

THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

SPECIAL RECOVERY EDITION

April 24, 2011 – Easter Sunday



A Review of the Roof Situation

(Answering the question: “What’s the story with the roof, anyway?”)

In late December, after the huge Christmas storm, we saw extensive cracking in the plaster ceiling throughout the sanctuary. An architect and structural engineer diagnosed “failing roof trusses” and advised us that the roof was in jeopardy of collapsing. This unexpected news put into motion an enormous effort by the congregation to protect the safety of the hundreds of members and visitors each week, to relocate worship and the activities in the social hall below the sanctuary, and to save the building. Over the past four months, Good Shepherd has been tested. We have come to appreciate being “in the wilderness” and away from home, and we have been strengthened by an outpouring of prayers, expressions of concern, generosity, and offers of help from members of our community. Here is a chronicle of our recent journey.

January	Recovery Task Force formed ... Engineers, architects, construction companies, insurance specialists, financing sources identified ... Worship implements and grand piano moved from the nave ... Organ pipes wrapped and console protected ... Certificate of Occupancy temporarily revoked for sanctuary and Fellowship Hall ... Driveway and portions of the parking lot blocked ... Shoring towers erected from basement to roof, stabilizing the structure while we determined how to repair it and how to pay for it ... Glen Rock Board of Education offered Central School for worship ... Sunday School and first service at the school on Jan 31 ... All other Monday to Saturday activities uninterrupted back at the corner of Rock & Ackerman ... Special Recovery Edition of Shepherd’s Call begins ...
February	Insurance claim filed ... Insurance company agreed to reimburse for shoring ... Forensic engineering firm investigated structure ... 45 of 48 wood trusses determined to be cracked ... Loan terms compared, in the event financing is necessary ... Unaffected areas of the church building readied for Family Promise shelter, a new ministry ... Four homeless families lived at Good Shepherd for a week ...
March	Forensic engineering report described possible methods of restoration ... Insurance firm engaged construction companies to estimate cost of repairs ... Partial Certificate of Occupancy issued by Glen Rock Building Department ... Driveway reopened ... Partial use of Fellowship Hall permitted, enabling AA, Boy Scouts, and others to return to their usual place ... Narthex and elevator use permitted ... Midweek Lenten worship and Jazz Vespers in the Chapel, the lower level of the “old church” ... Limited insurance reimbursement received for initial engineering costs ...
April	Insurance claim accepted! ... Church Council met President of Dajon Associates of Hackensack NJ, the construction company that will repair the church ... Contract has been drawn and submitted for signatures ... Improvements to the sanctuary not covered by insurance are being discussed and priced ... Allen digital organ acquired for services in Central School, just in time for Holy Week ... Good Friday’s Tenebrae held at All Saints’ Episcopal Church ... Easter at Central School ... Family Promise guests arrive this afternoon for another week ... Repairs to begin imminently!

Without a doubt: God is with us, all the time. All the time, God is with us.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

233 South Highwood Avenue | Glen Rock, NJ 07452 | 201.444.6598 | <http://www.GS.LTHRN.org>