

Shepherd's Voice

Volume 8 • Issue 7

A monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

July 2012

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August Newsletter Articles due Friday, August 20

July



**Good Shepherd Lutheran
Church**

4000 Clayton Road

Concord, CA 94521

925-682-8410

gsconcord.com

Worship Schedule:

Sundays 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Activities in a Time of Transition

I want to thank everyone who took the time to come and speak with me during my recent visit to Good Shepherd. I am in the process of writing up and summarizing what I heard in the various groups. The next step will be to return and present the results to the congregation.

I would like to lift up a couple of topics that repeated themselves. (This is not an exhaustive recap, so do not panic if something you said is not mentioned.)

I heard very clearly that many members of G.S. do not want to go through an interim time, intentional or not. Several people said “We know who we are and what we want, and we do not need an interim to help us discover this.” Others expressed frustration and anger that it felt like G.S. is “treading water; sitting on our hands; not doing anything.”

You are in-between permanent pastors at this time – a time of transition. This is the reality. This time of transition is supposed to be an ACTIVE time of the congregation, not a “holding period” or “treading water.” Leaving out interim ministry, intentional or not, here are some suggestions of things in which you can engage to assist in the process of moving forward.

Pray together. Designate a specific time of day when members of the congregation will stop what they are doing and pray for God’s guidance and wisdom in this time of discerning where God is calling the ministry of G.S. Say that it is 10 AM on Wednesday morning – imagine a hundred people in and around the East Bay pausing during their grocery shopping; paying bills; typing on a computer; sitting in a doctor’s office; singing along to the radio; gardening; etc. and praying to God to reveal the ministry and purpose to which G.S. is being called. If the designated time doesn’t work for someone, he or she can pray when they are free. It is a powerful force when the people of God collectively lift their voices in honest seeking and humble obedience.

Plan together. Together as a congregation, set up times to talk about the things energize and excite you in your spiritual and faith development. Service projects? Bible Studies? Guest lecturers? Look for areas that seem to indicate a strength or preferred style of the congregation. The Spirit of God is at work – here’s a chance to listen how the Spirit is manifest among people at Good Shepherd.

Activities in a Time of Transition, Continued from Page 1

Play together. Add extra times of intentional fun and fellowship. Ideas: the first Sunday of the month, have a potluck just to re-discover old friends and discover new friends. Re-establish the dinner groups that met in homes. Have a congregational worship and playtime in a park. Have a picnic on the grounds near the street so passersby can see and wonder what fun things that church is doing. Hold a water balloon fight to cool off. Do movie night at the church or someone's home. Arrange travel for those who have difficulty getting around.

Go for it. Is there a program or event you wanted the congregation to do, but it never happened? Go for it! Start planning in a way to bring the program or event off successfully. What a great initiative of ministry! What a great build of excitement!

I know all of you are anxious to move ahead as quickly as possible. This time is not to be a "holding period" until you call a new minister. That would be the interim's worst scenario. What you as a congregation and individually choose to do, or to not do, in this time of transition will shape you for a long time. The interim is the best time to talk about and clarify the hopes and questions about church life.

At this time, I do not know what will happen next in the direction of Good Shepherd. It is my hope that when I return to share the results of our conversations I will have more information for you.

In Christ, Pastor Cindy

Lord, Remind Me Each Day

Heavenly Father,

Help me remember that the rude driver who cut me off in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and was rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Bring to my mind often that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly at McDonalds is a worried 19-year-old college student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.

Cause me to reflect that the old couple, walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind me each day that, of all the gifts you give me, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those I hold dear.

Open my heart not just to those who are close to me, but to all humanity.

Let me be slow in judgment and quick with forgiveness and patience and empathy and love.

Amen.

Thanks and Recognitions

- ★ Donna Flatness is very proud of her two grandsons!
 Alec Flatness graduated from Los Gatos High School and in the fall will be attending University of Pacific Conservatory of Music in Stockton. Ian Flatness received graduation with three majors in math and a minor in Statistics at the University of Washington in Seattle. Congratulations to the Flatness Family!
- ★ Susan Lorenzen is recognized for her volunteer service during her time at Good Shepherd. Susan has served as Counter, Lector and Usher at the 8:30 service. Thank you, Susan! Please keep Susan in your prayers as she settles in and searches for a new home in Prescott, Arizona. If you would like her new address, please call the church office.
- ★ Dan Pierson would like to extend his thanks to everyone for prayers during and after his recent eye surgery.
- ★ Laura Mott thanks everyone who remembered her birthday with beautiful flowers, cards and best wishes. *It made my birthday very special, thank you!*
- ★ The Bay Area Crisis Nursery sent a special *thank you* to Good Shepherd for the use of our Fellowship Hall for their Volunteer Dinner in May.

Enjoy Sundays more ... Read ahead!

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JUNE 2012

Sunday	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
July 1	Lam 3:33-33	Ps 30	2 Cor 8:7-15	Mark 5:32-43
July 8	Ezek 2:1-5	Ps 123	2 Cor 12:2-10	Mark 6:1-13
July 15	Amos 7:7-15	Ps 85:8-13	Eph 1:3-14	Mark 6:14-29
July 22	Jer 23:1-6	Ps 23	Eph 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
July 29	2 Kings 4:42-44	Ps 145:10-18	Eph 3:14-21	John 6:1-21

July Birthdays

David Batchelder	10
Phyllis Stripe	10
Jim Carson	11
Kelly Schaefer	11
Mickey Kuehner	13
Joann Nelson	14
Betty Fraga	15
Sarah Mollwitz	15
Nicholas Mitchell	16
Larry Sander	16
Regis Filbert	17
Ryan Filbert	17
Lucillerose Fassl-	
Lemon	21
Amy Harris	22
Donna Abeyta	23
Mike Albrecht	24
Joan Maugeri	25
Hub Erickson	26
Elizabeth Griffis	26
Ian Livingston	26
Donna Bauders	27
Sue Hertless	28
Marcia Sander	29



June 11, 2012 Council Meeting Notes

Motions made at the June meeting were as follows:

A debit card from Bank of America will be obtained for office use (to pay for postage, etc.) by office administrator.

A new checking account will be opened as required by Bank of America to issue the debit card.

A letter will be drafted to inform the Synod office that GSLC is not in favor of the unbalanced budget adopted at the convention. This letter will be brought back to Council for final approval at July meeting.

Minutes from May meeting were accepted after corrections.

Approval was given for use of Fellowship Hall on August 5, 2012 by members.

Motion was made to hold one worship service during the summer at 9:30 a.m., and was defeated after discussion.

Treasurer's report was presented with an explanation regarding the spike in unpledged receipts. This is due to the transfer of Iceberg Funds to unpledged receipts.

Meetings between Pastor Cindy Beck and our congregation were discussed.

Names of congregations that have participated in the new Synod Call process were sent to us. Volunteers will contact these congregations to obtain input into this process and their experience with it.

A meeting will be held soon to inform the congregational members as to what is required to serve as a member of the Call committee.

– Betty Fraga, Secretary

GOOD SHEPHERD INCOME STATEMENT AS OF MAY 31, 2012

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET
INCOME:			
Pledges	\$ 69,267	\$ 71,222	\$ (1,955)
Other (Tower Rent, etc.)	67,041	63,550	3,491
TOTAL INCOME	136,308	\$134,772	1,536
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	(127,850)	(130,183)	2,333
NET INCOME	\$ 8,458	\$ 4,589	\$ 3,869

Note: Pledge receipts are less than budgeted. Unpledged is also less than budget by \$381. The transfer of \$9,658 from the Iceberg Account is reflected in Actual Income.

The Perfect Youth Worker Volunteer –Part One

Chris Dortch, Youth Pastor, North Carolina / Contributed by Pr. Cindy Beck

What would the “perfect” youth ministry volunteer look like? Before we answer that, let’s address some of the myths.

Myth #1 “You’ve got to be cool.”

Let’s face it, we probably weren’t that cool in high school and we’re certainly not cool as adults. Students don’t need someone to be cool, they need authenticity. If you are willing to be yourself around teenagers, you’re a great candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

Myth #2 “You’ve got to be young.”

Sometimes we think that the 20-somethings “relate better” to teenagers because of their age. Most teenagers have a hard time telling the difference between a 25 year-old who is married and a 37 year-old who is married (they are both “old”). Research shows that teenagers are actually drawn to the oldest person in the room who will listen to them and take them seriously. If you are willing to listen to teenagers and take their problems seriously, you’re a great candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

Myth #3 “You’ve got to act like a teenager.”

There is a difference between being child-like and being childish. One of my youth ministry heroes, Duffy Robbins says, “Teenagers don’t need adults who act like teenagers. They need adults who don’t freak out when teenagers act like teenagers.” If you can act like an adult and not “freak out” when teenagers act like teenagers, then you’re a great candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

Myth #4 “You’ve got to be a Bible scholar.”

Sure, we want you to know something about the Bible, but we don’t expect you to have all of the answers. In John 9, the man born blind gives us a great example of how to respond to questions we don’t know the answers to, “Whether Jesus was a sinner or not, I don’t know. One thing I do know, I once was blind but now I can see!” If you are willing to help students discover answers to their questions, you’re a great candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

Myth #5 “You’ve got to know everything in teen culture.”

It’s okay if you don’t listen to Justin Bieber and you still listen to Abba on vinyl. Students want you to be you. Many of them would even love to hear stories about the time you were in a KISS cover band! If you don’t know who Justin Bieber is, you’re the perfect candidate for volunteering in the youth ministry.

If these aren’t the things that teenagers are looking for, what do they need in an adult volunteer? ***Stay tuned for Part Two in our August newsletter!***

Wedding Anniversaries

Dana and Janine Livingston
July 28, 1987

Greg and Kristi Buchholz
July 31, 1993



Youth Fundraiser

The trash can in the Narthex labeled “Youth Group – Aluminum Cans Only” is slowly being filled. Your participation and donations will assist in raising funds for youth group events.

Thanks for your support!



Do not think that love in order to be genuine has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired. Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.

— Mother Teresa

It was a Gorgeous Day for a Bike Ride...



...The sun was out and the wind was cool. We all hopped on our bikes and into our carts around 9:30 a.m. in Walnut Creek at the Park and Ride off of South Broadway.

From there we headed off onto the Iron Horse Trail towards Danville. It was a slight incline most of the way, but not too noticeable. We kept on riding for about five or so miles and came up to, unbeknown to us, the Danville Farmer's Market.

We all paused there for a rest and some treats. Some of us sat and rested on the brick bench, while others walked around the market and tasted some of the samples that were handed out. The choice snacks for the morning were delicious pastries and Kettle Corn.

After a short break, we all hopped back on our bikes and headed back to the cars. The ride was a little easier on the way back, being that we were now going downhill.

It was a great morning for us all. Thanks to everyone who went.

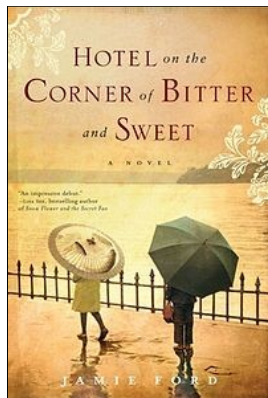
– Victor Olmedo





GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK CLUB

By Donna Albrecht



Our Good Shepherd Book Club will be reading ***Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*** by Jamie Ford for our next meeting. Garth Stein, New York Times bestselling author of *The Art of Racing in the Rain* called it, “A tender and satisfying novel set in a time and a place lost forever, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* gives us a glimpse of the damage that is caused by war—not the sweeping damage of the battlefield, but the cold, cruel damage to the hearts and humanity of individual people.”

Please join us for our discussion of this remarkable book.

We'll be meeting on July 31st at 7:30 pm in the Fireside Room.

We'd love to have you join us!

Questions? Contact Donna Albrecht at donna@albrechts.com

Good Shepherd's Hats for the Homeless Group

By Laura Mott

We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Some who cannot meet have donated yarn or made hats and scarves for our group.

Our goal is to make 100 hats and scarves by November 1, 2012. Join us! Make just one hat or scarf. It will be appreciated during the cold months of winter!

In May we had a total of 17 scarves and 16 hats for adults. We are excited to share that we now have 30 hats and 22 scarves for adults! We are well on our way to meeting our goal. These items will be given to Friends Feeding Friends for distribution.

Thank you for helping us care for others !

Bible Study to Continue During Summer Months!

Ken Robinson will continue leading the Sunday Bible Study group through the summer months at the regular meeting time: 10:00 a.m. Sundays in the Fellowship Hall, between services.

Join us for a lively discussion each week as we explore our faith.

All are welcome!



A Gardener, Two Travelers and a Cheat

SATURDAY MORNING

Book of Faith SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

By Laura Mott

We'll set up a table outside and enjoy a cup of coffee once a month on the 2nd Saturday: June 9, July 14, August 11 and Sept. 8, from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. This is a 4 session *Book of Faith* Bible study.

Each session opens with a gathering prayer and focus activity. Through Scripture we will explore scenes from the life of each of the characters. In short, we'll read, do activities and chat about the story of each character and how it relates to our lives. This study is fun, so come as you are and share the morning.

All are welcome.

Children can play on the grass outside.

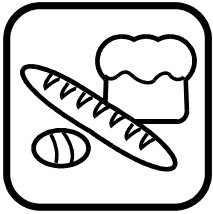
Can you guess who our two travelers are? Join us on July 14 and find out!

Join us! Questions? Call the church office.

July 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30 Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (FH) 5:00 p.m. Hertless Group 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	2	3	4 Independence Day! Church Office Closed 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	5 9:00 a.m. Senior Food Program 2:00 p.m. Finance Committee. 7:00 p.m. Property/Long Range	6	7
8 8:30 Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (FH) 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 5:00 p.m. Hertless Group 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	9 7:00 p.m. Council (FH)	10	11 4:30 p.m. Worship and Music Meeting (Office) 6:30 p.m. Youth Group 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	12	13	14 9:00 a.m. Summer Bible Study (Patio)
15 8:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (FH) 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 5:00 p.m. Hertless Group 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	16	17	18 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	19 9:00 a.m. Senior Food Program	20 AUGUST Newsletter Articles Due Today!	21 9:30 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (FH)
22 Blood Pressure (FR) 8:30 Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 5:00 p.m. Hertless Group 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	23	24	25 9:30 a.m. Quilting (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	26 6:30 p.m. Hats for Homeless Knitting/Crochet Group (FH)	27	28
29 8:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 10:00 a.m. Bible Study (FH) 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 5:00 p.m. Hertless Group 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	30	31 7:30 p.m. Book Club (FR)				

Friends Feeding Friends



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



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

Here's an update from Friends Feeding Friends--an outreach ministry that serves the needy in our county.

We served 108 meals at our June luncheon at the shelter. We prepared barbeque chicken sandwiches with onions and melted cheese, green salad, broccoli salad, fresh fruit and dessert. Special thanks to Good Shepherd and everyone else who donated blankets, sheets and towels for the shelter, to Tabernacle School for donating their earthquake kits, and to all who donated groceries, household items, etc. making our ministry possible. We are still in need of canned or dried groceries, can openers, toilet paper, laundry detergent, laundry baskets and toasters for distribution to needy families, senior citizens, and those we furnish.

The next time we meet will be Saturday, July 21, 2012. We will serve baked chicken with brown rice, salad and fruit. If you would like to help sort donations, pack hygiene kits and "food for later" bags, meet us at Good Shepherd at 9:30 AM. If you would like to help serve lunch and pass out donations, meet us at the shelter at noon. Come join us and invite a friend!

If you can help with groceries for the next luncheon, we will need:

chicken thighs • brown rice • broccoli crowns • fresh veggies for our salad • red grapes • fresh fruit of any kind • bottled water • any desserts

There's an on-going need for:

laundry soap • lamps • linens/towels • pots and pans • toasters • potholders • eating utensils • groceries • dish soap • cooking utensils • travel size hygiene items • microwave ovens • dressers and end tables

For the "Food for Later" bags:

Shelf-stable meals (ravioli, hearty soups, stews, chili, spam, tuna kits, etc.) Fruit cups/fruit snacks, packaged bars, snacks and desserts

If you have questions or need additional information, please call Dana Deniston 768-9087 or Linda Rodemsky 864-9266. Or, email us at: friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com

Thank you once more to all our faithful supporters whose contributions benefit so many in our community.

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

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
call 211.

Worship Assistants July 1, 2012 - July 29, 2012

Date	Time	Assisting Minister	Communion Assistant	Lector	Acolyte, Torchbearer	Crucifer	Altar Guild	Welcome Table	Ushers	Sound Ministry	Communion to Shut-Ins	Coffee Ministry	Counters	C.O.D.
7/01	8:30	Lynne Davies	Ken and Nikki Robinson	Ingrid Burns	Sam Buchholz	Carter Munson-Ring	Kathy Price Eise Welsh Heidi Moss Cindy Rogelstad	Willajean Rogelstad	Ron Figueroa Tom Danielson Sue Hertless	Jamie Rodemsky		Doug and Reyanne Freeman	Jan Carzino Reyanne Freeman	Mark Deniston
	11:00		Rosemary Fassl Linda Rodemsky	Rosemary Fassl				Rosemary Fassl	Linda Rodemsky					
7/08	8:30	Bill Dietz	Sue Hertless Candace Bradley	Candace Bradley	Erin Wardle	Lauren Wardle	Jan Harmon Pam Dietz Willajean Rogelstad Linda Mahloch	Ron and Mary Figueroa	Gary and Linda Mahloch Greg Buchholz Paul Rusch	Linda Rodemsky		Jon and Heidi Moss	Gordon Monroe Nils Anderson	Sue Hertless
	11:00		Rosemary Fassl Sherry Chaplin	Rosemary Fassl				Donna Abeyta	Sherry Chaplin					
7/15	8:30	Duane Peterson	Ken and Nikki Robinson	Kristi Buchholz	Austin Fiene	Travis Fiene	Laura Carlson Vicki Smiglewski Elizabeth Kich Emily Kich Sue Hertless	Greg and Kristi Buchholz	Jon and Heidi Moss, Vicki Smiglewski, Ron Figueroa	Linda Rodemsky	Duane Peterson	Ron and Kathy Price	Gordon Monroe Nils Anderson	Jon Moss
	11:00		Sherry Chaplin Laura Mott	Sherry Chaplin				Victor and Aimee Olmedo	Laura Mott					
7/22	8:30	Candace Bradley	Mike Albrecht Bill Dietz	Donna Albrecht	Doug Olson	Sean Harless	Ione Bantley Karen Vetterli Leone McCullough Karin Bohling	Larry and Marcia Sander	Doug and Reyanne Freeman Jim and Carin Olson	Linda Rodemsky		Gary and Linda Mahloch	Carin Olson Joe Carlson	Sue Hertless
	11:00		Sherry Chaplin Laura Mott	Laura Mott				Nancy Knapp	Sherry Chaplin					
7/29	8:30	Lynne Davies	Sue Hertless Duane Peterson	Ken Robinson	Austin Fiene	Travis Fiene	Dottie Davis Donna Abeyta Christy Dankowski Nancy Knapp	Kay Bennett and Jeanette Kaul	Ron Figueroa Mary Figueroa Tom Danielson Paul Rusch	Jamie Rodemsky		Greg and Kristi Buchholz	Carin Olson Paul Rusch	Victor Olmedo
	11:00		Rosemary Fassl Linda Rodemsky	Linda Rodemsky				Alden Johnson	Laura Mott					

Goad Shepherd Lutheran Church
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521

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Goad Shepherd Lutheran Church *Concord, CA*

Executive Committee:

President: Sue Hertless, **Vice President:** Victor Olmedo, **Secretary:** Betty Fraga
Member-at-Large: Ken Robinson

Congregational Council

Pamela Dietz, Mark Deniston, Betty Fraga, Sue Hertless, Jean Moore, Jon Moss, Laura Mott, Victor Olmedo, Jim Olson, Ken Robinson, Linda Rodemsky, Vicki Smiglewski, Herb Yonge

Ministry Staff:

Senior Pastor: (open)

Office Administrator: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsgconcord.com

Director of Instrumental Music: Margaret Halbig

Choir Director: Phoebe J. Rosquist - phoebe@netzero.net

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

Sound/Technology: Jamie Rodemsky - jamierl263@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lynne Davies - finance@gsgconcord.com

Financial Secretary: Vicki Smiglewski