

Shepherd's Voice

Volume 10 • Issue 8 A monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church August 2014

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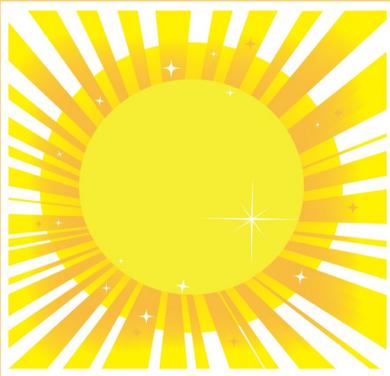
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August Newsletter Articles
due August 25

August



**Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521**

925-682-8410

gsconcord.com

**Summer Schedule:
9:30 a.m. Blended Service**

As we await the arrival of our new pastor, we offer this quote originally published in "Wishful Thinking" and later published in "Beyond Words" both by Frederick Buechner.

Quote of the Day: Praise

You praise the heartbreaking beauty of Jessye Norman singing the Vier Letzte Lieder of Richard Strauss. You praise the new puppy for making its offering on the lawn for once instead of on the living-room rug. Maybe you yourself are praised for some generous thing you have done. In each case, the praise that is handed out is a measured response. It is a matter of saying something to one degree or another complimentary, with the implication that if Jessye Norman's voice had sprung a leak or the puppy hadn't made it outside in time or your generous deed turned out to be secretly self-serving, a different sort of response altogether would have been called for.

The way Psalm 148 describes it, praising God is another kettle of fish altogether. It is about as measured as a volcanic eruption, and there is no implication that under any conceivable circumstances it could be anything other than what it is. The whole of creation is in on the act—the sun and moon, the sea, fire and snow, Holstein cows and white-throated sparrows, old men in walkers and children who still haven't taken their first step. Their praise is not chiefly a matter of saying anything, because most of creation doesn't deal in words. Instead, the snow whirls, the fire roars, the Holstein bellows, the old man watches the moon rise. Their praise is not something that at their most complimentary they say, but something that at their truest they are.

We learn to praise God not by paying compliments, but by paying attention. Watch how the trees exult when the wind is in them. Mark the utter stillness of the great blue heron in the swamp. Listen to the sound of the rain. Learn how to say "Hallelujah" from the ones who say it right.

<https://www.facebook.com/Frederick.Buechner.Center>

Women of the ELCA, Sierra Pacific Synod

On **Saturday, October 11**, the Women of the ELCA, Sierra Pacific Synod, will host a one day Service Retreat. This event is held every other year. This year it will be here at Good Shepherd. There will be a bible study and an opportunity to make blankets and other items to be given to our keynote speaker, Pastor Lyle Beckman, Night Minister of the San Francisco Night Ministry, for those in need. Lunch and an optional dinner will be served. All are welcome! We hope you will plan on attending. Applications are available on the website: womenofelcasp.org. Questions? Please see Laura in the office.

GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK CLUB MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 16

To honor the memory of the remarkable writer and poet Maya Angelou, we have chosen "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" for to discuss at our September meeting. In a review on Amazon, the writer says, "'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings,' by Maya Angelou, is the first volume in this author's extraordinary series of autobiographical narratives. This book has, since its publication, become a beloved contemporary classic of African-American literature." ► Join us at **7:30 pm in the Fireside Room, Sept. 16**, and share the discussion of this remarkable book. Questions? Contact Donna Albrecht at donna-at-albrechts.com

IT'S TIME FOR SOCIAL MINISTRY TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL!

If you can provide a backpack, paper, notebooks, folders, binders, pencils, erasers, crayons, markers, rulers, pencil boxes, etc. to help needy students in our community get ready for a new school year, please place your donations in the specially marked box in the Narthex. **Donations are needed by Sunday, August 17.** Thank you!



GOOD SHEPHERD INCOME STATEMENT			
AS OF JUNE 30, 2014			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
INCOME:			
Pledges	\$73,726	\$69,277	\$4,449
Unpledged	12,031	14,458	(2,427)
Other (Tower, Rent, etc.)	62,987	59,863	3,124
TOTAL INCOME	148,744	143,598	5,146
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	(135,017)	(146,648)	(11,631)
NET INCOME	\$ 13,727	\$ (3,050)	\$ (16,777)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

Expense for recarpeting office & new flooring for kitchen were reflected as an expense and not taken from the Cap/Maint Reserve. Will be corrected in July.

A Message from our Council President

This past month we had the opportunity to be led in worship by a recent graduate of PLTS, Rachel Eskesen, and Diaconal Minister Rowena Henry. Thank you. In August we will have Pastor Bruce Johnson with us. Rowena will return in September & October.

Our Call Committee is continuing their work. Let's pray they will conclude their search soon.

I would like to thank the "Quilters" for making three quilts recently for two of our members who have been hospitalized, Alden Johnson and John Bantly and one for Marilyn, daughter of Jean Moore who is undergoing cancer treatments. Many quilts have found good homes and have given comfort and show the love of our congregation. Thank you Donna, Vicki, Lynne, Linda, Emilie, Pam and Betty.

As some of you may be aware we had a break-in recently in Fellowship Hall the week of July 14. The police were contacted and inspected the facility. Apparently, one of the windows in the kitchen was not locked. It is essential when closing the campus that all windows and doors are secured. At our August Council meeting we will consider recalling the keys from groups that use our facilities and have an onsite administrator, at the expense of the group using our facilities. We will also consider activating the alarm system in the sanctuary and consider alarming Fellowship Hall.

We have not been the only church in the area that has been burglarized. I have heard United Methodist on West Street was hit twice and First Lutheran on Concord Blvd. has been broken into. Both within the last 60 days.

The committee to write a policy for a maintaining a Safe Environment has prepared their first draft. This will be a policy/procedure to address sexual harassment on our campus including a procedure for those working with youth. The committee is Joe Carlson, Emilie Patton and Kristi Buchholz.

Our committee reviewing our Constitution continues their work. Thanks to Greg Buchholz, Laura Mott and Donna Albrecht.

See you in church.

Herb

GOD-A-PALOOZA! Sierra Pacific Synod High School Retreat Mt. Cross, Oct. 10-12, 2014

Registration is now open! Good Shepherd will pay for the registration of our high school youth. If you have a high school student wishing to go, please see Victor Olmedo.

EMILIES'S PRODUCE PATCH IS BACK!

Bring your excess veggies and fruits from your garden and everyone in the congregation is welcome to take what they want! Emilie's Produce Patch will be a table in the Fellowship Hall during the social/coffee break after our Sunday summer services. Just look for the sign!



August Birthdays

Emily Rossi	8/04
Gary Mahloch	8/05
Tyrone Sasaoka	8/06
Fred Wagner	8/06
Emily Kich	8/07
Kenneth Olmedo	8/08
Dave Munson	8/09
Nils Anderson	8/10
Bob Pachelbel	8/10
Sally Poston	8/12
Laura Anagnostopoulous -	8/13
Kristie Gray	8/20
Tracy Rentner-Glen	8/23
Linda Rodemsky	8/23
Lynne Davies	8/24
Betty Peterson	8/25
Donna Flatness	8/28
Julianne Hudson	8/28



July 2014 - Council Meeting Notes

Opening prayer was given by Herb Yonge.

Special prayers were made for John Bantly and Alden Johnson who are currently undergoing medical care.

Recognitions were made for Lynne Davies for help when Laura was out last week and for picking out the music for July. Pam Dietz was recognized for making two cakes for recent farewell recognitions. Rachel Eskesen who was the presiding minister on July 6 was recognized for leading our worship. Jon Moss, Linda and Jamie Rodemsky for all the work they do to maintain the campus. Jon Moss recognized Greg Buchholz for his recent work on the church property.

Two items of correspondence were received. The first was an insurance policy from the Bahia church indemnifying us for when they use our lower parking lot. The second was a letter from the ELCA Executive Director Christina Jackson-Skelton thanking us for our gift of \$1,485.00 through Good Gifts. The money was raised through the "barn" coin collectors given to members during Lent.

Sue Hertless reported on a Synod program to have congregations pray for another congregation's ongoing needs. At the Synod meeting, Sue received a prayer ribbon for Berkeley's Church of the Cross congregation. Sue has been in contact with them and their intentional interim minister mentioned they had no special paraments for the contemporary service. According to Sue, we still have the contemporary service paraments that were made when Pastor Eric was here and she suggested we donate them to the Berkeley congregation. The council has taken this under advisement.

Summer Pulpit Supply will be provided by Pr. Rowena Henry and Pr. Bruce Johnson for the period from July through Labor Day.

Herb, Emilie, John Mott and Sue Hertless conducted an exit interview with Pr. Lori Eickmann. Laura Mott took the notes and transcribed them.

A discussion was held about the possibility of getting together with other hyper-local churches including the Salvation Army, Methodist, Bahia, etc. to brainstorm how we can all work together.

The Call Committee has requested a new list of potential pastoral candidates from the Synod.

(Continued on next page)

July 2014 Council Meeting Notes, Continued

The Finance Committee reported that all our rental income from the tower, rental housing unit, and renting Fellowship Hall came to nearly \$59,000 for the first half of the year

Herb and Nils plan to attend the Synod Finance Committee Video Conference in October.

The Youth Committee is considering a high school student event at Mt. Cross. They noted that each vehicle carrying students will need to have two adults per the Safe Environment Policy.

Fellowship reported that Emilie's Produce Patch will reopen this coming Sunday.

Church Keys: Over the years, many members have served the congregation in ways that required they have keys to the Sanctuary. The Council requests that members who are no longer actively doing those activities, please turn in their keys to the church office, the COD at church on Sunday, or any Council member. Thank you for your help.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Albrecht
Council Secretary

August Anniversaries

Gary and Linda Mahloch
August 5, 1962

Glen and Candace Bradley
August 6, 2004

Michael and Angie Morgan
August 6, 1994

James and Kim Christiana
August 14, 1982

Mike and Donna Albrecht
August 16, 1970

Richard and Connie Batchelder
August 16, 1969

Jim and Joe Carson
August 20, 1979

Doug and Reyanne Freeman
August 22, 1964



A Note of Thanks from John and Ione Bantly

Thank you to everyone for the beautiful quilt, cards and phone calls.

This has meant a lot to both of us.

Prayer is the best and we do appreciate it.

Prayer does more than anything.

Thank you.

Thanks from Karen Maurer

Thank you for the prayers for my friend Joanne.
She is doing better now. Thanks for the prayers for me, too.

Prayers are always appreciated. Thank you.

Save the Date

**Our Fellowship
Committee is planning
a barbeque on
Sunday, August 24,
at 5:00 p.m.**



Summer Music Camp at Grace Lutheran Church, Richmond

On July 20th, Betty Jacobsen and I attended worship at Grace Lutheran Church in a low income section of Richmond. Following worship a concert was held by the thirty five children who had attended the church's four week Summer Music Camp. We were impressed with the concert. What we found gave hope to the heart for what children are capable of doing when given the opportunity. Young people of all ethnicities: Asian, Hispanic, African American, and White attended the Camp that was free. All Children in the community were welcome, they did not have to be a member of Grace Lutheran to attend. Dr. Shaw, pastor at Grace, used his musical talents as the music instructor.

The concert showed parents and friends what their children had accomplished in four short weeks. Without a doubt God was smiling down on their concert. Now don't get me wrong they were not playing Mozart but they could keep the beat, play simple tunes and most of all they were enjoying themselves and proud of what they had accomplished. The children were dressed for a concert, each had on black pants or skirt and white top. Everyone looked like young musicians.

Immediately following the concert was a simple meal; nothing fancy, just spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, coffee, tea and cookies. Betty and I sat with a family whose daughter had attended camp and learned to play the violin. The father was so proud of her, and wanted his two boys to learn music. One mother talked about the craziness on the first day of Summer Music Camp. However, she indicated that soon everyone began to settle down and magic began to happen with practice, discipline, and respect. I use the word respect because the children listened to Dr. Shaw and it was obvious and noticeable during the concert that they obeyed his instructions. Children were learning discipline, the importance of listening, respect for their instructor, core items important to our Christian faith.

Come September, Dr. Shaw will have a free year around program for children who want to continue learning to play an instrument (or learn to play a second instrument). Currently, he has about 15 children enrolled. How did all this happen? Certainly it couldn't have happened without a need in the community for activities for youth. Combine this need with Dr. Shaw's musical talents along with his dream of inspiring children to grow, to learn and to make something of their lives, and miracles begin to happen. The program is in its eighth year and several of their students have gone on to local universities as Music majors. This has also happened because of the money the ELCA gives to mission support. Additionally, Thrivent Financial provided financial support for the concert through its Matching Fund Program. Dr. Shaw says, "Satan doesn't live here anymore." Thanks be to God!

Sue Hertless
SPS Executive Committee Member and
SPS Council Representative, District A

BOOK EXCHANGE ON SEPTEMBER 14

Cleaning out your shelves this summer? You are invited to put aside the books you would like to share for **Sept. 14 during coffee hour**. Anyone can bring books and anyone can take books. This time we're adding a space for children's books, too!

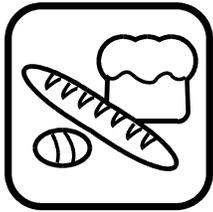


August 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Summer Worship Schedule 9:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 10:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH)					1	2 7:30 a.m. Campus Work Party — Upstairs Parking Lot
3 See Schedule above 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	4	5	6 3:00 p.m. Worship and Music Committee (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	7 9:00 a.m. Senior Food Program (FH) 2:00 p.m. Finance Comm. 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	8	9 9:00 a.m. SPS-Women of the ELCA Board Meeting (FH)
10 See Schedule above 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	11	12 7:00 p.m. Council (FH)	13 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	14 Noon DVLC Board (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	15	16 9:30 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kitchen) (FH)
17 See Schedule above 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	18	19 2:00 p.m. DVLC (FH)	20 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	21 9:00 a.m. Senior Food Program (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	22	23 9:00 a.m. Synod Event (FH)
24 / 31 See Schedule above 5:00 p.m. Church BBQ 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (Upstairs)	25	26	27 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	28 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	29	30

Friends Feeding Friends

An outreach ministry that serves the needy in our county



537
127
10
8
7

Grocery bags distributed
Hot Meals provided
People helped with household furnishings
Churches that helped FFF
Shelters/Agencies that referred clients to FFF

For we are
God's
workmanship
created in
Christ Jesus
to do good
works, which
God prepared
in advance for
us to do.
Ephesians
2:10

Sarah Jean's
Dream at age 4 –
"So people who are
really hungry
have food."



Special thanks go to all of you for your amazing donations this month! And, we would like to thank both Marriott and Embassy Suites for their donations of linens and waste cans.

Soon, we will be furnishing seniors in the new Berrellesa Palms senior housing complex in Martinez. This complex is especially for homeless or previously homeless seniors with chronic health challenges. And, many seniors from the shelter will be moving there.

We furnished 2 families that left domestic violence shelters. Please pray for them. They have had many challenges and are now starting anew.

Going on vacation? Please save the travel size grooming supplies that you paid for when you booked your room. We need these constantly. Thank you!

Next FFF Lunch: August 16, 2014. 9:30 am at Good Shepherd to prep, 12:00 noon at the shelter (2047 Arnold Industrial Way, Concord) to serve. All are welcome!

Items needed this month:

- Twin, full or queen size beds (free of stains please)
- Small dining tables and chairs
- Dressers & end tables or nightstands
- Can openers
- School supplies and school backpacks
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste

Have questions, want to help or know of someone needing help?

Contact Dana (925)768-9087 or Linda (925)864-9266 or email us at: friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com or friendsfeedingfriendsca@gmail.com

The North
Concord
Shelter:

2047 Arnold
Industrial Way,
Concord, CA
Parallel to
Highway 4

Know of someone
who needs help?
Call the Homeless
Hotlines at
800-799-6599 or
800-808-6444.

Call the Bay Area
Rescue Mission at
510-215-4868, or
the Contra Costa
Crisis Center
at 211.

Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521
682-8410

Located east of the
Salvation Army
church between
West Street and
Mendocino Avenue
Concord, CA

Loaves & Fishes
catering kitchen:
510 Garcia, Suite H
Pittsburg, CA

2014 Executive Committee:

President: Herb Yonge, **Vice President:** Leone McCullough, **Secretary:** Donna Albrecht
Member-at-Large: Vicki Smiglewski

2014 Congregational Council

Donna Albrecht, Nils Anderson, Greg Buchholz, Drew Cremisio, Mark Deniston,
Leone McCullough, Jon Moss, Emilie Patton, Vicki Smiglewski and Herb Yonge

Ministry Staff:

During our Call Process please call Pastor Linda Vogelgesang at 925-783-9002

Office Administrator: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com

Director of Instrumental Music: Open

Choir Director: Open

Contemporary Music Leader: Tom Deans Flegel - tdeans08@gmail.com

Sound/Technology: Jamie Rodemsky - jamier1263@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lynne Davies - finance@gsconcord.com

Financial Secretary: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Concord, CA

