all a family...They live with a positive outlook which is what some of us need to do more.

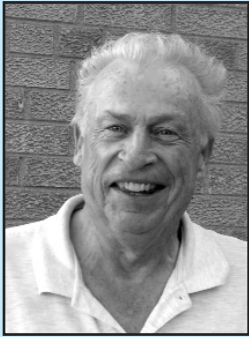
Rose Walton: The experience I had this week was not what I expected....Serving the meal to the homeless at "The Gathering" was a great new experience and made me realize how many people are homeless. I thought it was fun and exciting painting at the Catholic Worker House and the Guest House.

Taylor Christensen: It is a great experience. It is really fun and you get to meet people who are homeless and help them. They even tell you how they got there.



Morgan Mahnke, Erin Crossover and Maggie Bezanson sort clothes for distribution at Repairers of the Breach.

MEET OUR Pastoral Council



Tom Dueppen

June 7, 2010

Pastoral Council Meeting Notes

Budget reports will be made to the Council on a quarterly basis unless an extraordinary situation requires Council notification.

Pat Taugher will be coordinating *Voice of the Parish* activities. A recent inquiry regarding fundraisers was responded to. It was recommended that the current Pastoral Council policy should be updated to add clarity.

Fr. Mich reported that a review of the upstairs rooms is underway with consideration for potentially expanding room sizes to better accommodate the current needs of Christian Formation and many other uses.

The Cluster Council met June 1st at Good Shepherd. All three parishes were represented by council and pastoral team members. The discussions focused on how the parishes might collaborate together.

Council participation on commissions will continue as previously designated with the following additions and/or changes:

- Tony Witkus – Human Concerns
 - Pat Taugher – Human Concerns
 - Joseph Goveas – Christian Formation
 - Erin Birschbach – Christian Formation
 - Janet Dunn – Council Formation
 - Gigi Rentmeester- Council Discernment
 - Julie Nolan – Council Formation
 - Steven Grieb – Council Formation
 - Tom Moran - ad-hoc support Cluster Council
- Mark provided the final draft of the

2010-2011 fiscal year budget. Income for the coming year remains a little more than \$5,000 short of projected expenses, resulting in a deficit budget. The Eschweiler Fund has approved a one-time transfer of up to \$15,000 in order to close any budget gap. This transfer will only occur if and when it is necessary. This action results in a balanced operational budget for the year.

Any surplus from the current year will be used to partially offset the Archdiocesan assessment in the new year. The budget was approved by the Council as submitted.

The following have been discerned as Council Officers for 2010-2011:

- Chairperson: Jeff Bloedorn
- Vice Chairperson: Tom Moran
- Secretary: Julie Nolan

Tom Dueppen summarized his proposal regarding placement of the flag and patriotic songs which had been reviewed and responded to by the Prayer & Worship commission. Open discussion followed. The Council asks the Prayer & Worship commission to revisit the issue.

A Mother's Pride by Carol Weber

"We received more than we gave", is an old cliché that rang true on Sunday, June 13th at PrideFest for a group from *Gay and Straight in Christ* who welcomed attendees. Fifteen of our members took part in showing support for the Gay Community at their weekend festival. Some of us greeted them at the front gate with smiles and welcoming, positive comments. We were rewarded with smiles in return, as well as warm grateful responses, often including handshakes and/or hugs. When not at the gate, we stood in the PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) booth, greeting and giving and receiving hugs. A few were a bit reluctant to accept our gesture at first, but once they realized we were genuine in our offer they hugged back, long and hard. To this mother it seemed they were in desperate need of a parent's affirmation.

We each had opportunities to talk

on a one-to-one basis with some of the participants. This proved to be interesting and informative. Some inquired how to get their parents more informed, accepting and supportive.

Others told of missing their church. This gave us a chance to talk about *Gay and Straight in Christ*, a fellowship group for GLBT persons, their families and friends and those who wish to stand in solidarity with them in Christ. We gave them the message that Good Shepherd Catholic Church does not discriminate based on gender, religion, sexual orientation, race, age, physical challenge, health status,



gender identification, nationality or economic status. We affirm the love of Christ for everyone and offer a place to worship for all.

Our group meets the second Sunday of each month at 7:00PM in the chapel at Good Shepherd as we continue to educate, offer faith sharing opportunities, and support our GLBT Brothers and Sisters in a safe environment.

Good Shepherd Sets Sail on the High Seas!

by Lorrie Maples



Kids, teens, and adults SET SAIL on the High Seas Expedition at Vacation Bible School where they explored God's Word in the bible, in the world, and in our lives.

The teen CREW LEADERS guided the crews on their exploration of God's Word through prayer, bible stories, skits, music, dance, games, crafts and snacks. They were models of participation and enthusiasm and the kids loved them. The CREW LEADERS were the BEST!

At BIBLE VOYAGE, one of the stations led by our adult leaders, the crews met Peter in jail, Paul in a storm at sea, Paul shipwrecked on the island of Malta, James and John performing miracles and the early Christians living together in community.

Everyday the kids went home to look for God! The "God Sightings" included flowers, trees,

thunder and lightning, family, friends, and in sharing time and activities with one another at home and at on their HIGH SEAS Expedition!

There were 175 people sailing at Good Shepherd everyday, June 14-18, from 9-12. While the number of people can be counted, stories named, and the pictures shown, the presence of the Spirit of God can only be experienced; and the Spirit was truly present with us, guiding us, giving us comfort, and changing our lives on our High Seas Expedition!



Deaconate Celebration



Maintaining a Support Network

Submitted by Laverne Schoonover

Social connections play a vital role in your health and well-being. Maintaining a strong network of family and friends involves strategies that include:

- **Making relationships a priority.** Don't take your partner or loved ones and friends for granted. Take time to converse with them and do things together.
- **Recognizing the importance of give and take.** If you appreciate the support, encouragement and interest of others, be sure to express your love and appreciation, be ready to return the favor when the need arises.
- **Respecting boundaries.** Try to be there for your friends and family but don't overwhelm them.
- **Avoiding relentless complaining and**

negativity. It's tiresome and draining to listen to the same old gripes and negative viewpoints over and over again.

- **Adopting a positive outlook.** If you have trouble doing this naturally, finding humor in things is a good way to go about it.
- **Listening.** Minimize distractions while talking to others. If you tend to do most of the talking in a relationship, challenge yourself to spend more time listening. Make a point to remember what's going on in other's lives – or bring up something a friend said in a previous conversation that you found meaningful.

(Mayo Clinic Health Letter- June 2010)



To further the spiritual growth of the Good Shepherd Community by providing an inspirational view of parish life.

YOUR GREEN CORNER

by Mary Kult

Being Green is difficult and morally challenging!

An insightful documentary movie *Collapse* is definitely worth watching. In the documentary, Michael Ruppert, is interviewed regarding the energy crisis. Michael Ruppert has a varied background and knowledge base.

The following information is taken from that documentary.

Ruppert likens the energy crisis to a bell curve, in which we were at the top of the curve in 2001 and have been in a 9% decline since. This decline will really be increased by the recent oil leak.

Nine billion gallons of oil are used per day. Seven gallons alone are used in the production of each auto tire.

According to Michael Ruppert, there is not enough oil in Iraq. There is only enough oil for six months left in the Alaskan Tundra and Saudi Arabia is past its peak.

We all participate in the use of this natural resource and it is our responsibility to educate ourselves so as to avoid a future suicide.

Rent the movie and see, that it is difficult thinking Green.



• Jean Coombs



Sofia Diane Anton

daughter of Clay and Sara Anton

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

BREAKING BREAD

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