



THE STAFF

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

June, 2011

My True Miracle

On Sunday, May 29th, Carl Sharon asked us to participate in that day's sermon by sharing stories of miracles that had happened in our lives. I wanted so much to contribute a story of my own but held back because I feared that, in trying to tell this tale, I would be reduced to sobs. Let me share it with you now.

My first husband, Lou Amato, was raised by parents who were anti-religion and, as the twig is bent, so grows the tree. My husband made clear when we were planning to marry that he considered himself an agnostic and did not intend to change. And through the years, close as he was to Good Shepherd, he never was a member. When he was on his deathbed and in a medically-induced coma (almost 20 years ago now), I was standing by his bedside, holding his hand, and praying mightily to God that this man, though never a believer, would find forgiveness and a life in the hereafter. He had always lived a good and moral life, truly an example of one who treated each person as he himself would wish to be treated. His one failing was not to recognize the Lord as his Saviour. As he was ready to breath his last, his eyes suddenly opened and he looked over my shoulder with an expression of complete surprise. Then he passed away.

He was turned on his side in the bed with only one ear exposed. As my daughter came to his bedside to kiss him goodbye, she noticed that there was a blood spot in that ear and it had formed itself into the perfect shape of a tiny heart. She said, "That's for you, Mom." Though I nodded, I felt in my heart and soul that God had answered my prayers and had given me that sign so that I would know.

Welcome new members to Good Shepherd!

Robert & Debra Meydag
5 Jonathan Road
Yalesville CT 06492

Debra is a talented musician and has accompanied the choir on flute and cello on various occasions.

Another question Carl asked was how did we know that what we call the "Word of God" is truly just that -- what Jesus had said. There again, I hesitated to contribute because I didn't know how to make that story short. There was a time a short while ago when I read a book, written by a former cleric now turned completely around and no longer a person of faith. In his book he explained the many reasons he considered sufficiently convincing to doubt what The Bible attributes to Jesus Christ. After reading this book, my faith was completely shaken and I sought the help of those I know who have studied theology and would be in a position to provide reassurance. Carl Sharon immediately came to see me and, after much discussion, was able to restore my faith. I am forever grateful to him for that.

Barbara Kuslan

**LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

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The Staff Editor

Brenda Samal

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Council Members

1/1/10—12/31/10

- President Sue Landino
- Vice-President Linda Kapitan
- Treasurer Eric Gustafson
- Secretary Brenda Samal
- Christian Education Kristen Gustafson
- Evangelism/ Publicity Rob Landino
- Fellowship Anita Podgwaite
- Financial Secretary John Downs
- Stewardship/ Missions Joy Downs
- Property Carl Podgwaite
- Worship Paul Barnes



**IN YOUR PRAYERS,
PLEASE REMEMBER-**

- Dawn Marta Chris Mariah*
- Diane Lori Ann William*
- Eleanor Shirley Eileen Rosemary*
- Teresa Kimberly Sally Harrison*
- Anna Ceil Cindy James*
- Carl Bob Lillian Trish*
- Larry Sam Jennifer Maureen*
- Leroy Robert*
- Stanowski Foley Goodhue Najarian*
family family family family

Members of Good Shepherd who are homebound

Military personnel

*Cpl Maggie Podgwaite on her second deployment to
Afghanistan*

The summer issue of the STAFF will cover the months of July and August.

Please plan accordingly and submit any articles / notices that you would like to share by June 26.

Thank you!



JUNE CELEBRATIONS

Anniversaries

- 9-Paul & Stacie Barnes
- 15-Carl & Christi Sharon 26 years
- 28-Thomas & Ann-Mae Knoob 7 years
- 27-Christopher & Kristine Knoob 18 years

Birthdays

- 3-Nicholas Papa
- 4-Barbara Aykroyd
- 11-William Wakefield
- 14-Susan Landino
- 18-Barrett Cassidy
- 18-Brianne Papa
- 18-Mark Knoob
- 27-Jason Barnes
- 27-Rev. Henry Morris
- 29-Paul Barnes



Baptisms

Anita Podgwaite, Christopher Rowold, Kate Lyn Aykroyd, Anna Olson, Jonathan Rowold, Gunnar Chapman, Alicia Samal

*If we missed your celebration or have listed it incorrectly please call the office and let us know.
Thank you!*



Summer worship schedule
July—Labor Day
Worship begins at 9:30am

—————
Voters' Meeting
June 26, 2011

Munchies for Maggie

Cpl Margaret Podgwaite is serving her second tour in Afghanistan.

A basket will be placed in the narthex to collect her favorite snacks listed below. Notice will be given when they will be shipped.

- Salted macadamia nuts
- Salted cashews
- Honey roasted peanuts
- Dried fruit
- Craisins
- Emerald Breakfast on the go!
nut & granola mix
- Sugar-free gum
- Magazines

Please—no chocolate or anything that will melt in the heat. The temperature in Afghanistan is over 100° daily!



COUNCIL NOTES

May 26, 2011

New England Synod Assembly is 6/4-6/6. For Sunday worship, Synod has provided the liturgy and sermon for congregations to follow. It is the same as the assembly service—providing a unity among all churches. The voters/ meeting is scheduled for June 26.

At the special meeting of May 15, council approved the signing of the contract to begin work on the fellowship hall. CRC will start construction the first week of June with a completion date of August 30.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

DATE	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	READER	USHERS	ALTAR GUILD
6/5	Shaun Pitts	Micah Sharon	Ken Watson	John & Joy Downs	Anita Podgwaite
6/12	Jonathan Goodrich	Rob Landino	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Carl & Anita Podgwaite	Anita Podgwaite
6/19	Gunnar Chapman	Mary Lou Knoob	Barbara Kuslan	John & Joy Downs	Anita Podgwaite
6/26	Shaun Pitts	Linda Kapitan	Linda Kapitan	Eric & Kristen Gustafson	Anita Podgwaite
7/3	Jonathan Goodrich	John Downs	Lisa Ball-Goodrich	Carl & Anita Podgwaite	Paul Barnes
7/10	Gunnar Chapman	Micah Sharon	Ken Watson	John & Joy Downs	Paul Barnes

*If you cannot serve on your appointed day, please find a substitute, and make the change on the master schedule. **Thank you for your service!***

Good News—Work to begin on Fellowship Hall!

Council held a special meeting on May 15 to review the proposal from the insurance company and voted to accept it. Work should begin the first week of June! Hooray! Carl Podgwaite, Paul Barnes and John Downs will be following the progress closely.

The reconstruction committee plans to meet June 8 to keep in step with the contractors on all the finish work.