



The Shepherd's Voice

Serving Rockland County, NY, & Northern Bergen County, NJ

JULY/AUG. 2015

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

GOOD SHEPHERD SCOUT TROOP 36 EAGLE AWARD



For Aidan Miller, becoming an Eagle Scout is a family tradition.

Surrounded by a flock of Eagles, including his father, grandfather, uncles, and cousins, Aidan received his Eagle Award at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Pearl River, NY, on June 6. Aidan's Eagle rank brings the family total to nine. That means every male member of his immediate family, across three generations, is an Eagle Scout.

Gordon Miller, Aidan's father, is proud his son has joined the rest of the men in the family in achieving Eagle. He explained, "Scouting teaches values and skills that nothing else can, and we are all the closer for sharing this journey."



Aidan Miller completes the flock as the ninth Eagle in his immediate family.

Pictured (left to right): Troy Miller, Gordon Miller, Aidan Miller, James Miller, Eric Miller, Stephen Miller, Chad Miller, and Kyle Miller (Family Eagle Scout not pictured: Austin Miller)

(article from *Our Town Newspaper*)

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Sundays—9:30 a.m.
Holy Communion every Sunday
June 7th through September 6th.



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS
The Church Office will be open
Monday—Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.
From July 2 to August 29

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

112 North Main Street
Pearl River, New York 10965

OUR MISSION

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

SUMMER WORSHIP

Sundays: 9:30 a.m.

CONTACT US

Church Office: (845)735-2243

Fax: (845)735-0819

E-mail: office@gspr.org

Web site: www.gspr.org

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

AT YOUR SERVICE

The Reverend Henry Morris, Interim Pastor
Richard Struck - Council President
Robert Bergman - Treasurer
Maureen Connolly - Creative Play Director
Dale Damon - Church Secretary
Steve Damon - Bookkeeper
Brenda Ferguson - Organist/Director of Music
Kathleen Harpster - Parish Program Director
Dagmar Klein - Church Administrator
Jeanette Kunow - Superintendent of
Sunday School
The Reverend John R. Taylor - Pastor Emeritus



LIFE STATIONS

BAPTISMS

Dominic John Durso

DATE

5/31/15

MEMORIAL DONATIONS...given in memory of Dorothy Haug will be used to purchase a new cantata for the Sanctuary Choir. Thank you to all who gave in memory of Dorothy, a former choir member.

COMMUNICATION REQUEST

We would like to establish a new email distribution list that would enable us to notify folks of an event that is happening at Church, between Sundays, such as a funeral or weather-related meeting cancellation. If you would like to be notified, please fill out your name, cell # and email address and return it to the Church Office, drop this form in the offering plate, or go to this link to sign up: <http://eepurl.com/Y5XKf>. Thank you!

NAME:

CELL # (for text message reminder)

EMAIL:

**Musicians...Thanks for Summer Solos,
Duets, and Instrumental Music.**

You make our 9:30 Worship services beautiful, and we very much appreciate the time and talent you give.

God Bless You, Everyone!



Voice Publication Deadline

Items to be included in *The Shepherd's Voice* must be submitted to the church office by **August 14th**, for the September 2015 issue. Electronic submission (e-mail) is preferred. Articles submitted after the deadline may not be published, due to space and time restrictions. Please e-mail articles to: secretary@gspr.org.

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

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

Call Committee UPDATE #2 - June 2015

Thank you for your patience as we continue along the path of locating a new Pastor. We felt it would be important to share a bit more information regarding the overall process. The Call Committee chose to go with a multiple candidate approach. The synod then provided us with three candidates. Once we eliminate a candidate, we cannot call them back.

We are currently moving forward with two of those candidates. The committee recognizes that preaching and worship style will be a crucial component in leading our spiritual community at Good Shepherd. In fact, for many members, Sunday morning sermons may be the only interaction one has with the pastor.

To that end, we have scheduled appointments over the next several weeks to listen to them preach on multiple occasions. We anticipate additional conversation time will ensue after that is complete. We will continue to keep you updated on our progress and ask that you keep us in your prayers as we move forward on this journey.

SUMMERTIME - Faithful Attendance and Faithful Giving

With summer on our doorsteps, that means vacation time, a time for relaxation, and for sharing enjoyable times with family and friends. Many of us are fortunate to be able to “go away” during the summer, to the beach or to the shore, or to other wonderful destinations. As we thank God for these special days away, we are invited to remain faithful in our support of our Good Shepherd family. If you’re away for a week or two or more, please remember to worship as you have opportunity, and remember your financial commitment to Good Shepherd, made at the start of the year, in writing or in your hearts, so we can continue to move forward, as we live lives of service. Remember the theme: “God’s Work, Our Hands.”



Enjoy the Convenience of Online Giving

Good Shepherd Church wants to remind you that you can give to the church through our “**eOffering**” website link at www.gspr.org. We offer an online giving option as a way to automate your regular weekly and special offerings. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

eOffering can direct debit your checking or savings account in the amount and frequency you choose, and transfer those payments directly to Good Shepherd’s bank account.

To set up your online eOffering account, please visit Good Shepherd Church’s website (www.gspr.org), look for the word “Give” in the box on the lower left hand side of the home page, and click “**eOffering**” to enter Online Giving. Click to create a new profile and follow the directions on the page. Once you create a profile, you can, at any time set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation, or view your online donation history.

As you contemplate future financial contributions to Good Shepherd Church, please consider electronic giving. The church office can provide you with additional information. If you have any questions or need assistance setting up an eOffering profile, you can also contact Rich Bowman at (845) 627-6967 or by email at rpbp@yahoo.com.



It is hard to believe our WELCA season is over until September. We ended up with a very well attended lunch at Mia Cucina's in Blauvelt. The ladies all enjoyed themselves and the food was very good. Thank you to Barbara Bow for leading us again this year, she will be our president again next year.

We will begin again on Tuesday, September 1st, at 1:30 PM, in the parlor. We have decided to start in September rather than October as we have the past few years. With the bad winter we had, and having to cancel a few meetings, we need the extra time. It is before Labor Day, so of course, some of you may still be vacationing, but if you are around, please join us. We will begin with our annual auction, which is our fund raiser. Please bring a new, wrapped item to be auctioned off. This is lots of fun and does add nicely to our treasury. It enables us to continue with the many outreach projects we take on here at home and away.

Ladies, if you are a member of Good Shepherd, you are a member of WELCA. There are no dues, but a good will offering is collected. We meet the 1st Tuesday of every month at 1:30 PM in the parlor. We start with a short business meeting followed by a program, wonderful refreshments and social time. So please join us. If you have questions or need a ride, please call Barbara Bow at 845-215-5866 or Mary Iseman at 845-623-7638.

Have a wonderful summer and God's blessings be with each of you.

HUNGER DOES NOT TAKE A SUMMER VACATION...help support

People to People

...items always needed:

Cold/Hot cereals	Canned soups/vegetables
Peanut butter and jelly	Pasta/Rice
Cold drinks, like juices and ice tea/lemonade	Canned fruit
Cans of tuna or chicken	Diapers
Flour, sugar	Tea, coffee
Juice boxes	Boxed Macaroni & Cheese



Our food bin is located at the entrance to the Education Building. Thank you for your support.

VBS Parents and Students to Join *People to People* in helping Rockland kids go *Back to School with Dignity!*

Back to School with Dignity is one of *People to People's* most powerful programs because it aims to provide essential school supplies to at-risk Rockland students.

If you would also like to help, simply purchase a few extra school supplies when shopping for your own favorite students, and drop them off at the church the week of VBS...August 3-7th.

Grades K-12 School Supply Shopping List:

#2 Pencils, Pocket Folders, Rulers
Colored Pencils, Binders (1.5" or larger), Scissors
Crayons. Loose Leaf Paper, Glue Sticks
Markers (Fat and Thin), Binder Dividers, Index cards (3x5)
Pens (Blue/Black/Red), Marble Notebooks, Graph Paper
Highlighters, 3 Subject Spiral Notebooks, Book Covers
Pencil Sharpeners, 5 Subject Spiral Notebooks
Pencil Cases, 4-Function Calculator
Block Erasers, Protractor/Compass Set

Other Needed Items

New backpacks (for boys and girls, grades K-12)



*Blueberry Pie, Blueberry Crumble!
Yum, yum it makes my tummy grumble!*

Blueberry Bash!

Join Prince of Peace and Good Shepherd churches for the 1st annual Blueberry Bash! Starts right after worship! Come sample a wide variety of tasty blueberry treats. Berry themed story and craft for the little ones.

Sunday July 12th
Worship at 9:30am

 **PRINCE OF PEACE**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

106 Orangeburg Rd
Old Tappan, NJ
(201) 965-3354



Youth Happenings



Help Wanted! And Appreciated!! God's Work. Our Hands! And the more Hands we have, the easier the Work for us all! As we prepare our youth and children's ministries for the 2015-2016 school year, we are looking for volunteers to assist with coordinating programming and to serve as chaperones for our children and youth programs. Even if you're only available once in a while, we would appreciate your help. We are looking for volunteers to help with Pre-K to 4th grade, 5th grade to 8th grade, and with our High School students. Training and guidance will be provided. This is an incredible opportunity to share your faith and to serve God in such an important ministry. Our children are the church's

future. You can make a difference by becoming involved! For more information, please contact Rich Bowman at: rpbp@yahoo.com or (845) 627-6967 or contact Kathleen Harpster in the church office or at Kathleen@gSpr.org.

ELCA Youth Gathering—Rise Up Detroit 2015: From Tuesday, July 14 to Sunday, July 19, 12 youth and 3 adult chaperones from Good Shepherd Church will travel to Detroit to join over 30,000 youth and chaperones from around the country, the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering. Please keep our youth and chaperones in your thoughts and prayers: Youth: Nick Bowman, Sophia Bowman, Chris Filatov, Laryssa Filatov, Casey Hampton, Bridget Klein, Stephen Klein, William Klein, Matt Lauer, Dave Martini, Katie Martini, and Quinton Tramm; and Adult Chaperones: Deb Frederick, Bob Klein, and Rich Bowman. We thank the congregation for the tremendous financial and spiritual support you have provided to these representatives of our church. When they return, the Youth will be offering a presentation to the congregation, explaining what they saw, what they learned, and how the experience has already impacted their lives.



Summer Camp Series: Vocation Bible School

August 2 - August 6

Are you in senior high and ready to explore and celebrate your unique talents and gifts to live fully into whom God created you to be? If so, join us and expect to grow in ways you haven't even imagined. Plan for lots of fun mixed with workshops on personality types, spiritual gifts, passions and personal interests. We are each beautifully and wonderfully made, gifted by God to do His work and change the world.

This event is for Senior High Youth groups to come and be part of our pilot program in which we will be working with member congregations on new Summer Camp possibilities. Priced to be very affordable and to encourage you to be part of identifying new opportunities to expand Summer Camp in the years ahead.



Save the Date!

Food, Faith & Friends Returns on Tuesday, September 22, at 7 pm

Thank you to everyone who helped make Food, Faith & Friends so successful this past year. We cordially invite you to join us when we return on Tuesday, September 22, at 7 p.m., in the church parlor. Please join us in this opportunity to meet new people, share a little about our faith journeys (including our questions), and eat a meal together. Watch the *Cross Connections* in September for more details. If you have any questions, please contact Rich Bowman at rpbp@yahoo.com or (845) 627-6967.

**Food, Faith
& Friends**



THOSE BEING CONFIRMED ON OCTOBER 25, 2015

Prior to being confirmed, candidates must complete their Faith Statements and Witness Projects. Here are a few important dates to put on your calendars:

Sunday, August 2 – 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. – Youth Room - Project and Faith Statement

Friday, September 18 to Sunday, September 20 – Camp Ma-He-Tu Confirmation Retreat; 9th Grade Confirmation Class Members are encouraged to be Junior Chaperones

Thursday, September 24 – 7 to 8:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall - Project and Faith Statement

Sunday, October 4 – Faith Statements must be submitted to Pastor Morris by this date

Wednesday, October 14 – 7 to 8 p.m. – Fellowship Hall - Confirmation Class “Witness Night” presentation to the Church Council (Set-up from 6 to 7 p.m.)

Thursday, October 22 – 6:30 to 7 p.m. – Sanctuary - Rehearsal & Robe Fitting

Sunday, October 25 – 10:30 a.m. – **Sanctuary – Confirmation** (Meet at 10 a.m., to robe)

For more information, please contact the Church Office at (845) 735-6204.

INCOMING 6TH THROUGH 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASS

We begin our annual Confirmation program with Confirmation Class on **Thursday, September 10**, from 7 to 8:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, for all confirmation class students grades 6th through 8th, and their parents. To accommodate “Back to School” nights, we’ll also offer an identical class on **Thursday, September 17**, from 7 to 8:15. Students and their parents must attend at least one of these sessions. After September, three confirmation sessions will be held monthly, one for each grade respectively. In addition, several times throughout the school year, we will be asking parents and Confirmation Class students to join together in a family gathering to discuss the confirmation journey. Confirmation students are strongly encouraged to attend the Ma-He-Tu Confirmation retreat from September 18 to 20. More details to follow. For more information, contact the Church Office at (845) 735-6204.

Ma-He-Tu Confirmation Retreat – Fri., Sept. 18 at 5:30 pm, to Sun., Sept. 20 at noon.

As part of our Confirmation program, all 6th-8th graders for the 2015-2016 school year will kick off Confirmation with this awesome retreat experience. This year’s retreat will be held Friday, September 18, to Sunday, September 20. Registration costs of \$50 for participants and \$25 for Jr. Chaperones (9th-12th graders), along with permission slips, will be accepted beginning in early July. Contact Rich Bowman for details about participating and/or volunteering at: rpbb@yahoo.com or (845) 627-6967, or contact the church office at (845) 735-6204.

**Composting Is Good for the Planet**

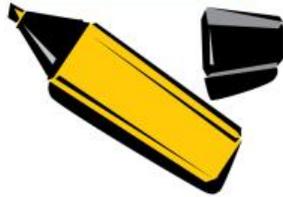
Landfills everywhere are running out of room, and the [EPA](#) estimates that roughly 25% of the garbage in the U.S. is made up of yard trimmings and food scraps. That's over 60 million tons each year! Instead of watching your local landfill get bigger and more expensive to maintain each month, try composting.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS JULY/AUGUST

- July 6-31 Creative Play Summer Camp—weekdays 9am-12pm
- July 9 Evangelism Mtg., 7:00pm—Parlor
- July 12 Youth Commendation/Sending to Detroit
- July 12 *Blueberry Bash* at Prince of Peace, following 9:30 service
- July 14 Youth leave for Detroit 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering
- July 15 Church Council Mtg., 7:00pm—Parlor
- July 19 Youth return from Detroit

- Aug. 3-7 Vacation Bible School—weekdays 9am-12pm
- Aug. 12 Executive Committee Mtg., 4:30pm
- Aug. 13 Evangelism Mtg., 7:00-8:00pm—Parlor
- Aug. 17 Youth & Education Mtg., 7:00-8:30pm
- Aug. 19 Church Council Mtg., 7:00pm—Parlor
- Aug. 22-23 H2O (5th-8th) Lock-In, 7:30pm-9:30am
- Aug. 22 Creative Play Classroom Cleanup, 8:30am-12pm
- Aug. 25 UPK Teachers Mtg., 10:00am
- Aug. 25 UPK Parents Mtg., 7:00pm—Sanctuary & Classrooms

CALENDAR



HIGHLIGHTS