

Shepherd's Voice

Volume 9 • Issue 6

A monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

June 2013

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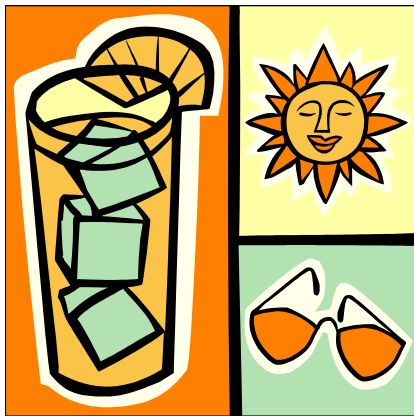
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July Newsletter
Articles Due June 20



June

**Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521
925-682-8410
gsconcord.com**

Worship Summer Schedule:

**Begins on June 23
One Service at 9:30 a.m.**

A Message from our Interim Pastor

The Sundays after Pentecost, which make up nearly *half* the church year, are called “ordinary time” – separate from the Feast Days of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost, and various other festival days. However, this time is far from ordinary; it is a time of discovery and growth. Just as summer in the East Bay features green trees and backyard or community gardens, summer in the church year is a time when we nurture our growth as followers of Christ.

Looking at our June readings from Luke’s gospel account, following Christ will take us to some amazing places: Jesus heals an “outsider’s” slave in Capernaum, raises a widow’s son from death in Nain, proclaims God’s love “through cities and villages” with the support of a group of women benefactors who travel with him, stills a stormy sea, exorcises demons, heals a chronically ill woman, raises a young girl from death, feeds 5,000 people with one kid’s lunch, is transfigured on a mountain top and – in *each* of these places – proclaims that God’s love will conquer all evil and death.

But these stories aren’t just a travelogue, or a collection of fantasy tales from ancient times. Jesus is *still* walking with us, *still* taking us to some amazing places: Look around at what’s going on in your own life. How do you see Christ present in the lives of people you encounter at work, in your neighborhood, or in your own family? Where do you see people suffering? Where do you see injustice being named and confronted by those who care and who work hard to bring about needed change? Where do you find *yourself* in all this?

The Holy Spirit of the living Christ is also taking Good Shepherd to some amazing places: Five of you have embarked on a journey as members of the Call Committee, and the entire congregation will be part of dreaming of a future with a new pastor; three young people have just completed the two-year confirmation program, in which they learned how God is present in their lives; the congregation will experience a new perspective in worship when the single, 9:30 a.m. service begins later this month; three baptisms are planned this summer (*remember the fire in the font on Pentecost?!);* and there are plans in the works for some Bible classes to help us make the connection between the biblical witness and our lived lives as Christians. Who knows where *that* might take us?!

Many of us may have travel plans for the next three months, but wherever we go, we are followers of Christ. At home, at church, and in our travels, may we continue to grow in faith, encourage one another, and *expect* to be taken to some amazing places by the unexpected urgings of the Holy Spirit!

– Interim Pastor Lori

Eickmann

Thanks and Recognitions

Congratulations!

To the Flegel family and especially to Tom Deans-Flegel and his bride on their June wedding.

To the Berg-Ledoux family for the baptism and first birthday of baby Brandon.

To Ann and Wally Brandt on their 62nd Wedding Anniversary, May 27.

A Special Thanks!

Thank you for the prayers, cards, e-mails, and phone calls after my surgery.

There is comfort in knowing that people care.

I have had many weeks of intense physical therapy but still have a long way to go. I need to be patient. The doctor says I'm doing well.

Thank you, Else Welsh



Confirmation Thanks!

- I would like to thank and congratulate Jacob Mollwitz, Lauren Wardle, and Erin Wardle, who have completed the Confirmation program and will make their Affirmation of Baptism in the fall.
- Thanks and “well done” also to Sam Buchholz and Doug Olson, who will start their second year in the fall.
- And special thanks to Ken Robinson for leading the confirmation classes and devoting so much time and energy to these amazing young people. Your efforts are much appreciated, Ken!

For all of these and for Christ's baptismal call to each of us – thanks be to God!

– Interim Pastor Lori

Council Thanks!

Recognition and thanks were noted during the May Council Meeting to the following congregation members for their willingness and joy to serve Good Shepherd Lutheran Church:

Duane Peterson: Who is always available to serve when asked during Sunday worship as well as his work on the Worship and Music Committee, Choir and bringing Communion to our shut-ins.

Linda Rodemsky and Ron Figueroa: Who are always willing to help whenever asked.

Susan Metzger and Nancy Judge for their work tallying the ballots after the Call Committee vote.

The Holy Trinity

Father, Son and Holy Ghost/Spirit
Father-Mother, Son, Holy Spirit

Creator, Christ, Spirit
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer/Sanctifier

Holy, Holy, Holy (Book of Revelation)
Ancient, Loving, Everlasting
Root, Tree, Fruit (Tertullian)
Marker, Lover, Keeper (Juliana of Norwich)
Table, Food, Waiter (Catherine of Siena)
One Who Was, One Who Is, One Who Is to Come

Who Was in the beginning, Who Is now,
Who Shall Be forever

Sea, River, Rain (Susan Palo Cherwien)
Breather, Breathing, Breath (Sylvia Dustan)
Wisdom, Love, Might

Fountain of living water, Rock that gave us birth,
Light of our salvation

The Mystery beyond us, the Mystery among us,
the Mystery within us (Frederick Buechner)

RUTH CIRCLE LUNCHEON ~ Thursday, June 6

Our Ruth's Circle group will meet at the Buttercup Restaurant on Clayton Road in Concord at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 6 to celebrate together before taking a break for the summer months. All women of Good Shepherd are invited to attend. Our group will begin meeting again in September. Questions: Please call Donna Monroe.

NOTE: This is the first Thursday of June.

June Birthdays

Emily Rodemsky	04
Jan Carzino	09
Adam Castle	13
Taylor Setchell	13
Joe Carlson	14
Laura Mott	14
Landon Poston	17
Isaac Stice	18
Joy Deniston	20
Reyanne Freeman	20
Magic Jaquez	20
Jean Moore	20
Jacqueline Fassl	21
Jack Mecklenburg	22
Chloe Setchell	22
Dominick Christiana	24
Tracy Hein	24
Daven Stelter	27
Donnie Wilson	28



Minutes of Council Meeting of May 13, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by president Sue Hertless.

Present were: Pr. Lori Eickmann, Sue Hertless, Vicki Smiglewski, Jim Olson, Laura Mott, Jon Moss, Linda Rodemsky, Leone McCullough, Ken Robinson, Victor Olmedo, and Donna Albrecht.

Members absent: Mark Deniston, Herb Yonge.

Guests: Gordon Monroe of Finance filling in for Herb Yonge, Tom Flegel to discuss worship and music.

Jim Olson moved to make an adjustment to the night's agenda; seconded by Jon Moss, Motion passed.

Sue Hertless offered recognitions for the following:
Duane Peterson and Ron Figueroa for always "saying yes" whenever they are called to help. Linda Rodemsky who is always available with a helping hand. Sue Metzger and Nancy Judge for being the election tenders at the election of the Call Committee.

Pr. Lori reported on the probable use of a fire bowl for Pentecost that will be in the baptismal font while readings from Acts will take place in a number of languages.

Pr. Lori discussed her report.

Tom Flegel spoke for the Worship and Music committee. The Worship & Music Committee recommended a proposal by Tom -- and the council approved it -- that there be a single service from June 23 through Sept. 8. Being specific on the dates assures the second service attendees that their service will resume after the summer. There will be meetings offered some weeks in the fellowship time to allow members to talk about what improvements they would like to see in the two services when we go back to the regular schedule.

Jon moved that we accept \$500 for the sale of the cemetery plot that the church owns; Jim seconded the motion, Motion passed.

The Long Range Planning committee reported on the ongoing Cell Tower negotiations.

Group prayer followed the adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Albrecht, Secretary

The dog is the most faithful of animals and would be much esteemed were it not so common. Our Lord God has made His greatest gifts the commonest.

— Martin Luther

Members and their faithful friends are always welcome here!



Wedding Anniversaries

John & Ione Bantly
June 2, 1954

James & Cathy Setchell
June 5, 1999

Jack & Frances Mecklenburg
June 16, 1967

Ray & Helen Ollila
June 17, 1951

Chris & Suzanne Christensen
June 19, 1954

Valentine & Evelyne Kingwell
June 20, 1969



Weekly E-News!

We have begun a weekly email designed to keep you up-to-date each Thursday.

Not receiving it yet?

Send an email to:
lauramott@gsconcord.com

Thank you for your financial support.

The Good Shepherd Income Statement for the newsletter will return next month. To see the Statement for April, please contact the church office.

CONFIRMATION CLASS 2012-2013

It has been my pleasure--and opportunity--to teach the Confirmation Class these past three years, and I want to tell the congregation some of what these kids (young adults) have discussed in these classes. These young adults have been a challenge---in a good way! I am proud of them, their Christian values and their intellect. They are truly gifted members of our congregation, and I know they will excel in life as they move on in the next few years.

In a previous newsletter article I told you some of the answers they gave when asked "What are some of the important issues facing our youth today?" Of course "bullying" has been around for generations, but the personal and social issues kids face today are tremendous. While some of what they face on a daily basis today was around when we were young, today it is so prevalent; some of the things kids were "shipped away" for decades ago are not only accepted but condoned. These young adults are open to discussion, appreciate the dilemmas some kids get into and are aware of the consequences of their actions. They brought up child abuse, teen pregnancy, drug addiction, loss of jobs in the family and other social and personal issues as we brought Jesus into the questions and answers. Most of this was discussed last year.

This year we focused on Luther's teaching and how those principles, when applied today, affect us not only as individuals, but as members of a family and in a social setting, too. Our kids were eager to learn about other religions, how some differ from Christianity and how we, as Christians, are to 'accept' them as part of God's family. Out of that discussion, we invited Rabbi Asher from Congregation B'nai Tikvah in Walnut Creek to visit and answer some questions the kids prepared. Below is a list of the questions presented to Rabbi Asher before he arrived. Additionally, more interesting questions came up as we met that evening. One that I vividly remember was, "Is there a Jewish Heaven and Hell?" WOW! What a question; an answer and an enlightening answer period we had on that one! As I said, these kids are very gifted, inquisitive and intelligent. Parents, you have been blessed!

Questions for Rabbi Asher:

What is the difference between a "Jew" and a "Gentile"? A Jew and a Christian?

Are certain foods considered "unclean" today? Why?

Are there female Rabbis?

What day of the week is set aside for worshipping?

Are Jews "baptized"?

Are services held in Hebrew today?

Please describe your book of "Scriptures", and how is it different from the Bible?

Who is Jesus in your point of view today, and who was he 2,000 years ago?

If Jesus isn't the Messiah, who is?

Bar/Bat-Mitzvah and Confirmation; how are they similar? What is the purpose?

Has a Rabbi always been the leader of a synagogue, or is this a "recent" position?

Has the synagogue always been the place of worship?

Is there a Jewish event that honors the Holocaust and the innocents who perished in it?

How are Christianity and Islam similar to your faith?

Can we worship in your synagogue as visitors; if so, when?

Now I guess you want to know the answers? See the August Newsletter, or ask one of the young adults: Doug Olson, *Erin Wardle, *Jacob Mollwitz, *Lauren Wardle or Sam Buchholz. These are some of the young adults you have seen helping out during our services these past few months, too.

Ken Robinson (925) 228-8084 kenikkir@comcast.net

*Graduating from Confirmation this month.

Congratulations to our Confirmation Families of 2012 –2013



INTERIM MINISTRY UPDATE, JUNE 2013

As you've probably heard by now, there will be one worship service at 9:30 a.m. this summer from June 23 and through Sept. 8. The temporary change will not only let everyone worship together and enjoy a variety of music, but it also will allow time after worship for some gatherings to talk about your vision for Good Shepherd.

Your Call Committee will help record the input at these gatherings and help report the results, which ultimately will be represented in the Ministry Site Profile (MSP), which is like a resume for the congregation.

The Council and Call Committee and I will meet with Bishop's Associate Nancy Feniuk Nelson on June 6, and then we can prepare an event or two to accomplish some short-term visioning, including thinking about the worship services and other aspects of the mission of GSLC.

Tom Deans Flegel and I also will host a couple of gatherings later in the summer to pull together ideas for renewing the second service from those who are interested in helping shape that when it resumes in the fall.

Your role:

Come and participate! Once the dates are set, come and share your ideas and hear what others are thinking. Be positive, knowing that it is the Holy Spirit who is propelling GSLC toward its future.

And another way to participate:

The task forces for Christian Education and Two Worship Services soon will have short surveys for you to fill out on a Sunday morning. This information will be helpful going in to the visioning gathering(s), so please fill out the surveys.

You may recall from the Annual Meeting back in January that four task forces were formed to look into 1) the call process, 2) fun and trust-building, 3) Christian Education and 4) the two worship services. Input gathered about the call process is being passed along to the Call Committee, and the "fun and trust-building" group has offered a movie night and "ice-breaker" game during coffee hour. The final two groups have created the surveys that you will soon receive. Thanks to the Council for their work on these task forces, and thanks to each of you for your participation!

— Interim Pastor Lori Eickmann

GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK CLUB

The Light Between Oceans by M.L. Stedman is the next read for our Good Shepherd Book Club.

Booklist gave it a starred review and wrote,

Haunting...Stedman draws the reader into her emotionally complex story right from the beginning, with lush descriptions of this savage and beautiful landscape, and vivid characters with whom we can readily empathize. Hers is a stunning and memorable debut.

Our meeting will be at 7:30 pm on July 16, site to be announced.

We were delighted that so many stopped by our 10th Anniversary table on Pentecost and checked out the wide variety of books we read. If you think you might enjoy a low commitment (six meetings a year) book club that is made up of people in your church family. Give us a try! Questions? Contact Donna Albrecht at donna@albrechts.com

June 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	3	4 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir (Choir Room)	5 3:00 p.m. Worship and Music (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	6 9:00 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle Luncheon 2:00 p.m. Finance Comm. (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (Upstairs) 7:00 p.m. Council/Call Comm. 7:00 p.m. Property/Long Range	7	8 Ramirez Baptism 2:00-10:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall
9 8:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	10	11 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir (Choir Room) 7:00 p.m. Council (FH)	12 9:30 a.m. Quilters (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH) 7:00 p.m. Youth Group	13 Noon DVLC Mtg. (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (Upstairs)	14	15 9:30 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kitchen / FH))
16 Father's Day 8:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)	17	18	19 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	20 9:00 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (Upstairs) *Newsletter articles due to-day	21	22
23 / 30 9:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 10:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH) ▶▶▶ One service will begin on June 23	24	25	26 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	27 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (Upstairs)	28	29

Friends Feeding Friends

An outreach ministry that serves needy in our county

Sarah Jean's
Dream at age 4

—
"So people who are
really hungry
have food."



Friends Feeding Friends Highlights for the Past Month

242	People helped with groceries
129	Meals served
20	People furnished
13	Churches helping FFF
6	Shelters/Agencies referring 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

Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521
925-682-8410
gsconcord.com

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

Did you know, Friends Feeding Friends is the #1 choice by the Concord Shelter to provide household furnishings once their clients transition from homelessness to housing?

Next Friends Feeding Friends Lunch at the shelter is June 15, 2013. All are welcome to help!

Items needed this month: Toilet paper, laundry detergent, anything for a household, any dry, canned or fresh food. We appreciate all donations!

Have questions or want to help?
Contact Dana Deniston 768-9087 or Linda Rodemsky
864-9266 or email us at: friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com

**The North
Concord
Shelter:**

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

Thank you once
more to all of
our faithful
supporters.
Because of you,
we can reach so
many more!

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.
Call the Contra Costa Crisis Center at Call 211.

Worship Assistants June 2 - June 30, 2013

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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church *Concord, CA*

Executive Committee:

President: Sue Hertless, **Vice President:** Victor Olmedo, **Secretary:** Donna Albrecht
Member-at-Large: Laura Mott

Congregational Council

Donna Albrecht, Mark Deniston, Sue Hertless, Leone McCullough, Jon Moss, Laura Mott,
Victor Olmedo, Jim Olson, Ken Robinson, Linda Rodemsky, Vicki Smiglewski, Herb Yonge

Ministry Staff:

Interim Pastor: Lori Eickmann - pastorlori@me.com
Office Administrator: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com
Director of Instrumental Music: Open
Choir Director: Phoebe J. Rosquist - phoebe@netzero.net
Contemporary Music Leader: Tom Deans Flegel - tdeans08@gmail.com
Sound/Technology: Jamie Rodemsky - jamier1263@gmail.com
Treasurer: Lynne Davies - finance@gsconcord.com
Financial Secretary: Vicki Smiglewski