

God's work.

Our hands.

**DISCOVER HOPE
AT REDEEMER**

**CHRISTMAS EVE
WORSHIP**

FRIDAY, DEC. 24th

4:00 P.M.

Special Message for the Children

Children's Choir, Bell Ringers

Children's Nativity, Holy Communion

7:00 P.M.

Candlelight Service

Holy Communion, Chancel Choir

11:00 P.M.

Candlelight Service

Holy Communion

Harpist & Flutist



**Clippings
Newsletter**

**DECEMBER
2010**

Redeemer

Lutheran Church

2384 E. Landis Ave

Vineland, New Jersey

The Rev. Gary N. Stiegler

Pastor

**LML® Summer Camp:
Six Weeks of WOW!**

When: July 5—August 12, 2011

Time: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Ages: Grades K-5 (completed)

Where: Redeemer Lutheran Church

Cost: \$140/week* per first child

**\$135/week for each additional child
*Discounted for Redeemer members**

More than crafts and recreation, Let Me Learn's (LML's) Six Weeks of WOW introduces children to the people who make the world operate and sets before them career paths and dreams for their future. Subtly and effectively students will experience the joy and "wow" of learning while developing new skills and bolstering their current skills.

Learning, experiencing, meeting role models – now that's a summer camp that can deliver Six Weeks of WOW!

**To Register, or for more Info.
Contact Chris Johnston 856-358-**

Looking Ahead . . .

9:30 A.M. WORSHIP

SUNDAYS 12/26/10 & 1/2/11

No Sunday School, Confirmation
or Sunday Night Live on these dates.

**"Positive Change" in January:
1/9/11**

**"Positive Change" in February:
2/6/11 supports**

BOXES FOR SOLDIERS

SAVE YOUR LOOSE CHANGE!

**PLACE YOUR
POINSETTIA ORDER
FOR OUR
CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICES
FRIDAY, DECEMBER
24th**

4:00, 7:00 & 11:00 p.m.

Quantity @ \$10/plant

In Loving Memory of:

In Honor of:

By: _____

Phone # _____

_____ I will take the plant(s) after
10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve worship

_____ I will take the plant(s) after
9:30 a.m. worship on 12/26

_____ Deliver to Homebound

Amount Enclosed: _____

ORDER BY SUNDAY

DEC. 19th

Please include payment to:
Redeemer Lutheran Church
2384 E. Landis Avenue,

**Sunday Morning
Schedule:
8 & 10:30 Worship**

**Sunday School and
Confirmation-9:15**

**Sunday Night Live
Worship
6:30 p.m.**

No Sunday School, Confirmation or Sunday Night Live

Dec. 26, 2010 & Jan. 2, 2011

Clippings — Dec. 2010

The Monthly Newsletter of Redeemer Lutheran Church

2384 E. Landis Avenue
Vineland, New Jersey
856-691-4278
www.redeemerlutheran.net

Sunday Schedule
8:00 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 6:30 p.m.
Sunday School/Confirmation 9:15
a.m.

Our Staff

The Rev. Gary N. Stiegler Pastor	Eileen Chiatello Administrative	Assis- tant
Misty Fiske Music Director	Sarah Krug Business Assistant	
Carlos Rodriguez Maintenance		

Congregation Council

President — Pastor Gary Stiegler
Vice President — James Salvaryn
Secretary — Harry Fisher
Treasurer — Oz Schumacher

Brenda Ackley	James Clay	Heidi Flebbe
Martin Geisser	Michael Headley	Dale Nichols
Harry Nylund	Roberta Romano	Robert Stenger

Youth Representative: Daniel Kremmel

Church Office Hours:
8:30 a.m. –4:30 p.m.
Phone 856-691-4278

Email of office staff: Pastor—pastorgary@redeemerlutheran.net
Eileen—eileen@redeemerlutheran.net
Sarah—sarah@redeemerlutheran.net

IN & AROUND THE PARISH

Hospitalized – Adele Mole at HealthSouth Rehab. Adele fractured both knees last month while in town for her birthday party, and she has re-fractured both knees while she's been at rehab. Adele is awaiting a second surgery at South Jersey Regional Med. Ctr.

Recently hospitalized — Donald Lagerholm.

Expressions of Sympathy – to the Fell family upon the death of Gloria Fell, 78, Nov. 3, 2010. Gloria's funeral service was celebrated on Nov. 6th with burial at Colestown Cemetery, Cherry Hill, NJ. Gloria worked as our parish worker in the '80's and returned to work for Redeemer in the late '90's as an Associate in Ministry doing hospital visits in the Cherry Hill and Philadelphia area. Gloria was very involved in the life of Redeemer through the WELCA, she made the effort to attend the monthly Circle Mary gatherings, and kept in touch with "The Ladies" long after she left her official capacity. Gloria was very proud of her Boys—Kenneth, Richard, John, Fred, and the late, Donald Fell, and will be deeply missed by many in the Redeemer congregation...**To the Donaghy family upon the death of little Charles Donaghy's mother, Diana Leslie.**

Did I Hear Triplets!!! — Congratulations to **Joey & Rebecca Drogo** upon the birth of their sons, **Edward, Gavin and Aiden Drogo** Nov. 11th (9 weeks premature). The triplets are growing and getting stronger each day at Jefferson Med. Ctr. Please keep the Drogo family in your prayers.

Thank You — **To Doug Cherwien** for his service on the Congregation Council. Doug has resigned from his duties on Council due to scheduling conflicts. We thank you Doug for your time, energy and thoughtful insight while you served as a representative for the congregation!

Memorial/Special Gifts

The following gifts have been given to the Memorial/Special Gifts Fund of Redeemer Lutheran Church.

In Loving Memory of:

Gloria Fell, (to Pastor's Discretionary Fund) by Lilija Balodis, Joe & Clara Chinnici, Jim & Barbara McDevitt and Doug & Eleanore Pollard.

Marty Manuel by Sherry Reim.

Ruth Nurge on the 5th anniversary of her death by her loving husband, Fred.

Nick Warker by Barbara Vadenais.

RECENT PASTORAL ACTS

Baptism

Jaimmy Marie Gonzalez received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism the 1st Sunday of Advent, Nov. 28, 2010. Jaimmy's sponsors are Tom & Diana Ulrich.

"Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."



Our Mission Statement As a welcoming and nurturing community of faith we: invite all to celebrate Christ's love, empower one another to grow in Christ's love, share Christ's love as we minister to the world.

Our Vision Statement Come and see, go and tell, the Good News for all!

CARING TOUCHES MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

WORDS OF THANKS



Dear Friends,

Thank you for keeping in touch with me through various communications: weekly church bulletins, monthly newsletters, Portals of Prayer, and personal visits! They all mean so much to me, especially as time seems to speed by in our “Golden” years.

Sincerely, Nancy Ciarlante

Dear Members of the Congregation,

Thank you for your recent Care Package. I appreciate the Chapstick—with the wind here, you can never have enough! I hope to attend a service while home on Christmas leave. Thank you for supporting myself and other members of the Military.

Sincerely, Angelo Trapani

Dear Redeemer Church,

Thank you for the Thanksgiving Baskets —We really appreciate it so much.

God Bless You All, The McCall and Churko Families



THANK YOU TO OUR “CLIPPINGS” CREW

Ann Bradbury, Lilija Balodis,

Marilyn Gressman, Jean Holshue, Gertrude Raymond!!!



December Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1- Lou & Wendy Koering | 16- Keith & Karen Bernhardt |
| 2- Harry & Brenda Ackley | Marc & Laurenn Corsiglia (5) |
| 3- Andy & Kellie Slade | 21- Bill & Jean Edmeads, Jr. (30) |
| 5- Paul & Betty Anderson | Carl & Vicki Simek |
| | 31- Tom & Jennie Martorano |

December Birthdays

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1- Timothy Williams | 12- Richard DeFeo | 24- Robert Swayne |
| 2- Gail Bradbury | Drew Garrett | 25- Chris Williams |
| DJ Cherwien | Margie Stierle | 27- Doris Allewelt |
| 4- Margie Frank | 13- Ursula Barbeck | Fritkarl vonReuter (70) |
| 8- Nancy Nylund (80) | Barbara George | 28- Alison Keller |
| Bobby Stenger | 15- Nancy Ciarlante | Karen Morvay |
| Ed Weldon (91) | Tim Huffman | Orville Strang |
| <i>We Miss You, Ed!</i> | 17- Holly Gressman (40) | Daulton Wallace |
| 9- Harry Nylund | 20- Abbey Bradway | 29- Sharon Blasé |
| Hector Suarez | Taylor Zimmerman | 31- Stacey Cherwien |
| 10- Jean Holshue (75) | 21- Jody Steinbronn | Joe Chinnici |
| Robert Kikerpuu (85) | 22- Lauren Geisser | Ethel Graham (94) |
| Martha Kouhoupt (75) | Shelby Myers | Bill Winkler (65) |
| 11- Kathryn Shollenberger | 23- Maggie Simek | <i>Happy Retirement, Bill!</i> |

Pastor's Thoughts—December 2010

O that my words were written down!

O that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴ *O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock for ever!*

²⁵ *For I know that my Redeemer* lives.*

Job 19:23-25

This past year has been a whirlwind of activity and change for Jan and I and I know it has been a year of struggle and uncertainty for many of you. Jan's retirement has changed everything about our life together. More opportunities for Jan to get to know more people in Vineland after 23 years of teaching has been a way for her to get to know more of you. We are at the age (both 65!) where we have begun to lose some of our dear friends we have known for decades. Jan's mom continues to play bridge, but her health has created new challenges as we try to care for her the best we can being an hour away. Our church continues to experiment with new programs and direction. We have adopted Family Promise of Cumberland County as a major community outreach initiative. We tried, but failed to get township permission to change the zoning on our Trumpet Hill House to “office use” for a Day Center for Family Promise. But the house still needs to be renovated as a family home and can still be used as a Community residential shelter or “host” house. Construction is ongoing. We began a new Sunday night worship Service called “Sunday Night Live” which provides a great alternative to those who seek a more intimate worship service or those who miss the morning services. It is averaging 20 or so in attendance. A group has been reading, a women's Bible study group has been gathering, a “single's” group met and shared, our youth experienced Crossroads Camp for the first time, our apartment has been used to provide housing for those in need, and Luther Acres has a new “mini-mart”. Our Social Ministry team continues to serve the whole community of Vineland.

I could write pages on the new and existing programs that have been happening at Redeemer and list the scores of people who have stepped forward to lead. I thank each and every one of you who have helped make a difference at Redeemer and in the community...and the pace won't slow down much in 2011. Movement toward the occupation of the nursery school building continues, *Let Me Learn, Inc.* will be staging a summer school program this coming year with hopes of expanding to a full charter school by the fall of 2012. Decisions will have to be made about Trumpet Hill, to rent, lease, sell, or otherwise use the newly renovated 1800's home will be a big decision for Redeemer.

In all of this activity we find the healthy pulse of a congregation who is slowly finding its new personality...a congregation who is slowly changing to serve the population of Redeemer and Cumberland County in new and creative ways. I thank you for your patience and continued support as this transition takes place. We have struggled with replacing the income from Little Acres and our depleted endowments. We have all pledged to make more of an effort to support our ministries in 2011. With all of this excitement, struggle, and hope we can sense the heartbeat of a strong Redeemer Lutheran Church. With God's help through the birth, life, and death of Jesus Christ, we can all join hands with Job and lift up our voices in shouting the words of the Easter anthem “I know that My Redeemer Lives”. **Merry Christmas To All.**

Pastor Gary and Jan Stiegler



GOING GREEN AT REDEEMER!

A re-cycle bin has been added to our lower parking lot for all recyclable material: Plastic, Glass, Paper (clean), Cardboard, Aluminum cans, etc. The additional charge for the re-cycle bin is only \$18.00 per month. We have also reduced the pick-up days to once a month for regular trash, thereby saving approximately \$1,200 per year. Please pass the word to all members of your committees and staff to make sure that we begin re-cycling in all aspects of work in and around the church.



The re-cycle bin is marked **WM** for Waste Management and is in the back parking lot outside the fenced area that contains the garbage dumpster.

WANT ADS — CAN YOU HELP?

Mini-Bus Drivers. Are you available on Sunday morning and for special church events to transport our members and residents of Luther Acres? There are people who would like to attend services who have no transportation — can you help? Contact the church office for more details.

The Long Range Planning Committee is seeking a person or persons with **Grant Writing Skills.** Opportunities to apply for grants that could benefit our ministry often arise but we have not been able to take action due to a lack of personnel who can spend the time researching and writing grants. Please contact Pastor Gary if you are interested in assisting with this area which is vital to our future financial stability.

Redeemer is looking for a general **Volunteer Coordinator**, or a two-person team, whose primary responsibility is to expand the list of members with the time and skills to assist at church events and activities. Then (he/she) will use this list to organize volunteer assistance. You can work from home. No experience necessary. This is a volunteer position. Contact Eileen for additional information about this ministry.

Have you considered Redeemer's Fellowship Hall for such events as a Birthday or Anniversary Party; How about a Family Reunion or Baptism? Other areas of the church are also available for your meetings and events. Most of you are aware of what this facility has to offer but soon there will be a brochure available offering further details. For more information on how to book our facilities, contact Eileen in the church office.

FINANCIAL PLANNING SEMINAR - 1/09/11 (Fellowship Hall-following 10:30 a.m. service)

PURPOSE: To provide an opportunity for members and friends to learn and ask questions about a variety of financial and estate planning vehicles.

PRESENTERS: A panel of three presenters, each representing a different type of financial institution, will provide attendees an opportunity to hear about a variety of investment and planning vehicles.

PROGRAM: The program will begin with a 5-8 minute overview by each of the presenters in which he/she will explain the services offered by their institution. A 30-45 minute question and answer period will follow. Time will be left after wrap-up for private conversations.

A light lunch will be served before the discussions.

SCHEDULE

11:30-12:00—Lunch Served

12:00-12:30—Introductions and Individual Presentations

12:30- 1:15—Questions for the Panel

1:15—Wrap-Up/Private Conversations and Desserts



UPDATE ON TRUMPET HILL



Construction continues on the code upgrades at the home at Trumpet Hill. Mr. Neil Brown from Ground-Up Construction, Tabernacle is the contractor. There will be opportunities for volunteers to work on various parts of the re-hab, but it is most important that volunteers understand that this is no longer a project for *Family Promise*.

This is simply a re-hab of a church-owned house. The church has not yet decided what to do with the home, once restored. We may choose to sell the home and property, use it for church-related programs, use it for another non-profit within the allowed uses in a residential zone, etc.

The church has no interest in appealing the zoning board decision that it would not be suitable for an O-1 (office) variance. The home will be used as a residence or for any use allowed in a residential (R-4) zone. The most likely scenario for volunteer work will be during the Spring months. For more information on volunteer opportunities, contact Pastor Gary at the church office, 856-691-4278.

Isn't There Anyone Who Knows What Christmas is All About?

As told by Linus

And there were in the same country
shepherds abiding in the field,
keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them:
and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them,

Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,
which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you;

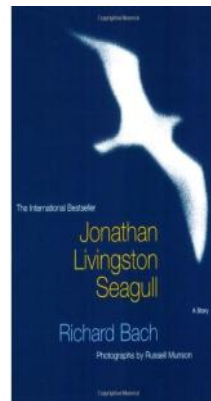
Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel

a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!



Oh the Memories...

Best Sellers

Jonathan Livingston Seagull, Richard Bach (1972-'73)

Jaws, Peter Benchley (1974)

Roots, Alex Haley (1976-'77)

Mommie Dearest, Christina Crawford (1978)

White House Years, Henry Kissinger (1979)

Fashion Trends

The Mullet, Parachute Pants, T-Shirt Clips, Leg Warmers, Shoulder Pads, The Miami Vice Style, Acid Wash Jeans, Neon socks & shorts & shirts & bracelets!

Important Historical & Cultural Events

April 22, 1970—The First “Earth Day”

July 4, 1976—200th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence!

March 28, 1979—Radioactive leak at Three Mile Island
nuclear power plant, near Harrisburg, PA.

1978-1982—REDEEMER YOUTH GROUP!

Did you or a relative of yours participate in Youth Group between the years 1978-1982?

If so, we want to hear from you. Some of us were reminiscing about the old days and thought it would be great if the old group got back together for a Reunion! If you are a relative please pass this on to your child, sibling etc. so that they can make contact with us.

If you are from the Original Group please let us know if you would be interested in a Reunion and pass it on to anyone with whom you are still in contact.

The three of us working on the potential Reunion are:

Russell Hetzer

120 Rochester Place

Baltimore, MD 21224

410-456-4372

russellhetzer@aol.com

Mary Hill-Price

2203 E. Broad Street

Millville, NJ 08332

856-305-0114

montymary@live.com

Brenda (Evangelista) Ackley

2616 Barbara Drive, Vineland, NJ 08361

856-692-3052

Backley64@yahoo.com

Please contact one of us and we will make sure your interest is noted.
We are also all on *Facebook* – feel free to friend us.
Here is looking forward to the potential Reunion!



NATIONAL SOUPER BOWL OF CARING Super Bowl Sunday-February 6, 2011

The Souper Bowl of Caring has partnered with the *National Schools of Caring* to create a unique opportunity for students to join in this national movement of giving and serving. The Souper Bowl of Caring began with a prayer (“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat.”) led by a single South Carolina youth group. That first year 22 Columbia, SC churches raised \$5,700. Last year more than 260,000 young people in all 50 states and some other countries participated. This youth-led effort has generated over \$70 million since beginning in 1990.

On Sunday, February 6, 2011 after the 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. services our Youth will have Soup Pots ready for your monetary donations which we will forward to the Vineland Soup Kitchen.

Remember, every \$2 collected feeds one more person in need!

DECEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 8:00 AM Church Service 9:15 AM Sunday School/Confirmation Sessions 10:30 AM Church Service 10:30 AM Gonzalez Baptism 1:00 PM Cornerstone Christian Life Ctr Worship 6:30 PM Sunday Night Live Worship	26 7:30 PM Women's AA (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	27 7:30 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	1 10:00 AM Bible Study (Manor House) 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	2 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	3 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	4 1:00 PM Social Ministry @ the Home of Dana Dute
5 2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT 8:00 AM Church Service 9:15 AM Sunday School/Confirmation Sessions 10:30 AM Bergen Baptism 10:30 AM Church Service 12:00 PM Music/Worship Mtg (Choir Rm) 1:00 PM Cornerstone Christian Life Ctr Worship 6:30 PM Sunday Night Live Worship	6 3:45 PM Yoga (Youth Room) 7:00 PM Communications/Evangelism Mtg (Manor House) 7:30 PM Women's AA (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	7 1:00 PM Fabric of Faith (Fellowship Hall) 7:30 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	8 10:00 AM Bible Study (Manor House) 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	9 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	10 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	11
12 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT 8:00 AM Church Service 9:15 AM Sunday School/Confirmation Sessions 10:30 AM Church Service 12:30 PM Church Council (Exec) 1:00 PM Church Council (Manor House) 1:00 PM Cornerstone Christian Life Ctr Worship 6:30 PM Sunday Night Live Worship	13 7:30 PM Women's AA (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	14 7:30 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	15 10:00 AM Bible Study (Manor House) 3:45 PM Yoga (Youth Room) 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	16 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	17 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	18
19 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT Bake Sale (Marthas) 8:00 AM Church Service 9:15 AM Sunday School/Confirmation Sessions 10:30 AM Church Service 10:30 AM Love Baptism 1:00 PM Cornerstone Christian Life Ctr Worship 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Holiday Open House 6:30 PM Sunday Night Live Worship	20 7:30 PM Women's AA (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	21 1:00 PM Fabric of Faith (Fellowship Hall) 7:30 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	22 10:00 AM Bible Study (Manor House) 3:45 PM Yoga (Youth Room) 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	23 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00 PM Worship with Special Message for the Children 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom) 7:00 PM Worship Service with Chancel Choir 11:00 PM Worship Service with Harpist	25 
26 8:30 AM Church Service 1:00 PM Cornerstone Christian Life Ctr Worship	27 7:30 PM Women's AA (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	28 7:30 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	29 10:00 AM Bible Study (Manor House) 3:45 PM Yoga (Youth Room) 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	30 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Choir Room)	31 6:00 PM AA Meeting (Educ. Bldg. 1st Floor Classroom)	1 



NEW JERSEY SYNOD
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Office of the Bishop 1990 Highway 31 Hamilton Square, NJ 08690 609-586-6800 FAX 609-586-3357 www.njmod.org

December 2010, the Season of Advent

TO: New Jersey Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the Advent season begins in the church, I write to you with great joy and thanksgiving. God has blessed this Lutheran Church and its proclamation of the Gospel with a spirit of grace and a deep commitment to serve in Christ's name. Your prayers and your sharing have made an extraordinary difference, as together we have worked to be faithful in God's mission.

Among our many blessings:

- Seven newly ordained pastors serving in mutual ministry with God's people in seven very different settings in New Jersey;
- 300 Junior High youth and adult leaders gathered in an annual November Synod Youth Ministry event to build Christian community and to explore what it means to be church;
- *Alive in Christ*, a new mission start in Jackson Township has begun, joining new mission initiatives in Elizabeth (Pilgrim Journey and Santa Isabel), Jersey City (Waterfront), and Kendall Park (Nava Jeevan);
- Developing congregations in Newark (Grace Community), Trenton (Elect Saints), and Camden (Bridge of Peace) continued with our support;
- Urban and suburban gardens sprang up in many congregations as we redoubled our efforts to feed the hungry;
- Ecumenical partnerships were highlighted in the October celebration of our full communion agreement with the United Methodist Church, one of six Protestant churches with whom we are in mission partnership;
- Shared mission conversations were begun and continued across New Jersey as congregations work to shape the church for God's mission in a new time; these and more blessings than we can name in this small space!

I sometimes hear people asking "What has the wider church (Synod and ELCA Churchwide) done for us?" That list, including a variety of resources we all take for granted, is actually long and continuous over time. But the more important question for the sake of God's mission is this: *What are we doing together for Jesus' sake that we could not do as well or at all, as individuals or congregations alone?* The answer to that question is *a lot, every day, and all over the State of New Jersey and throughout the world!* That is why I am writing: to thank you for your prayers and your benevolence gifts that are making such a difference for so many who need our help and to encourage you to increase your support of this church through your congregation.

In this holy season, *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. (Romans 15:13)*

E. Roy Riley, Bishop