



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

SPECIAL RECOVERY EDITION

April 17, 2011 – Palm Sunday

Just In Time

An Allen organ, purchased from a Binghamton NY church, will enhance our worship at Central School, beginning today. The organ was acquired with gifts specifically for this purpose by individual members of Good Shepherd, another demonstration of the congregation's commitment to maintaining the quality of the worship experience while we are away from our sanctuary. The organ will be sold when it is no longer needed.

Peter Calabro, Director of Music Ministries, located the instrument by searching eBay, Craigslist, and about 20 other websites. Once the funding was in place, he made the arrangements to rent a van on April 13, and with Geovanni Santos, Sexton, he said, "we took a nice little drive, about three hours each way" to pick up the console, pedal board, bench, and four very large speakers. Peter's moving experience, along with the piano board and dolly he owns, came in handy since the instrument had to be navigated down stairs and picked up to get it into the van with help from just two others from the Binghamton congregation, "and one was pretty skinny!"

Arriving at Central School at 9:30 PM on Wednesday evening, Peter and Geovanni were happy to see Pastor and several other strong members ready to help them transfer the organ into the auditorium. Peter hooked it up and tested it the next day.

Allen Organ Company of Macungie, Pennsylvania is the largest manufacturer of "pipeless" digital organs in the world with 80,000 installations. Our instrument was built in the 1990's. "It's in mint condition. The Binghamton church is going exclusively to praise music so they don't want it anymore," according to Peter. He said, "No doubt we can sell it at the end since, now that it's been moved to the New York metro area, there's more demand."

Peter is both excited and relieved to have the organ installed at Central School. For the last few weeks, he has been selecting and practicing service music for both piano *and* organ. With the organ in place now, "It keeps the focus on the liturgy and supports the service much better than a piano," he said, "especially hymn singing. We don't yet know how long we'll be away from the sanctuary, but the music will keep us inspired. And it's just in time for Easter."

The Project Plan

At the annual meeting we discussed the high-level project plan for the roof repair. At right is the plan with the current steps in bold.

Dajon Associates, the construction company, will begin reconstruction as soon as the contract is drawn.

While we're away ... God is with us, all the time. All the time, God is with us.

- ✓ "Houston, we have a problem"
- ✓ Stabilization: averting a disaster
- ✓ Assessment: bringing in the experts
- ✓ Assembling a Recovery Task Force
- ✓ Starting the Insurance and Finance work
- Talking to the Congregation about the future**
- Gaining agreement**
- Beginning the reconstruction
- Running a campaign to raise funds
- Celebrating the accomplishment

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

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