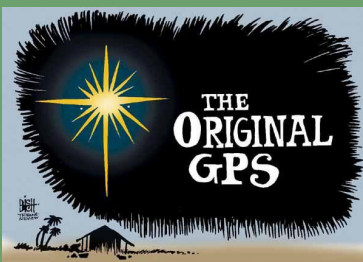




CELEBRATING 65 YEARS IN GOD'S SERVICE



"...they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy." (Matthew 2:9-10)



Dear Faithful A-listers,

New Year's Eve is famous (or infamous) for parties. Are you up for a party? Even if you are in the mood to party, you still need an invitation or to be on the guest list. Well, the party that God is throwing is not one to miss! The star of Epiphany is our invitation to the eternal celebration we have in knowing Jesus Christ. And unlike most New Year's Eve bashes which only last a few hours, this party never ends, never disappoints, and never leaves you with regrets or a hangover!

The appearance of the Star in the sky 2018 years ago got the attention of some rather influential and flamboyant partygoers, the famous "Magi of the East." These three kings were not going to miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime event so they packed their bags and revved up their camels and used the Star of Epiphany like a GPS to bring them straight to Bethlehem. There they met the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus, God's gift to the world. When they saw him they knew the real party had begun and that their lives would never be the same again.

You might not be a king or a queen. You might not be much for stargazing or traveling vast distances (especially by camel!), but you are in luck. You need not travel far. You don't need a new dress or tie. And most importantly, **you don't have to pretend you are someone you are not. You are on the V.I.P. list, your invitation to get to know God's love through the gift of Jesus is right here at Good Shepherd! You are an A-lister!** Come and worship the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords with us during Epiphany and start the year off in the best possible light!

Brilliant Epiphany,

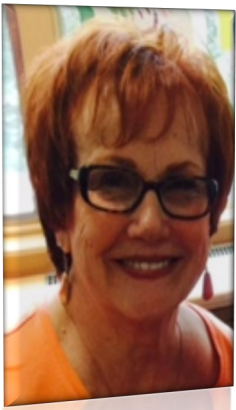
Pastor Eric

PASTOR OLSEN TO RECEIVE POB PTA COUNCIL'S FOUNDERS' DAY AWARD

Each year the Plainview Old Bethpage PTA Council selects a person to receive their Founders' Day Award. This honor is traditionally given to people who outreach and work to make this community a better place to live, Past recipients include Family Bagels owners Neal & Rosemarie Schatt and Busto's Martial Arts owner John Busto. This year, for his tireless crusade with LICAN in the fight against opioid addiction as well as his outreach to our schools in this endeavor, Pastor Olsen is the POB PTA Council's recipient. Like representatives of Publisher's Clearing House, PTA Council President Paula Barsky, along with Founders' Day VPs Missy Bartoletta and Donna Lupia stopped by Pastor Olsen's office on Friday, December 22nd, to surprise him with news of his selection. Pastor will be honored along with other awardees on Wednesday, March 14, at the Crest Hollow Country Club. Please be sure to look out for more information about this dinner in upcoming newsletters and church bulletins. Save the date!



Left to Right: Donna Lupia, Pastor Olsen, Missy Bartoletta & Paula Barsky



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Happy New Year!!

I hope the size and boldness of the type causes you hear me calling this to you in my loudest **“Go in Peace,”** type of voice along with wishes of **JOY, HOPE, PEACE, and BOLDNESS** for 2018.

Since I send the lessons in advance of each Sunday to the lectors and assistants, I happened to notice the “Go in Peace” for Sunday morning, December 31, our last day of 2017, and it really spoke to my heart: **“Go in Peace, Christ is with you!”**

When I lived in my parent’s home, all the aunts, uncles, and cousins would gather at my Aunt Edna’s house on New Year’s Eve after evening church. My background is totally German. (I haven’t gone on Heritage.com to discover I am really Italian, which I would like since I like their food better.) At a certain point, my cousins and I would watch our parents/aunts/uncles gather in the middle of the room, toast each other, and sing *Auld Lang Syne* midst free flowing tears as they remembered family no longer with them. That was okay; I missed Uncle Elmer and grandpa too. But then it got freaky to me as my dad would say, “Who knows who of us will not be here next year?” Whoa! I became the reverse of someone anxious to leave the troubles of the previous year. It was as if the New Year came with a certain malevolence. My church did not send me forth each week with **“Go in Peace, Christ is with you!”** Fortunately, the fear went away although not as quickly as fear of the dark!

Hearing the words, **“Go in Peace, Christ is with you!”** should give us great confidence as we enter 2018 and continue our ministry **“Loving, Living, and Sharing Christ”** in our homes and community. Every Sunday we begin our liturgy at the baptismal font and remember our baptism. It was interesting to learn in Diakonia classes this week that early Christian baptisms featured salt as part of the ritual. Matthew 15:13, “You are the salt of the earth.” We know salt gives food flavor and is a curative. Anciently, the mineral we call salt provided the financial support for pursuits like art. In Roman times it was so precious it provided a means to pay soldiers. Salt received the nickname of 'white gold' sometime during the Middle Ages. Our English word "salary" comes from the word “salarium,” a name given to the mineral when it functioned as currency.

The salt passage in Matthew is followed quickly by a light reference in Matt 15:14-15: “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a mountain cannot be hid. Neither do they light a lamp and put it under a bushel basket, but on the lamp stand . . . you are to let your light shine before men.”

As we venture forth from the shortest day of the year toward the longer days ahead, may we go boldly knowing we are called to be SALT and LIGHT!

Now for some church news: Our new church carpet has been ordered. We look forward to the fresh look it will give us. Installation should be some time in January.

Pastor, Sue Carentz, and I have held training meetings to equip Eucharistic ministers for visiting homebound and those in local care facilities. Those trained are going on visits with us for some “on the job” learning. Sue will be calling homebound to introduce herself and to arrange for visits by us and other Eucharistic ministers. As we grow as a congregation, it is necessary we find more hands and feet to carry out visitation.

Responding to being **Empowered by Grace**, 71 units have responded with pledges of \$189,048. Thanks to those who have pledged. If you haven’t as yet, please prayerfully consider adding your pledge for ministry in thankfulness. “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Light.” James 1:17,

2017 IMPACT REPORT

CITIZENS' RESPONSE TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

In January 2017, after months of research, LI-CAN decided to focus our efforts this year on doing everything in our power to help end the opioid epidemic that has taken so many lives in our communities. We knew from the many stories we'd gathered in 2016 that opportunities were being routinely missed – by our own institutions and many others – to intervene positively in the lives of people who were addicted to opioids or on a dangerous path in that direction. We resolved to develop a multi-faceted strategy to *stop missing these opportunities* – to take advantage of every avenue and every moment available to help prevent addiction, to reduce the harm of addiction, to encourage effective addiction treatment, and to support long-term recovery.

We launched this effort publicly at our April 26 assembly of nearly 1,300 citizens at St. Anthony's High School in South Huntington. Students, educational leaders, religious leaders, law enforcement leaders and others made specific public commitments of action. Fulfilling and following up on these pledges in each sector has guided our work for the remainder of 2017. Here are highlights:



CONGREGATIONS: In late 2016, LI-CAN leaders heard – and shared widely – the story of a young woman in recovery from a near-fatal heroin addiction who told us that her church had been “the last place I would have gone” for help. “They would have judged me,” she told us. That story, and others like it, demonstrated how much work our own congregations must do in order to become part of the solution to this epidemic rather than reinforcing the powerful social stigma that prevents open discussion of addiction and other mental health challenges and causes affected families to suffer in silence. The good news, as 2017 draws to a close, is that through LI-CAN’s work dozens of congregations across Long Island have taken actions to *invite* and *seek out* open discussion of these topics. More than thirty have participated in LI-CAN “listening campaigns” to learn from the stories and experiences of those affected by opioids or other addictions. In many congregations, conversations have been launched through sermons, personal testimony, or other presentations during worship services. Several congregations have developed new ministries, support groups or other strategies to provide practical, ongoing help to strengthen families and help them deal with substance use or mental health difficulties. In addition to these changes in institutional culture, several congregations have organized one-time events to achieve specific impacts. These have included opioid take-back events in partnership with the DEA, educational workshops on substance use aimed at young people and their parents, and training on overdose prevention and the use of Narcan. The cumulative impact of these efforts is that many of our congregations are becoming committed and competent at responding to the substance-use problems so many Long Island families are experiencing.

SCHOOLS AND YOUTH: Schools, too, have often helped bury the opioid crisis rather than confronting it. Or they have responded superficially – bringing in occasional anti-drug speakers or adopting off-the-shelf drug education curricula. That is beginning to change. LI-CAN had in-depth discussions with dozens of educators in 2017 – superintendents, teachers and others -- and found many who are determined to think and act more deeply to address not only the opioid epidemic but also what some see as a general decline in student mental health contributing to the epidemic. Here is the work LI-CAN carried out in 2017 in partnership with these allies: 1) In November, we organized a first-of-its-kind Educators’ Conference on Substance Use in the Age of Opioids. Hosted by Plainview-Old Bethpage Superintendent Lorna Lewis, and co-sponsored by the county superintendents’ associations, the conference brought together more than 500 public-school educators from 42 districts to share effective practices in preventing and responding to substance use and mental health problems among students in all grades. 2) With feedback from key superintendents, we drafted a set of specific commitments that each district superintendent should make in order to effectively address the opioid epidemic; 12 superintendents have signed on to date. Expanding the effort to get districts across Long Island to make and keep these public commitments will be a top priority in 2018. 3) We met with more than 200 youth and students through congregations and school districts in 2017, and surveyed them about the reality of substance use among their peers and what they see as the most effective responses. Many of these students – like the founders of the MyHigh social media campaign (which was launched at LI-CAN’s April assembly) -- are eager to do their part to help end the epidemic. LI-CAN is working with student leaders to help them organize an Island-wide Student Congress on Substance Use next spring.



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HOSPITALS AND DOCTORS: Hospital emergency rooms are another place where opportunities are routinely missed. One mother shared a story with us of losing her son to a fatal heroin overdose after six previous non-fatal overdoses brought him to the Nassau University Medical Center emergency room. Studies suggest this trajectory is not unusual. Opioid users who are brought to the ER -- at NUMC and elsewhere -- are typically stabilized and released within a few hours, and given paper referrals to rehab facilities. “We find those papers later in the parking lot,” one ER doctor told us. LI-CAN’s medical advisor, addiction psychiatrist Dr. Leslie Marino, developed a proposed new protocol to encourage opioid users who visit the emergency room to immediately begin treatment with buprenorphine, an effective medication for treating opioid addiction, and to connect these users to outpatient buprenorphine treatment. (The proposal is based on a promising clinical trial conducted at Yale Medical Center.) LI-CAN presented this proposal in meetings with top leaders of Long Island’s three largest hospital chains – NUMC, Northwell, and the Catholic Health System of Long Island. While all three expressed interest, CHSLI took action, and has begun laying the groundwork for a pilot effort to implement this new ER protocol in early 2018. In addition to changes needed in the ER, there are many additional actions hospitals and doctors must take in order to do their part in ending this epidemic, including eliminating excessive opioid prescribing, adopting opioid-free pain management therapies, and creating an adequate addiction treatment infrastructure that includes medication-assisted treatment. In partnership with the Cold Spring Harbor Lab, LI-CAN will organize a conference for doctors and medical leaders in March of 2018 to highlight best practices in these areas.

New Members



In addition to all the exciting gatherings we had on the first Sunday of Advent, we also welcomed eight new members into our church family. Another five who were planning to be with us that day but were not able to attend plan to affirm their baptism in the new year. They are Keith Biesma, his wife, Jennifer Vizina, Gai, Mike Hornacek, Pastor Bob Kasting,

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Jennifer Vizina, Keith and Kyler Biesma



Keith and Jennifer aren't from around here. You might guess it from their accents - or not. Both are from rural America - he from Tyndall, SD and she from Harvey, ND. Jennifer is a card carrying Lutheran, and Keith grew up Dutch Reform. The two met when they were living in Kansas City, MO, working in fields they loved. Keith a middle-school science teacher, Jennifer an advertising executive. Since attending Hunter College her junior year, Jennifer always had plans to move to NYC so when a job offer came in October 1999, she moved to Astoria, Queens. Keith moved a year later, proposed and the two were married in 2002. Keith started working in Long Beach as a teacher and then became the Vice Principal in 2004 and continues to enjoy inspiring the middle school kids there. The two purchased a home upstate NY in 2005 to get out of the city on weekends, and then in 2009 Kyler was born. This city kid spent the first seven years in Queens before the family moved to Long Island to be closer to Keith's work. Jennifer left the agency business to consult and began teaching kids' yoga in private schools. They have been living in Wantagh since July 2017. Family is a long ways away with parents in Arizona, Oregon and South Dakota, so they are grateful for creating a community close to home. Before joining Good Shepherd this Advent season, they were members of Saint Peter's Lutheran Church in Manhattan for the past 15 years.

Lynn Ellen Carlson

Lynn lives in Central Islip and has a son and a daughter. Her daughter, Alicia, lives in Long Beach and teaches in Brooklyn. Her son Trevor and his wife, Stephanie live in Singapore with their son Theodor (enjoying warm weather!). Lynn enjoys all type of crafts and outdoor work and is usually here on Wednesday mornings with our Sainly Sewers & Nifty 'Nitters. She is very happy to now be a member of our Good Shepherd family and thanks Irma and her family for letting her be part of their family also.



Bonnie Gai



Bonnie is a life-long Long Islander, having grown up in East Meadow and now living in Bethpage. She has attended several different Lutheran churches throughout her life, most recently, Trinity in Hicksville. She is retired after 35 years of working for the Nassau County Health Department as a computer programmer and enjoys travelling, playing Mah Jongg weekly with friends, crafting, and making greeting cards. Bonnie is the lodge secretary for the Sons of Norway Fraternal Organization in St. James. They meeting monthly and have a number of different activities and, of course, lots of good Norwegian cooking! Her son Andrew lives in Port Jefferson (no grandchildren yet!). Bonnie is happy to be joining our church family and is looking forward to what God has in store for her at this stage in life.

Reverend Robert J. Kasting



Pastor Bob was born in Buffalo, NY, married, and has five children. He has not always been a minister. For 20 years he was a chef in numerous restaurants in North Carolina. Pastor Kasting's education is impressive as he received his Associates degree from Johnson & Wales University, Charleston, SC, in 1988; his Bachelor's degree from Montreat College, Charlotte, NC, in 1997; and attended Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC, where he received his Master's Divinity in 2001. Pastor Kasting greatly enjoys leading worship and has spent time spreading the message of God in Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Mocksville, NC; Mayer Memorial Lutheran Church in Newberry, SC; Faith Lutheran Chapel in Pickens, SC; Tree of Life Community in Jamestown, NY; and Faith Lutheran Church in Syosset. He is currently pursuing certification in Pastoral Chaplaincy at NYU Langone Brooklyn Hospital.

Christmas Time at Good Shepherd!



On December 17, during the 10:15 church service, our Sunday School children transformed our church into News 12. The news reporters were first on the scene when Mary and Joseph came into Bethlehem to have a baby, who would be Christ the King! All of the shepherds, angels, and animals gathered in the stable where Jesus was born. The children did a fantastic job and the entire congregation enjoyed the greatest story ever told. Happy Birthday Jesus!



On Sunday, December 3rd, the congregation and school of Good Shepherd united together in the gym for Advent wreath making, candy cane ornament (a candy cane is a J upside down for Jesus), and coloring pages for the little children. Everyone enjoyed this event! What a wonderful way to prepare for Jesus' birth!



Santa Claus stopped by to light our tree and sing along with POB JFK High School's Choir,



Our Christmas Angels kept our Social Ministry Team busy packing up and delivering your many gifts to the New Life Center for the families in need. Thank for your generous response and helping those people to have a merry Christmas!

The Advent Program 2017



The staff and children alike worked diligently to put on a great performance. The children sang beautifully as they told the story of Jesus' birth!



"Oh What a Special Night,"
it was indeed!



Santa surprised us
with a special visit to
our school





OUR 21+ MEN'S GROUP HAD A GREAT TIME AT THEIR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON! THEY MEET EVERY THIRD THURSDAY FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY AT 1:00 P.M. AT JACKIE REILLY'S IN BETHPAGE! FEEL FREE TO JOIN THEM FOR LUNCH SOMETIME!

COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARGE WENGER AND PASTOR OLSEN AND PRESENTED DELL-ANN BENSON WITH AN ENGRAVED MONT BLANC PEN FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL AND A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FOR HER MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO GOOD SHEPHERD. WE WERE PLANNING TO HONOR HER ON 12/17 (AND ENJOYED A CAKE CELEBRATING HER), BUT SHE WAS UNABLE TO COME AT THE LAST MINUTE. WE CAUGHT UP WITH HER JUST BEFORE SHE HEADED OUT WEST. WE SEND TOM AND DELL-ANN ALL GOOD WISHES AND MUCH APPRECIATION.



Christmas Staff Party



The children's chapel offerings for the month of January will be going to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to help animals in need.



Join us for our **PTC** Meeting on January 11th at 7pm

Save the Date!

Good Shepherd School's Annual **Valentine's Dance**

February 9th

LuHi MEAL PACKING EVENT 2018

*Your hands feeding hungry children
around the world and around the corner*



EVENT'S GOAL: Pack 300,000 food packets in order to feed 500 children every day for one year. The food packets consist of rice, soy, dried vegetables and seasoning mix. These meals are nutritionally balanced to prevent malnutrition. You, along with hundreds of other volunteers, will pack the meals that will benefit people both locally and abroad.

THE EVENT: This is the eighth year Long Island Lutheran High School is organizing/hosting this event on their Brookville, NY campus. It is open to all churches, religious denominations, youth groups, community organizations, schools, and businesses, scouting or other groups, family or persons who want to participate. All ages are welcome, however, **children under the age of 10 need to be accompanied by a parent.**

PARTICIPATION: Good Shepherd confirmation students as well as anyone else who would like to be part of our team will participate on Sunday, April 15th from 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. and will be fundraising to purchase the food. Every \$60 donated entitles one person to take part in this 2-hour packing session. However, donations in any amount are gratefully accepted. Please note that a large percentage of the packaged food will be used to feed children locally and 100% of all donations are used to purchase meal supplies.

A few notes about donations:

- ☺ Making a donation does not obligate you to take part in the meal packing.
- ☺ Donations of all sizes are encouraged and appreciated.
- ☺ Donors can choose to have contributions of \$60 or more sponsor other persons who want to pack the food.
- ☺ Donations to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church must be received **by January 28, 2018** to ensure delivery of dried food in time for the packing event.

Good Shepherd must pre-register our team and will be submitting a blanket registration on behalf of everyone. Please contact the church office at 516-349-1699 or church@ourshepherdlives.org by **Sunday, January 28, 2018** if you would like to be included. Your donation should be payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, and we will forward only one check to Lutheran High School. Even if you may not personally be able to commit the time and energy to this very important project, you can still support it by sponsoring or contributing to help offset the donations of some who would like to participate, such as our confirmation students (who are required to attend as part of their studies), some full families, and some fiscally challenged congregation members. The \$60 registration is for one person only, so if a family of four is willing and able to participate, they would have to donate \$240 on their own! Your gift of \$60 would help offset their expense as it will register one person for a two-hour session and would greatly help everyone's ability to participate. Others may have the time, the heart, desire, and ability but need the cash to participate! Your gift in any amount is greatly appreciated!

Lives of Great Christians: MARTIN LUTHER

With the beginning of a New Year I thought it would be appropriate to go back to our roots and take a quick look at the man who has affected all of our lives—a man who has given us the religion we practice today. So let's take a short walk with this man, Martin Luther.

"Luther was a man of dramatic gestures, whether posting his 95 Theses on the door of the castle church in Wittenberg, publicly burning the papal bull that excommunicated him, or declaring to the Diet of Worms, "Here I stand." Luther was a university professor for most of his adult life, and his writings fill almost 60 modern volumes. There are elements of Luther's thought that just about everyone today finds repugnant, especially some of his later writings about Jews. However, no one knew better than Luther himself that he was a flawed human in need of God's mercy. His dying words were "We are beggars: this is true."¹



He was born in 1483 in Eisleben Saxony (now Germany). Martin's father was a prosperous businessman. At age 5 Luther began his education, and at 13 he attended the Brethren of the Common Life in Magdeburg. It is here that Martin developed an early interest in monastic life. However, his father pressured Martin to study to be a lawyer. And though he began these studies at the University of Erfurt, it was during a violent thunderstorm, as the story goes, that he vowed to become a monk. He did just that, and on July 17, 1505 he entered an Augustinian monastery.

Between 1507 and 1510 he attended the University of Erfurt and also attended the University in Wittenberg. In 1512 he received his doctorate and became a professor of biblical studies. During the next five years he continued his theological studies and he became more concerned about the teachings of the Church. Luther shared Augustine's (340-430) central beliefs that humans could only reach salvation by God's divine grace. With the spread of the Church's sale of indulgences Luther became more frustrated with the Church. He vigorously objected to the corruption and on October 31, 1517 he nailed his "95 Theses" to the door of the Wittenberg Castle Church. These 95 Theses became the foundation of the Protestant Reformation.

In 1518 Luther was summoned to Augsburg Germany to defend his opinions. Luther refused to recant and on November 9, 1518 the Pope condemned Luther's writings. After continuing to refuse to recant Martin Luther was finally excommunicated on January 3, 1521 by Pope Leo. On April 17, 1521 Luther came before the Diet of Worms, finalizing his testimony with the words "Here I stand. God help me. I can do no other". With the Church against him Luther retreated to the town of Eisenach where he began his work on translating the New Testament into German. Later on in 1521 he returned to Wittenberg where his reform movement grew even beyond Luther's control. In 1525 he married Katherine of Bora, a former nun and they eventually had five children. In his later years he became less involved in the movement. With failing health his views began to become more cynical. He declared the pope the Antichrist, and advocated for the expulsion of Jews. Luther died on February 18, 1546.


























*Submitted by:
James B. Blewett*

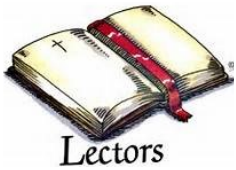
¹ Cook, "The Lives of Great Christians," 75



WE'RE GOING BACK! WILL YOU JOIN US THIS TIME? We have reserved the weekend of April 6, 7 & 8th for us to go on retreat to beautiful, peaceful Koinonia. Come with your own family and join your church family on this weekend right after Easter. The kids will be off from school that week, and it would be a great way to end the Easter break! It is a first-come/first serve basis so please contact Maureen at church@ourshepherdlives.org or 516-349-1966 to let us know if you are interested.

Be sure to check upcoming bulletins for information regarding rates, accommodations, etc.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>7</p> <p>EPHYPHANT OF OUR LORD</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (spoken)</p> <p>10:15 a.m. Junior Shepherds</p> <p>Sunday School</p> <p>Following Worship</p> <p>Decreeing of the Church</p> <p>1:00 p.m. G5 Green vs. G5 Blue Women's Basketball in Gym</p> <p>5:00 p.m. Family Meal in Gym</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Alive Contemporary Worship Service</p> 	<p>1</p> <p>Happy New Year 2018</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Children's Chapel</p> <p>10:30 a.m. <i>Lectio Divina</i> Bible Study</p> <p>School Music Program in Church</p> <p>Noon</p> <p>Seniors Meet in West Cottage</p> <p>2:00 p.m. English Conversation & Introduction to Christianity</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Bereavement Group</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Ministry Teams</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>7:30 p.m. School Board</p> <p>2:00 p.m. <i>Tea for Tuesdays</i> Book Discussion</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. School Music Program in Church</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Sandy Sewers & Nifty Nitters</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Magician's Guild Meeting</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Choir Practice</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Prayer Group followed Pizza at Shepherd Hill Community Center</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop #423</p> <p>Men's Support Group in West Cottage</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>PASTOR OLSEN'S DAY OFF</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Diakonia in East Cottage</p> 
<p>14</p> <p>SECOND SUNDAY OF EPHYPHANT</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (spoken)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Junior Shepherds</p> <p>Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</p> <p>2:00 p.m. <i>Worship to Go</i> at Huntington Hills</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Youth Group—Rock Climbing</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Service of Healing & Anointing with Oil</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday—School & Church Offices Closed</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Bereavement Group</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Meditation & Centering Prayer</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting</p> 	<p>17</p> <p>9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. School Music Program in Church</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Sandy Sewers & Nifty Nitters</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:30p.m. Choir Practice</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>1:00 p.m. 21+ Men's Luncheon at Jackie Reilly's in Bethpage</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop #423</p> <p>Men's Support Group in West Cottage</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>PASTOR OLSEN'S DAY OFF</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Troop #423 in Gym</p> <p>YIPPEE! YAY!</p> 
<p>21</p> <p>THIRD SUNDAY OF EPHYPHANT</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (spoken)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Junior Shepherds</p> <p>Sharing the Faith Christian Education</p> <p>Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Taste</p> 	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Children's Chapel</p> <p>10:30 a.m. <i>Lectio Divina</i> Bible Study</p> <p>School Music Program in Church</p> <p>2:00 p.m. English Conversation & Introduction to Christianity</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Bereavement Group</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Meditation & Centering Prayer</p> 	<p>23</p> 	<p>24</p> <p>9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. School Music Program in Church</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Sandy Sewers & Nifty Nitters</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:30p.m. Choir Practice</p> 	<p>25</p> <p>10:00 a.m. <i>Worship to Go</i> at White Oaks</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Troop #423</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>PASTOR OLSEN'S DAY OFF</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Diakonia in East Cottage</p> 
<p>28</p> <p>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPHYPHANT</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (spoken)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Junior Shepherds</p> <p>Sharing the Faith Christian Education</p> <p>Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Youth Group—Bowling</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Service of Healing & Anointing with Oil</p> 	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Children's Chapel</p> <p>10:30 a.m. <i>Lectio Divina</i> Bible Study</p> <p>School Music Program in Church</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Eucharistic Minister Training</p> <p>2:00 p.m. English Conversation & Introduction to Christianity</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Bereavement Group</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Visitation Ministry Meeting in East Cottage</p> 	<p>31</p> <p>9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. School Music Program in Church</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Sandy Sewers & Nifty Nitters</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class</p> <p>7:30p.m. Choir Practice</p> 	<p>THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE SEE OUR WEEKLY FRIDGE FEATURES IN OUR CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS OR VISIT OURSHEPHERDLIVES.ORG FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION. THANK YOU.</p>		



SERVICE SCHEDULE

Altar Care—Anne Rickmeyer



DATE	SERVICE	ASSISTING MINISTERS	LECTOR	USHERS	ETHEL'S COFFEE HOUR
January 7 Epiphany of Our Lord	8:00 a.m.	Karin Kienle	Helen Kwong LaBarbera	John Bird	School Board
	10:15 a.m.	Lori Mason Alex Carrion		Karl & Carol Burfeindt Ron Maisch John Schwaninger	
	6:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Alive			
January 14 Second Sunday of the Epiphany	8:00 a.m.	Bonnie McGowan	Richard Benson	John Bird	The Jin Family
	10:15 a.m.	Sue Carentz Marge Wenger		The Broggy Family Cathy Vollono	
	6:00 p.m.	Kurt Langjahr Marge Wenger			
January 21 Third Sunday of the Epiphany	8:00 a.m.	Ronn Hall	Paul Wenger	John Bird	Kevin Ocker & Phil Lorch
	10:15 a.m.	Terry Miccio Christin Walsh		Sue Devine Pat Fiedler Donna Hickey Alice Vorstadt	
	6:00 p.m.	Taize			
January 28 Fourth Sunday of the Epiphany	8:00 a.m.	Lisa Cacchioli	Ellen Sangesland	John Bird	Rose Minnick
	10:15 a.m.	Liam Broggy Anne Rickmeyer		Wendy & Jim Jansky John & Bonnie McGowan	
	6:00 p.m.	Lori Defilippis Rose Minnick			

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

99 Central Park Road, Plainview, NY 11803
Phone: 516-349-1966

E-mail: church@ourshpherdlives.org
Teresa.Ratkowski@gsplainview.org
Vanessa.Bigam@gsplainview.org
Websites: ourshpherdlives.org
gsplainview.org

Facebook: Good Shepherd Plainview
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and School

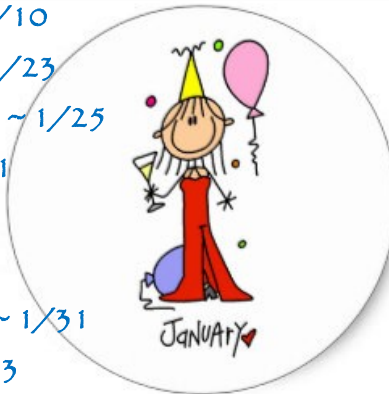
Ministers: The Members of Good Shepherd
Reverend Eric O. Olsen, Pastor
Reverend Bob Kasting, Assistant Pastor,
Youth & Family
Deacon Eric Faret, Seminarian Field Worker
Maureen Cooke, Church Secretary/Newsletter Editor
Teresa Ratkowski, School Director and Organist
Vanessa Bigam, School Secretary
Stephanie Tauz, Newsletter School Pages Designer
Ed Indelicati, Accountant/Bookkeeper
Erik Hansen, Sexton

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	GAME	LOCATION
1/7	1:00 p.m.	Green vs. Blue	Good Shepherd
1/21	1:00 p.m.	Green vs. St. Peter's	Good Shepherd
1/21	6:00 p.m.	Blue vs. Trinity	Trinity
1/28	6:00 p.m.	Blue vs. St. Peter's	St. Peter's
1/28	7:15 p.m.	Green vs. Trinity	St. Peter's
2/4	1:00 p.m.	Green vs. Blue	Good Shepherd
2/11	6:00 p.m.	Green vs. St. Peter's	St. Peter's
2/11	7:15 p.m.	Blue vs. Trinity	St. Peter's
2/25	4:45 p.m.	Blue vs. St. Peter's	St. Peter's
2/25	7:15 p.m.	Green vs. Trinity	Good Shepherd
3/4	1:00 p.m.	Green vs. Blue	Good Shepherd
3/11	TBA	1 vs. 4 2 vs. 3	Semi Finals TBA
3/18	TBA	Finals	TBA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Janet Banzer ~ 1/20
Nancy Bergold ~ 1/10
Phillip Blackmon ~ 1/23
Christopher Bristol ~ 1/25
Liam Broggy ~ 1/11
Dean Brown ~ 1/4
Liam Bruno ~ 1/24
Laila Blendermann ~ 1/31
Pietra Cabral ~ 1/13
Alison Carey ~ 1/9
Grace Chacko ~ 1/2
Abigail Chester ~ 1/19
Aria Conforti ~ 1/24
Michael Conforti ~ 1/31
Yvonne Conforti ~ 1/31
John Cooke ~ 1/2
Judith Cooke ~ 1/2
Danielle DeFilippis ~ 1/11
Deborah Dexter ~ 1/6
Mikayla DiMartini ~ 1/22
Kevin Dolan ~ 1/28
Mary-Lynn Eisele ~ 1/21
Lois Fassino ~ 1/16
Quinn Figlo ~ 1/25



Ava Filagrossi ~ 1/28
Diana Fox ~ 1/19
Haylee Gibbons ~ 1/26
Ronn Hall ~ 1/25
Allison Haupt ~ 1/22
Carol Herbst ~ 1/8
John Hulver ~ 1/14
Gavin Jansky ~ 1/2
Rayna Kalra ~ 1/27
Leo Keum ~ 1/8
Grayson Kies ~ 1/9
Esther Kyung-Lee ~ 1/8
Olivia Leone ~ 1/3
Sienna Leona ~ 1/3
Justin Limage ~ 1/5
Bella Lindenfeld ~ 1/13
Scott Maron ~ 1/8
Keegan McGowan ~ 1/20
Emmy Mecchi ~ 1/21
Austin Passolo ~ 1/11
Angelo Russo ~ 1/24
Kaitlyn Scaria ~ 1/2
Luke Siederman ~ 1/23
Bailey Smith ~ 1/26
Nicole Tollefsen ~ 1/31
Dominick Tuozzo ~ 1/26
Cathy Vollono ~ 1/6

Late but with Love!

Vanessa Bigam!

12/31



Mary & Warren Wiegert

37 years on 1/3

Happy Anniversary



Say a prayer for...

THOSE IN NEED OF HEALING

Gloria Albrecht (Alice Vorstadt's friend), Doreen Alexander (Karen Faucera's friend), Allison & Dave (Karin Kienle's friends), Barbara Altman (Alice Vorstadt's friend), Helen Anderson, W. Richard Anderson, Charlie Aviano (Garcia family friend), Barbara Bajore, Alex & Derek Bartkow, Marilyn & Paul Benner, Joe & Carol Berardino, Joe R. Berardino, Martha Berardino, Grace Berry, John Binsfeld (Benner family friend), Miriam & Paula Bistany (Grappone family friend), Janet Brazel (Terry Miccio's relative), Liam Broggy, Arthur Brown (Dean's father), Glen Cacchioli, Connie Campbell (Patty Larson's sister in law), Brad Carbone & family (R. Benson family friend), Lynn Carlson, Jennifer Carrieri, Bill Carroll (Rose Minnick's friend), Olga Colandro (Olsen family friend), Amanda Conca (Grappone family friend), Gisela Conforti, Maya Contreras & family (Alice Vorstadt's relatives), Frank Costeira (Martha Peterson's friend), David Cronin, Chris Cucci, Frank Dell'Aquila (GSL teacher Diane Kideris's father), Claudia DeMauro, John, Amanda & Baby Ivan Dexter, Georgeann Diblasi (Sue Wakefield's relative), Gregory Diehl (Dorothy Turaukas's son), Romia Dimor (Wenger family friend), Steven Dux (Irma Carlson's nephew), The Eckhoff family (Hansen family friend), Dilliana Edwards, Becky Ernst (Paul Wenger's cousin), Judy Esposito (Karen Faucera's friend), Richard Faithfull (Grappone family friends), Eric Faret, Krysta Minnick Fazio, Ricky Fedyk (Sue Wakefield's friend), Pat Fiedler, Charlene Fiore (Olsen family friend), Marcelle Figlo, Arlene Fraraccio (George Hirn's sister), Norma Gattulli (Kathy Prinz's friend), Natalia Garrick (Cronin family friend), Jackie Gentner, Lilah & Jim Gillett (Kathy Prinz's friends), Ray Gorka, Katelyn Gregorie (Grappone family friend), Edith Grosh (Lisa Olsen' Carl & Helen Gscheidle, Jane Guido (Cathie Olsen's friend), Kenneth Hall (Ronn's brother), Sean Harrison (Lorch family friend), Ellen Harvey (Terry Miccio's friend), Diane Helmers, Joe Hutchinson (Sue Carentz's student), Imari (Karen Faucera's friend), Michelle Jackowdik (Annmarie Brown's relative), Ben Jankowski, Jimi (Chrissi Canino's relative), Bill Johnson (Kitty Hall's relative), Louis Johnson (Bob's father), Daniel Johnson, Robin Kane (Rose Minnick's relative), Susie Klemm (Bruno family), Evelyn & Niko Kontonis & their family, Mary Jane Krenkel (Terry Miccio's aunt), Kenneth Lane, Martha Langjahr, Carol Larson (Bob Rickmeyer's sister), Lois Lengenfelder, Michael Leva (Angel Lorch's father), Rolando Larrondo (Jennifer Stoddart's relative) Angel, Christopher & Marie Lorch, Ron Lupi (Meyer family friend), Roger Luedtke (Sue Devine's brother in law), Kim Maca (Kathy Prinz's friend), Joe Marino (Annmarie Brown's relative), Vanessa Masih (Lisa Cacchioli's student's sister), John Mark, Matt Massucci & his family (Vollono family friend), Diane Matales (Lilli Schulz's friend), Steve McCoy (Sue Wakefield's friend), Dorothy McGowan, Patti McSkane (Kathy Prinz's friend), Annette Meitzner (Roy Steinhilber's friend), Teddy Moore (Miccio family friend), Maryellen Moyses, Nancy Michaelis (Dawn Zacchino's mother), Karen Murphy (Donna Hickey's friend), Richard Murphy, Ann Ocker, Jennifer Olsen, Meghan Ortega (Lisa Olsen's niece), Eric Page (Karen Faucera's friend), Joe Pecora, Diana Petrielo (Terry Miccio's friend), Jessica Phillip (GSL School Mom), Kathleen Power (our landscaper's wife), Mark Prowatzke (Danny Wenger's father in law), Gregory Rajan (GSL Little Lamb), Teresa Ratkowski, Natalie Roberts (Naomi Hulver's friend), Justin Rogers (Karin Kienle's nephew), Stephanie Rogers (Ferrara family friend), Mackenzie Ruff, Barbara Russo (Susan Ferraro's friend), Elena Savage (Jeff & Susan Wakefield's granddaughter), Glenn Schabel, Francisco Rivera Serrano (Mason family friend), Bill Schulz (JoAnn Schulz-Dellacona's son), Craig Schumacker (Elaine Mark's relative), Danna Sgambati, Lisa Shaffer (Kathy Prinz's friend), Sean & his family, Diane Sicca (Debbie Garcia's sister), Jennifer Sorenson (Cathy Vollono's friend), Judy Stal (Christine Adolphus's daughter), Frank Staiano (Lorraine Duffy's friend), Ken Steffens, Ed Strauhs, Carter Suozzi, (Kevin Ocker's colleague's grandson), Baby Raymond Tarnok (Pat Fiedler's nephew), Debbie Tassi (Denise Donitz's sister), Paul Thompson (Lisa Olsen's relative) the Thomas Family, Sheryl Tubiolo (Karen Faucera's friend), Nancy Tucker, Barbara Tung (Karen Faucera's friend), Ursula, Kathy Van Driessche, Lisa Van Tress (Donna Hickey's friend), Ken & Kevin Vorstadt, Jeff Wakefield, Karen Weber (Maisch relative), Clifton Weed (Fiedler family friend), Marilyn Weyant (Maisch family friend), Brother George Zenle (Wenger family friend), Julia, Pat & Josie and Jennifer & Nicole (Genevieve's Helping Hands).



I extend to you my heartfelt sympathy and my prayers.

Peace

THOSE WHO GRIEVE:

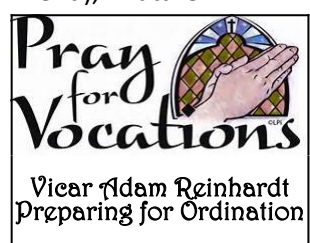
The family and friends of (Lori Tollefsen's mother) Anne Araco, Anna Mae Doyle, (Lorraine Duffy's relative) Jean Duffy, (Lorraine Duffy's friend) Liz Hailey, and (Cathy Vollono's grandmother) Gladys Moyses.

THOSE IN SERVICE:

CPT Hector Ruben Alejandro, USMC, (Lori Mason's friend), Matthew Beers (Army) at Ft. Lennard Wood, MO, Keith & Kyle Calderone (Army), SGT Sean Hassett (Lori Mason's cousin), CPTs Brian & Daniel McGrath (Grappone family friend), MAJ Paul Rickmeyer, Captain Robert Saueracker, LTC. Phillip Sounia, USMC, Corporal Nicholas Ventrelli-O'Connell (Patty Larson's family friend).



Pray for our Military Troops.





The Christmas trees in the sanctuary have been donated
by a faithful member of Good Shepherd
in memory of all the beloved saints who have helped make Good Shepherd
into the vibrant worshipping community that it is today



Our Chancel flowers are dedicated at Christmastime
To the Glory of God, In Loving Memory of Loved Ones &
In Honor and Thanksgiving for all of our Families and Friends

To the Glory of God	Given By
For the Birth of Jesus	Dell-Ann & Tom Benson & Family
For All His Many Blessings	Diane & Ron Maisch
The Beautiful & Blessed Christmas Season	Helen Rose
In Celebration of	Given By
Ruth & Mario Bicsma	Jennifer Vizina, Keith & Kyler Bicsma
God's Blessings	Lisa & Glen Caccioli
Grace Berry	Sue Devine
Our Children	Ronn & Kitty Hall
Our Children & Grandchildren	Diane & Ron Maisch
Faithful Good Shepherd Choir Members & Musicians	Teresa Ratkowski
Our Six Grandchildren: Jillian, Ryan & Sean Beitter and Evan, Griffin, & Sara Rooney	Dot & Joe Rooney
Many Happy & Wonderful Years as School Nurse at Good Shepherd	Helen Rose
In Loving Memory of	Given by
Our Parents Alan & Eleanor Pearson and Our Loved Ones	The Banzer & Walsh Families
Our Parents Helen & Fred Baumeister and Italia & Gaetano Bernardino	Carol & Joe Bernardino
Donovan Seltvedt	Jennifer Vizina, Keith & Kyler Bicsma
Our Beloved Mothers	Jim & Kathy Blewett
Our Loved Ones	Karl & Carol Burfeindt
Joseph, Stella, William, Lillian, Robert & Chuck	Lisa & Glen Caccioli
My Old Girl Scout Assistant Leader, Eleanor Pearson	Lillian Carson
Robert Berry, Diane Berry Luedtke, Tony Ocker & Ethel Salomon	Sue Devine
Judy Thielebaule	The Esanidie Family
Robert Fiedler	Pat, Brian & Nicole Fiedler
Eric Grappone; Ethel & Jack McCabe	Deeann, Joe & Kyle Grappone
Anne Thone, Dorothy Watters & Keith Watters	Jim & Wendy Jansky
Vincent J. Kelly, Sr. & Vincent M. Kelly	Vincent J. Kelly, Jr.
Eugene, Darina & Joseph Kropacek and Margret Lipinski	Louise Lamont
Ruth Drescher	Carol & Richard Koenig
Our Loved Ones	Diane & Ron Maisch
Pop Mason	Lori & Jim Mason
Harry & Josephine Bishop, Edward Grosh, Al & Jerry Hansen, Lars & Olga Olsen, Leon "Tom" Thompson, and Leon "Bud" & Genevieve Thompson	Pastor Eric, Lisa, Luke & Lars Olsen
Robert Picciano	Robert Picciano
William, Maunone & Dale Chenoweth	Teresa & Ryan Ratkowski
Our Beloved Family & Friends	Bob & Anne Rickmeyer
Virginia Brown	Deborah Roberts
Mr. & Mrs. Ian Thyrd	Helen Rose
My Husband John	Florence Ruth
Odd, David & Paul Sangesland	Ellen Sangesland
My Parents George & Katharina Burger	Kathy Schindelheim
William Schulz & Richard Dellacona	JoAnn Schulz Dellacona
Our Departed Loved Ones	Ken & Ann Steffens
Sally & Bernard Ducey	Susan Thomas & Family
My Husband George	Eleanor Ulich & Family
Walfried Poit	Corrado & Pamela Vasquez
Marie & Bill Vollono & Ollie Moyse	The Vollono Family
My Loved Ones	Alice Vorstadt

OVERCOMMITTED IN THE NEW YEAR?

By Rev. Dr. David Elseroad, LCC Pastoral Therapist

A new year beckons. With it come plans for personal change, growth, and service, whether we formulate them into “New Year’s resolutions” or not. We want to get to the gym and get in shape. We want to spend more time with the kids or grandkids. We want to take that course or finish our degree. We want to be more committed, more involved in the ministry of our church. But with all our plans and hopes, will we find ourselves overcommitted and stressed out?

If we take our Christian faith and life seriously, we can be torn over what appears to be an awkward choice: serving God faithfully to the detriment of our health or taking care of ourselves to the neglect of those whom God has called us to serve. This is not an easy dilemma to resolve! Too often we take on more than we can handle and easily confuse what Christian commitment is meant to be. If we’re always saying “yes” to every request and can’t bring ourselves to say “no,” we need to look at why that’s so, just as we may need to look at why it is that we never or only rarely say “yes” to service opportunities.

Our primary commitment is to the Lord God. I understand that to mean, I commit (and entrust) myself to God to be a channel of God’s grace and love and healing. But certainly, not all channels are the same. I am one kind, you are another. What’s important is to be freely the kind of channel God has made me to be. That suggests I must know something of my abilities and gifts, my strengths and weaknesses, *and* my capacity for stress. We must know our limits, but also know just how elastic our personality is for flexing and stretching as we reach those limits.

We work and serve, intending to do so freely and with inner peace. But we can get involved too close to the task and the issues it raises. We begin to lose our perspective and soon tire and weaken. Among the early warning signs of overinvolvement are:

- an inability to relax, to sit quietly and do nothing without frustration or guilt;
- ruminating thoughts and an inability to concentrate;
- feelings of heavy expectation and anxiety, edginess with others that is out of character;
- insomnia, coupled with racing thoughts or incessant thinking;
- burning sensations in the stomach, not related to physical causes;
- an absence of genuine laughter.

If we can heed the signs, they can be a source of learning and growth. If they are ignored, they can lead to increasing ineffectiveness and ultimately, to the possibility of emotional collapse and impaired life and ministry. Looking at over-commitment and its root causes with a counselor at the Center can open up avenues for balance and well-being in our life and service. Because nothing is more untenable than a defense of the kind of commitment that leads to burn-out made in the name of Him who said, “My peace I leave with you”!

Dr. Elseroad, a licensed marriage and family therapist in NY, is pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Hawthorne, NY. His professional background includes work in multicultural ministries as pastor, hospital chaplain, missionary and teacher. Dr. Elseroad, who is fluent in both French and Spanish, has a Doctorate of Ministry in Pastoral Counseling. He counsels children, teens, couples, individuals and families at LCC’s Mineola, Bronxville, and Interchurch Center, NYC sites.

Call the Lutheran Counseling Center at 516-741-0994 or 1-800-317-1173 or e-mail us at Center@lccny.org for more information or to set an appointment. LCC has nine counseling sites in and around metropolitan New York. Visit our website at www.lccny.org.