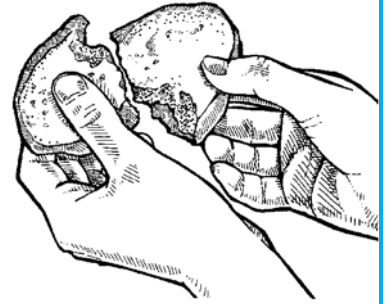


BREAKING BREAD

Good Shepherd Catholic Church



Focusing on Faith In Our Future

by Jeff Bloedorn

The Milwaukee Archdiocesan Faith In Our Future capital stewardship campaign is continuing to advance towards its goal of \$105 million to benefit Catholics today and for generations to come in the areas of Catholic education and faith formation, with the archdiocese reporting over \$87 million raised to date. Through the efforts of the Good Shepherd Faith In Our Future Leadership Team and the generosity and stewardship of our parishioners, Good Shepherd parish has made a solid commitment to this campaign with pledges of over \$300,000.

We have now moved into the stage of the campaign in which contributions are beginning to be collected and distributed according to the plan. As you may recall, 40% of the contributions made by our parishioners are retained by the archdiocese for use in Catholic education efforts and 60% of the contributions returned to Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd FIOF Leadership Team, the parish staff, commissions, and the Pastoral Council all sought parish-wide input on appropriate priorities for the use of the funds raised through this campaign. It was ultimately concluded that the funds collected and returned to Good Shepherd would be distributed across the following focus areas:

As collected funds are distributed to Good Shepherd, these funds are maintained in segregated accounts separate from the normal Good Shepherd operating funds. This allows the Director of Administrative Services to specifically track the collection and use of FIOF funds.

The identification, prioritization and recommendation of specific expenditures of the FIOF funds will be administered by existing parish commissions that align with each of the Good Shepherd FIOF focus areas:

- Faith Formation— Christian Formation Commission
- Outreach—Human Concerns Commission
- Liturgy—Prayer and Worship Commission

Each commission will carefully consider the parish survey information collected as part of the FIOF planning process as well as invite additional parish input as specific expenditures are being identified.

Any large expenditure will also be reviewed by the Pastoral Council to ensure the applicability of the initiative to the objectives of the FIOF focus area.

You may have already noticed some of the first results of the FIOF initiatives as the Prayer and Worship Commission sponsored an effort to bring additional perspective and interest to the liturgy by engaging an alternate priest as a regular presider at one Mass each weekend. It is because of this initiative that we have been able to welcome back Fr. Jose.

Each of the commissions is currently considering several additional initiatives in support of our FIOF focus areas. As these ideas advance, you can expect to hear more updates.



FAITH
IN OUR FUTURE

“Good Shepherd parish has made a solid commitment to this campaign with pledges of over \$300,000.”

- 40% Faith Formation (Education)
- 30% Outreach to communities and organizations in need
- 30% Liturgy



Immigration Study Group

Mission Statement

We commit ourselves to education and action grounded in Catholic Social Teaching. We will search for the truth about immigration issues, and advocate for fair and just laws that promote family unity and human dignity.

Good Shepherd's Immigration Study Group

by Meriel Christensen

There's no loss for Hot-Button issues these days. We have health insurance reform, troops in Afghanistan, global warming, the economy and a host of other issues. One big topic that has birthed a new committee at Good Shepherd is immigration.

With a dream and a prayer Alice Murray got things started. When she headed out to school once again, Barb Messerknecht and Meriel Christensen offered to co-chair the group. After several weeks of floundering we settled down and realized we needed to study the issues in order to provide factual information about immigration and immigrants in America. Barb and Meriel joined the Archdiocesan Justice for Immigrants Committee. We welcome anyone interested in learning with us to attend

our Good Shepherd meetings on the 4th Thursday of the month, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., in the Christian Formation Office.

Immigration Study Group Meeting Information:

**4th Thursday
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.**

Meets in the Christian Formation Office.

At our last meeting we wrote this preliminary Mission Statement: "We (the Good Shepherd Immigration Study Group) commit ourselves to education and action grounded in Catholic Social Teaching. We will search for the truth about immigration issues,

and advocate for fair and just laws that promote family unity and human dignity."

Holy Cross Father Daniel G. Groody teaches theology at the University of Notre Dame. He has written, *Theology in the Age of Migration: Seeing the image of Christ in the eyes of a stranger*. If anyone would like a copy you may call Meriel at 414-353-6376.

On October 17, Antonio Cube, the National Manager of Justice for Immigrants for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, presented a day of education and training to equip us for ministry. It was held at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. We will share our new insights with the parish as time goes on.



Update on Sofia

by Mary Ann Erdtmann

In last month's Breaking Bread we reported that our parish Central America Study Committee sent \$675 to Ellacuria for medical tests for Sophia Daniela Majia Cerritos, 5 years old, who was born with a hole in her heart.

We received a letter from Silvia, Sofia's mother. Here are

some excerpts:

"I, as Sofia's mother, do not have the words to thank you for all you have done for my daughter. May God reward you and fill you with blessings for your solidarity with our community, Ignacio Ellacuria.

"I wanted to inform you that on Aug. 20 Sofia had an echocardiogram and on Sept. 3, we had an appoint-

ment with the cardiologist who evaluated Sofia. He said that for now, surgery is not necessary. They will wait to see how this continues to develop. He is sending her to an otolaryngologist because she has respiratory problems.

"Thank you in the name of Sofia and myself." Please continue to keep Sofia and her family in your prayers.





Who's Who and What Do They Do?

Meet the Good Shepherd Staff – a series for Breaking Bread

This is one in a series of articles on the members of our parish staff. The intent is to better acquaint parishioners with the “Team” and provide a better understanding of the responsibilities of their position.

MEET THE GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF:

A Perfect Fit

by Bryan Ramsey

There are just some people who make things a perfect fit.

The jobs of time and coordinator of time and talent for Good Shepherd and the Christian Formation administrative assistant go hand in hand for Shari Rodriguez.

As time and talent coordinator, Shari recruits volunteers to participate in various ministries. “The personal invitation is the best way to go,” she says. In fact, being a part of the Christian Formation team has allowed her to personally go to the families of the kids making their First Communion. And in talking to them about how the experience is such a special time for the whole family, she has succeeded in bringing a few new bakers into the fold of the bread baking ministry.

“It’s wonderful to worship here,” says Shari, “but the best way to become part of our community is to get involved in something, because you not only meet people, but you also have a sense of community through participation.”

This mantra is repeated monthly by Shari when she holds “Sign-Up Sundays” to encourage long time Good Shepherd church-goers to become members. “Every time I get several people who have been

coming here for more than ten years and just now are deciding to register.” Through “Sign-Up Sundays”, she has also provided ministries with fresh volunteers.

Since July, Shari has been the administrative assistant for Christian Formation. It’s a big job, but one in which she has a strong commitment. “I have a vested interest in Christian Formation, having two children in the parish,” she says. “I am very excited about GOF. I get to help with the planning and implementing. I just want that program to succeed.”

Having both positions has helped her appreciate the great people of Good Shepherd, especially the seniors, since they often volunteer and have an increasing role in GOF. “I get inspired a lot by the elderly here. I hope that I can only be as faithful and devoted as they are. They really are the core of our parish. I just love that they come [to GOF]. These seniors...they love the kids.”

Shari truly lives out what she is trying to accomplish in both her functions. “By being here, I can actually get involved and make it a better place for the young families and the kids.”

For her, the two tasks are a perfect fit.



Shari Rodriguez
Christian Formation
Administrative Assistant/
Coordinator of
Time & Talent



Who Do You Know Want’s to Join our Parish?

Do you know someone interested in learning more about Good Shepherd? Would they like to join our spirit-filled parish? Have they been coming to mass weekend after weekend saying, “I really should become a parish member.”?

Please call Shari at the parish office to get more information about Sign up Sundays. Information about our parish life, ministries, faith formation opportunities and registration materials will be provided. Please direct questions, or interest in attending a session, to Shari Rodriguez in the parish office at (262) 255-2035.

Welcome New Members!

Kara Gliszczinski and Logan age 6.



MEET OUR Pastoral Council



Tom Moran

September 12, 2009 Pastoral Council Minutes

Mark provided financial reports for both July and August. Overall a solid start for the year ahead of plan. Mark also reviewed the current parish balance sheet.

Next Council formation event will be on Saturday 10/26/09 9:00-12:00 in the Chapel. "Listen to the Spirit"

New staff member, Suzanne Foster has experienced two recent deaths in the family. Please keep Suzanne and her family in your prayers.

Competitive bids are being sought for a potential FIOF expenditure proposal regarding an audio/visual upgrade to Daniels Hall.

Julie provided a report from the 8/4/09 cluster meeting.

Representatives of Good Shepherd, St Mary's, St James, and the archdiocese were present. The group was generally very positive about opportunities to work together. The next meeting of the cluster will be in October with all five parishes of the original cluster meeting to determine working arrangements going forward.

The PC has requested that each Commission provide regular communication to the parish on FIOF activities and the need for meeting minutes distributed to all PC members.

The council again initiated a discussion regarding next steps associated with the parish vibrancy project. A general discussion of the idea of a

Public Awareness Committee ensued. Action plans required for establishing this committee and ideas as to what they would do were discussed.

"Demographics" and "Attractiveness to Young Families" are the two key areas of the vibrancy project that have not yet been formally addressed by the council. This is a focus for the Council for the coming year.

Voice of the Parish: Jim and Pat have created a form for input from the parish. The idea is to also have a table staffed at hospitality after mass (once a month). The rest of the process is still being developed regarding table, staffing, responses, etc.

Generations of Faith



In the true spirit of the Generations of Faith program, these children are listening to Dave Christensen read the bible passage as they imagine themselves in the story. Generations of Faith is an engaging, enjoyable, yet powerful way to learn about our Catholic faith. Generations of Faith is a way to foster life-long learning and growing together in our faith – gathered together in our parish community and carried back with us to our homes. It is how we "do" faith formation at Good Shepherd Parish.

Iraqi Student Project of Milwaukee

by Sister Virgine

Good Shepherd Parish is supporting, through our Outreach Committee the Iraqi Student Project of Milwaukee. This project was started last year at Casa Maria Catholic Worker House. It is a branch of a national project dedicated to bringing Iraqi students to US colleges to complete their college degrees.

As a result of the war and occupation of Iraq since 2003, many young adults are refugees in Syria and have no chance of continuing their education. After 12 years of sanctions and six years of war, an entire generation of young Iraqis lack educational opportunity. This project will make a difference for a few of them. About 30 students are now attending US

colleges, including two in Milwaukee.

The group has worked to obtain four-year scholarships for two young women to attend Mt. Mary and Alverno Colleges. The project raises the funds for all of the students living expenses while here plus books, fees, health insurance, airfare to US. Only students who are in financial need and unable to afford college are eligible.

One of the students Good Shepherd is supporting is Alverno student, Fatima Saeb Yousif. She is 19 years old, and arrived here in mid August. She has happy memories of her early childhood, but had her life turned upside down after 2003. After the harrowing experiences in Baghdad of shootings in the

streets and around her school, her parents decided to move to Damascus as refugees in 2006. Fatima finished her high school in Syria, and soon became involved in the Iraqi Student Project. She is delighted to be at Alverno, majoring in biology. She loves going to an all-women college which she feels will empower her and enrich her personally. Her future interests are in the area of medical or dental work where she can help the people of Iraq get the help they need. She says: "I'm a survivor of the wreck, but I don't want to leave others. I want to heal my wounds, be stronger, and help my country and the world."

She misses her family a lot, and looks forward to the occasional phone call to her mother and father.

When she is stressed, she says she misses them even more. But she adds she expected people in the US to be nice, "but not this nice, and everyone at Casa Maria and at the college have been helpful". She said she has adjusted to the workload now and is doing well.

The local Project and Fatima are most grateful to Good Shepherd for all their financial support.

The project has other volunteer needs to help our students succeed. Anyone at Good Shepherd who would like to become more involved can contact Sr. Virgine at 414-418-4116, or by email survived@earthslide.net.



Fatima (right) pictured with her best friend Rita an ISP student at Berea college.



Fatima Saeb Yousif is a 19 year old student from Damascus. The photo was taken in Busra, Syria.

"I'm a survivor of the wreck, but I don't want to leave others. I want to heal my wounds, be stronger, and help my country and the world."

Blood Pressure

Submitted by Laverne Schoonover, RN



With age, blood pressure tends to creep upwards, even if you don't have high blood pressure (hypertension). That's why regular blood pressure readings during your doctor visits and here once a month at Good Shepherd, can be useful. To help ensure the most accurate results:

- **Sit correctly:** when having

your blood pressure taken, sit quietly with your back supported and both feet flat on the floor—no leg or ankle crossing.

- **Dress accordingly:** the wrong clothes can make a difference. Wear a shirt with short sleeves, or loose sleeves that can be pushed up easily. A sleeve that has to be rolled or pushed up to the point of tightness around your arm may interfere with getting an accurate reading.

- **Modify food and drink intake:** Avoid eating a big meal or drinking a caffeinated beverage or alcohol for at least 30 minutes before your blood pressure is taken. And if you smoke, don't do so for at least

an hour beforehand. All of these factors can temporarily elevate blood pressure for a period of time. The same holds true if you have a full bladder. Empty your bladder before your appointment.

- **Be quiet, relaxed and still:** Avoid rushing to your appointment. Don't talk while the reading is being taken.

Source: Mayo Clinic Health Letter-September 2009



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

YOUR GREEN CORNER

by Mary Kult

Consider Rechargeable Batteries

Consider using rechargeable batteries whenever possible.

One rechargeable battery equals 500 Alkaline batteries. How environmentally friendly is that?



Getting Energy Ready for Winter

For tips on getting ready for the colder weather ahead: www.consumerenergycenter.org/tips/winterize.html.



Remember the Hungry.

As part of our prayers of thanksgiving and praise to God, there are baskets in both lobbies every weekend for donations to local food pantries. Bring a few extra boxes and cans of non-persihable goods with you to Thanksgiving Day Mass on November 26 at 9am. You will be invited to bring them up to the altar during at the Presentation of the Gifts.

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

BREAKING BREAD

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