

Shavertown

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fy the collapse of the first World Trade Center tower. Immediately following the siren, all emergency personnel present saluted the flag as it was lowered to half-mast.

Beisel said the Shavertown Fire Department had been invited to participate in a number of services including some at local churches and one in Wilkes-Barre. He and the rest of the department decided, however, that they would feel more comfortable expressing themselves among the local emergency personnel family.

We're here to honor the EMS workers who gave their lives in New York and the Pentagon.

Gary Beisel
Shavertown Fire Chief

He explained that the memorial program was created and recommended by the International Association of Fire Chiefs and that all the fire departments in Pennsylvania were asked to participate in the program.

"It was very well done, very tasteful," said Beisel about the ceremony.

After the lowering of the flag, Chief Beisel read the names of all emergency personnel who died as a result of the September 11, 2001 attacks, followed by the song Amazing Grace.

"The rest of the day some of you might be at work, some of you may be at home, give your family an extra kiss, hug them; so many didn't get a chance to say goodbye."



POST PHOTO/ERIN YOUNGMAN

Volunteer Fire Fighter Clarence Newcomb's dog, Ember, was dressed in patriotic garb at Shavertown's 9/11 Memorial Service.

Gate of Heaven School commemorates 9/11/01

Students at Gate of Heaven School commemorated the anniversary of the events of September 11 in a number of ways.

GOH participated in the Times Leader "Remembering September 11, A Scrapbook," which allowed students to follow, collect, and discuss news stories and features pertaining to the attacks on the World Trade Center, Pentagon and the crash of Flight 93 in Pennsylvania.

In addition, Gate of Heaven School submitted student writing to "A Message to America," a project co-sponsored by WBRE and WYOU television stations. During the 90-minute special "America Remembers" broadcast, poems written by sixth

graders Patrick DeRojas and Conor Harrington, and essays composed by fifth graders Gianna DeGraba and Stephen Olshemski, were read by the newscasters.

Students, faculty and staff also recited the nine-day Novena for Justice and Peace endorsed by the U.S. Catholic Bishops and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. The novena concluded on September 11 and afforded everyone the opportunity to discuss and pray for the intention of building peace and justice in the world. Many classes also recited "the Prayer of St. Francis" on a daily basis.



The College Misericordia Choral Society sings "God Bless America."

9/11 memorial service at College Misericordia

Blue skies and a brisk fall breeze set the tone for a poignant memorial commemorating the events of September 11, 2001. Nearly 400 College Misericordia students and staff participated in an afternoon memorial service honoring those who lost their lives one year ago. Also present were several local fire and rescue personnel who were honored for their bravery and commitment to duty on a local level.

The memorial service included several moving readings, including a touching poem written by CM student Kristen Turner, who had worked with people who were killed in the World Trade Center attack.

Alumna Natilie Puhak '67 also spoke to the assembly regarding her experiences providing comfort to rescue workers in post 9/11 New York City. Puhak, and her certified therapy dog, Thor, shared emotional support and the comforts of pet therapy with

firemen, police and federal agents in the weeks following the attack. During her service in New York, she discovered an unclaimed stray dog in the area near "ground zero." She adopted the dog, a Hungarian breed, and named it "United States" in Hungarian.

The CM Choral Society closed the memorial with a performance of "God Bless America."

Prior to the special service in the First Union Amphitheater, CM students served lunch to the Back Mountain firefighters. Many students wore white, the color of peace, notable in the symbol of the white dove. The intention is to show that a significant segment of the population of the U.S. and other countries abhors all forms of violence, from terrorism to war. This effort has also been endorsed by the Fellowship of Reconciliation and the MK Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence.

Q: Where do you find the most Back Mountain news each week?

A: Only in The Dallas Post



9/11 service

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further stated that "commitment is a wonderful gift. We are not meant to be alone. We can find strength in one another when the world tries to pull us apart. The world's rivers divide us and its mountains separate us. The challenge is to understand that we were made to live together and called to love one another. In this there is great cause for joy and hope."

The second message was given by Rev. Janet Clark from Shavertown United Methodist Church. "Heroes carry the cross for others," she said. "On September 11 some chose death to bring life to others."

The third message was presented by Rev. Mark Harper from Trinity Presbyterian Church who invited the congregation to renew their baptismal commitment. "Look back and

look ahead with compassion and courage," he said. "And may God guide our feet to the way of peace."

The College Misericordia Chamber Singers and Choral Society provided special music for the service under the direction of John Curtis, Director of Music at College Misericordia. Jean Grube, soloist, offered the "Prayer of St. Francis."

Members of the Back Mountain Ministerium clergy who took part in the service of remembrance and renewal were: Rev. Charles Grube, St. Paul's Lutheran Church; Rev. William Lewis, Dallas United Methodist Church; Rev. Douglas Clark, Shavertown United Methodist Church; Msgr. Peter Crynes, St. Therese's Church; Rev. Janet Clark, Shavertown United Methodist Church; Rev. Mark

Harper, Trinity Presbyterian Church; Rev. Cheryl Cavalari, Campus Ministry; Rev. William Kennard (retired) and Pastor Jim Pall, Huntsville United Methodist Church.

The next Community Service of Worship sponsored by the Back Mountain Ministerium will be on November 23 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Therese's Church in Shavertown. All are welcome.



Chris Rose from Bishop Hoban High School played the trumpet for the service.

The College Misericordia Chamber Singers and Choral Society sang under the direction of John Curtis, Director of Music at College Misericordia.

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