

# Shepherd's Voice

Volume 11 • Issue 5

A monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

May 2015

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June Newsletter Articles  
due May 22

## May



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

**Worship Schedule:  
Sundays 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.**

## Rev's Reflections

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Mathew 25:40)

It's hard to believe that I have only been here for six months. I am still learning about the fine folks of Good Shepherd and what it means to be your pastor. What I have learned is that we are a community with resources that does very well serving the poor and “least of these” through our Friends Feeding Friends Ministry. That ministry hands out around 600 bags of food on a monthly basis to those who would go without.

In my short time here, I have noticed that we have a need among us. We have seven people on our homebound list. These people are unable to come to worship for various reasons and are confined to their home or a care facility. They have been part of this congregation for many years and are unable to be with us in person. Being away from the church you have called home for so long can be lonely, isolating, and discouraging.

So, I am looking for people to be a part of our visitation ministry with our homebound.

Here is how you can help:

1. Volunteer to call on a homebound member in person.
2. Send encouraging notes.
3. Deliver church bulletins/newsletters.
4. Be their friend.

We are looking for people who:

1. See value in homebound people.
2. Are willing to spend time with our homebound.
3. Can listen with empathy and compassion.
4. Are positive, friendly, and encouraging.
5. Will pray regularly for those they visit.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

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I know there are a couple of people who already do this. But, we need more. If you feel God nudging you to this ministry, I would be happy to go with you on the first couple visits to introduce you to our homebound members and make that connection.

I hope you will consider this ministry.

Peace,  
Rev. Jeremy Serrano

### SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD—WOMEN OF THE ELCA BI-ANNUAL CONVENTION

All women of our congregation are invited to attend our Bi-Annual Convention, beginning Friday, Oct. 9 through Oct. 11, 2015, at the Evergreen Conference Center (ECCO) located on the north side of the beautiful mountain town of Oakhurst, 14 miles south of the entrance to Yosemite National Park.

The Keynote Speaker is Kathryn Lohre, author of the book, *For Such a Time as This: Young Adults on the Future of the Church*. Kathryn is also Director for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations in the office of the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Come and enjoy the beautiful grounds we have reserved, our speaker, and a weekend filled with business, Bible Study, and wonderful recreational activities.

We hope you will consider joining us for a relaxing weekend of faith and fellowship.

For info or to register please visit the website: [womenofelcasp.org/](http://womenofelcasp.org/)



GOOD SHEPHERD INCOME STATEMENT			
AS OF MARCH 31, 2015			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	Difference
INCOME:			
Pledges	\$ 35,614	\$ 36,415	( \$ 800)
Unpledged	8,347	5,794	2,553
Other (Tower, Rent, etc.)	25,931	20,776	5,155
TOTAL INCOME	69,892	62,984	6,908
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	(60,341)	(63,903)	(3,562)
NET INCOME	\$ 9,551	\$ 919	\$ (10,470)

**Thank you for your financial support.**

## **A Message from our Council President**

April was a terrific month with the wonderful Easter celebration. It was terrific to see a good number of folks at our combined service. And the delicious brunch provided by our Fellowship Committee. Thank you everyone who helped set up, provided food, served and cleaned up.

It was a truly wonderful day. As we exited the church we were greeted with much needed rain drops. So many drops the Easter Egg Hunt had to be relocated to the sanctuary!

I want to thank Linda Rodemsky for mowing the "lower 40." Thanks Linda. Want to thank Rev, Jon Moss and Tony Rogelstad for all the hard work preparing Pioneer House for our pastor and his family.

As you know we have purchased an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). On Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> we trained several of our ushers and others that wished the training. It only takes about 10 minutes to learn Hands Only CPR and how to use the AED. We want all of our ushers to be trained.

If you did not attend the training and wish to learn this important skill please call the office and let Laura know. She will make a list, and when we have at least 10 people we will conduct another class.

As you all know there is a need for us to conserve water. Several months ago Nils Anderson met with a representative of Contra Costa Water and they did an audit of our water system. There were a number of things that needed to be addressed: broken water line, ineffective sprinkler heads, etc. Some of the items have been fixed and we have reduced our consumption considerably. But we need to do more.

Our Property Committee will continue to address the water situation, and we will continue to reduce our usage. Our last billing period reflected a reduction of 1200 gallons per day from the same period last year, from 1900 gallons per day to 700.

On Thursday, May 21, we will be having our second Healthy Start meeting with Pastor Mark Price. Our Council and the Call Committee members will be attending this meeting.

Have a great month. See you in church.  
Peace, Herb

## **Friends Feeding Friends Passes Food Bank Inspection**

By Dana Deniston

Friends Feeding Friends was inspected by the food bank on Thursday, April 30. We passed with flying colors!

The walk through included physically inspecting our shelving and food storage, checking food temps in our freezers and refrigerators, and inspecting our permit, records, and my food safety manager certificate.

The inspector was impressed with our operation and he said we are doing everything right. He especially liked the fact that we deliver to housebound and disabled people who have no family or friends nearby. He said FFF is a progressive model for other agencies to learn from and study. We are reaching people who would otherwise go hungry.

He said he was in complete awe of what we accomplish and how many people and how many diverse population groups we reach. And he himself has a lot of non-profit work history having worked for Catholic Charities.

## May Birthdays

Nina Ferrando	01
Isaac Mollwitz	01
Marilyn Sarchett	01
Frances Mecklenburg	03
Susan Ripley	07
Jay Neyenhouse	08
Alice Engel	09
Jo Carson	10
Jeannette Kaul	11
Joe Yarbrough	12
Connie Summers	16
Else Welsh	17
Doug Freeman	20
Dorothy Nelson	21
Brandon Berg-Ledoux	25
Anitha Beamer	27
Lois Berg	27
Marilyn King	30



## April 2015 - Council Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Herb Yonge.

Members present: Herb Yonge, Nils Anderson, Donna Albrecht, Tony Rogelstad, Greg Buchholz, Jon Moss, and Vicki Smiglewski.

Absent: Leone McCullough, Laura Mott, Emilie Patton, and Pastor Jeremy.  
Visitor: Rich Veal.

Rich Veal, an instructor for the Clayton Community Emergency Response Team taught Council Members how to do hands-only CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and how to operate our new AED (Automated External Defibrillators) in the event someone stops breathing while on our campus. Our AED machine is stored in the church office copy room during the week and is to be taken to the Narthex at the close of business on Friday by Laura Mott or Pastor, and returned after the completion of the second service on Sundays by the COD.

Recognitions: Herb recognize Tony Rogelstad, Jon Moss, and Pastor for their work on Pioneer House, and all those who worked on Easter Services and Brunch. Vicki was recognized for her work on the butterflies for the sanctuary for Easter morning along with those who helped, including Gary and Linda Mahloch; Jim, Carin, and Doug Olson; and Joe and Laura Carlson. Joe Carlson, Gordon Monroe and Paul Rusch were recognized for doing the annual financial audit. Emilie sent in her recognition of Choir leader, Ondine Young, for bringing in great musicians for our Easter service.

The May Council meeting has been moved forward to May 19.

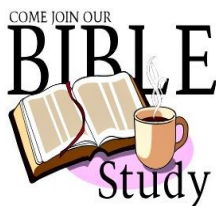
Nils and a representative of Contra Costa Water District evaluated water use on Good Shepherd's campus. As a result, many leaks have been found and fixed and our water bill shows a significant reduction in use. However, we are still using approximately 700 gallons a day.

Renovations on the Parsonage are nearly complete.

At Pastor's request, the altar will be moved forward on the platform to provide more space for moving around, and a handrail will be installed in the back for safety in going up and down the stairs there. The overhead lights in the sanctuary have been checked, and parts have been ordered for those needing repairs. There was a long discussion about how we as a congregation should proceed in supporting Friends Feeding Friends.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Donna Albrecht, Council Secretary

**Ruth Circle Bible Study**  
**Thursday, May 14 at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**



After a snack we will go to the Fireside Room for our Bible Study that includes Acts, 1st Corinthians and Romans.

Jesus gave a commission to the disciples to be witnesses to the end of the earth. The Jerusalem church leaders debated the proper relation between Jewish law and Gentile believers. Paul sent letters to the Christians at Corinth and Rome. Today we need to consider how the church can affirm the gifts of all the members and can work together to “discern what is the will of God.” Community in life and faith with guidance of the Holy Spirit will enable us to go forth with hope.

**Poverty and the Church**

Pastor Jeremy is looking for 10 people to study poverty and the church. If you are interested, please contact him at your earliest convenience.

**Assisting Minister and Communion Assistant Training**

If you are interested, please come for a training on **Saturday, June 13** at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**Leisure Lunch in May**



**Join us for a Cinco de Mayo celebration!**  
**We will gather on Tuesday, May 19th at noon for a lunch catered by a local Mexican restaurant.**

**Sombreros are optional;**  
**afternoon siesta may be necessary.**

**For any questions or if you need a ride, please call Susan or Bob Ripley at 925-827-9717.**

**LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE—NEPAL AREA EARTHQUAKE**

Devastating images and stories are coming out of Nepal following a 7.8 magnitude earthquake on April 25. Sections of Kathmandu, the nation’s capital, and surrounding areas lie in rubble. More than 3,500 people have lost their lives, and the number continues to rise as officials make their way through rural communities. Historic buildings and houses have been leveled; roads are destroyed. The need for food, water, medical care, blankets and shelter is great. Lutheran Disaster Response is already actively networking with partners such as The Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Lutheran World Relief, and the ACT Alliance who are already on the ground. Your gifts are needed now. Every gift designated to the “Nepal Area Earthquake” through Lutheran Disaster Response will be used entirely – 100 percent – to help those impacted by the quake rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

▶▶▶ If you are able, please go to [www.ELCA.org/disaster](http://www.ELCA.org/disaster) to help.

*Wedding  
 Anniversaries*

Fred & Teresa Wagner  
 May 5, 1974

Mike & Lisa Henry  
 May 7, 1983

John and Holly Pereira  
 May 10, 1975

Kurt & Jan Harmon  
 5/12/1959

Larry & Sheila  
 Huddleston  
 5/13/1972



**\* Adult Sunday School**  
**in the Fireside Room**  
*Led by Pastor Jeremy*  
 9:40-10:40 a.m.

**\* Children’s Sunday**  
**School in Classroom 3**  
*Led by Jessica Serrano*  
 9:40-10:40 a.m.



## Summer Dates to Remember

June 7: Last Sunday for 2 Worship Services for the summer  
Last Sunday School Class for Adults & Children for the summer

June 13: Training for Assisting Ministers & Communion Assistants (Meet at 10: am in Sanctuary)

June 14: 9:30 a.m. Single Blended Worship begins  
Blessing of the Bikes

August 23: Blessing of the Back Packs

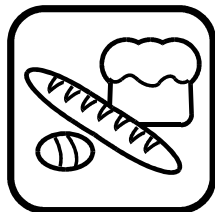
September 13: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services Resume  
Sunday School begins for Adults & Children

# May 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Regular Sunday Schedule:</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 9:40 Sunday School for all 9:45 a.m. Coffee (FH) 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 1:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:00 p.m. NA Group (FH)					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> All Day Private Event (CH & FH)
<b>3</b> See Schedule Above	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:30 p.m. Book Club (FR)	<b>6</b> 10:30 a.m. Quilting (FH) 3:00 p.m. Worship and Music Committee (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (Upstairs)	<b>7</b> 9:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 2:00 p.m. Finance 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	<b>8</b> 10:00 a.m. DVLC Board Mtg. (FH)	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> See Schedule Above	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:30 a.m. Tabernacle School (Kitchen) 7:00 p.m. NA (Upstairs)	<b>14</b> 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (FR) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:30 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kitchen)
<b>17</b> See Schedule Above	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Noon Leisure Lunch (FH) 7:00 p.m. Council (FH)	<b>20</b> 10:30 a.m. Quilting (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (Upstairs)	<b>21</b> 9:00 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (upstairs) 7:00 p.m. Healthy Start Check-in (FH)	<b>22</b> Newsletter Articles Due	<b>23</b>
<b>24 / 31</b> See Schedule Above	<b>25</b> Memorial Day	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:00 p.m. NA (Upstairs)	<b>28</b> 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
CH = Church	FH = Fellowship Hall	FR = Fireside Room				

# Friends Feeding Friends

## An outreach ministry that serves needy in our county



**732 Grocery/Food bags distributed**  
**797 People helped with food**  
**167 Hot Meals served**  
**28 People helped with household furnishings**

### Highlights from the past month:

- Tabernacle's High School students baked desserts for FFF's shelter lunch, assembled dressers for FFF families, and assembled shelving to help organize FFF.
- Valley Christian Church members donated furniture, helped pick up household donations, and delivered groceries for FFF.
- Our awesome group of ladies packed hundreds of food bags on Tuesdays.
- Thank you Vicki for packing grooming supplies for the shelter residents and for packing plastic ware and napkins for shelter luncheons.
- Most of the Lent and Easter critters have been distributed to the community!! Thank you!

**Next FFF Lunch: May 16, 2015: 9 a.m. 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:

- Small kitchen gadgets (can openers, peelers, etc.)
- Toilet paper and paper towels
- Dish detergent and Laundry detergent

**Volunteers are needed to help size and bag sheets, can you help? ►►► Please!**



Volunteers from Tilden Prep School, Cal State Northridge, CVHS, Valley Christian, GSLC, Life Church and Tabernacle School making sandwiches and soup for homeless friends.




Reyanne and Kay preparing burritos for a shelter lunch.

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.

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



## Worship Assistants – May 3 through May 31, 2015

Date	Time	Assisting Minister	Communion Assistant	Lector	Acolyte, Torchbearer	Crucifer	Altar Guild	Greeters	Ushers	Sound Ministry	Communion to Shut-Ins	Coffee Ministry	Counters	C.O.D.
<b>5/03</b>	8:30	Duane Peterson	Susan Metzger and Linda Rodemsky	Betty Fraga	Allie Buchholz	Sam Buchholz	Ione Bantly Leone McCullough Karin Bohling Tracy Rentner	Ron and Mary Figueroa	Paul Rusch and Vicki Smiglewski	Jamie Rodemsky		Gary and Linda Mahloch	Carin Olson and Aimee Olmedo	Vicki Smiglewski
	11:00							Laura Mott						
<b>5/10</b>	8:30	Lauren Wardle	Susan Metzger and Kelly Schaefer	Rosemary Fassl	Caedmon Serrano	Doug Olson	Donna Abeyta Nancy Knapp Nancy Judge Becky Berg	Larry and Marcia Sander	Ron Figueroa and Paul Rusch	Jamie Rodemsky		Greg and Kristi Buchholz	Tony Rogelstad and Herb Yonge	Tony Rogelstad
	11:00							Nancy Knapp						
<b>5/17</b>	8:30	Candace Bradley	Mike Albrecht and Duane Peterson	Donna Albrecht	Ryan Kich	Lauren Wardle	Kathy Price Elise Welsh Heidi Moss Cindy Rogelstad	Kay Bennett and Jeannette Kaul	Greg Buchholz and Sam Buchholz	Jamie Rodemsky		Doug and Reyenne Freeman	Tony Rogelstad and Herb Yonge	Emilie Patton
	11:00							Aimee Olmedo						
<b>5/24</b>	8:30	Duane Peterson	Linda Rodemsky and Susan Metzger	Nils Anderson	Allie Buchholz	Erin Wardle	Jan Harman Pam Dietz Willajean Rogelstad Linda Mahloch	Juire and Elise Welsh	Gary and Linda Mahloch	Jamie Rodemsky		Jon and Heidi Moss	Greg Buchholz and Nils Anderson	Leone McCullough
	11:00							Connie Summers						
<b>5/31</b>	8:30	Kelly Schaefer	Duane Peterson and Linda Rodemsky	Linda Rodemsky	Caedmon Serrano	Doug Olson	Laura Carlson Vicki Smiglewski Elizabeth Kich Sue Hertless	Willajean Rogelstad	Paul Rusch and Ron Figueroa	Jamie Rodemsky		Kathy and Ron Price	Greg Buchholz and Nils Anderson	Jon Moss
	11:00							Jay Neyenhouse						

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

# *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Concord, GA*

*2015 Executive Committee:*  
President: Herb Yonge, Vice President: Leone McCullough, Secretary: Donna Albrecht  
Member-at-Large: Vicki Smiglewski  
*2015 Congregational Council*  
Donna Albrecht, Nils Anderson, Greg Buchholz, Leone McCullough, Laura Mott,  
Jon Moss, Emilie Paton, Tony Rogelstad, Vicki Smiglewski and Herb Yonge  
*Ministry Staff:*  
Pastor: Rev. Jeremy Serrano - rev@gscconcord.com  
Office Administrator: Laura Mott - lauramott@gscconcord.com  
Interim Organizer: Lynne Davies  
Bell Choir Director: Magic Jaquez  
Choir Director: Ondine Young  
Contemporary Music Leader: Tom Deans Flegel - tdeans08@gmail.com  
Sound/Technology: Jamie Rodemsky - jamier1263@gmail.com  
Treasurer: Lynne Davies - finance@gscconcord.com  
Financial Secretary: Laura Mott - lauramott@gscconcord.com