

Shepherd's Voice

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Feeding bodies, minds, and souls...

Volume 13 • Issue 4
2017 Edition

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*May Newsletter Articles
Due Monday, April 24*

April



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

Worship Schedule:
Sundays 9:00 a.m.

Rev's Reflections

*Anyone in Christ is a new creation: old things are passed away;
behold, all things are become new. (2 Corinthians 5:17)*

In the resurrection of Jesus we witness God's plan for creation. We see the 8th day of creation; the final day in which the new heavens and new earth promised by God are an eternal reality. In the resurrection, death, hell, and the devil are defeated and destroyed forever. We, who are still on earth subject to space and time, but in union with Jesus, are through Jesus already delivered from the old seven day creation with its deterioration, despair, and death – we are now a part of God's new creation.

When Jesus cried out from the cross "It is finished," it was God's final word on the old creation – this life with its suffering, evil, and death. It is also God's welcoming word to us into the new day, the Kingdom prepared for us from the beginning, God's eternal light and joy and peace and love. The old creation is now only a transition, a vapor, a passing state which ends personally for us at our death. Death is therefore no longer a foe to be feared, but a portal to be passed. The grave is not a resting place, and to refer to cemeteries as one's final resting place is incorrect. Our final resting place is the Kingdom of God to which we enter.

For the follower of Christ we have inside us is the longing to live and thrive, to be happy and joyous and free. We have the intuitive knowledge that we're never going to be satisfied with the passing pleasures of this life. Inside us is the despair which comes when we realize the cycle of brokenness has no resolution in this life. This life is just one thing after another, and the same things over and over. Here there is no end to sin, here there is indeed nothing new under the sun.

But there has risen another Sun, the Sun of Righteousness who heals us of all the brokenness that afflicts us under this old creation sun. Under that Sun, the eternal light which now shines in our hearts with the warmth and assurance of His unending love for us, all is new and good and whole.

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We celebrate Easter not as an event of long ago, not as some mythic and abstract truth about renewal in this life. We celebrate the eternal reality of heaven in which we now share by faith, and will know fully at the culmination of all things. We celebrate the Festival of the Resurrection in union with Jesus who proclaims, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me, though you die, yet shall you live." We celebrate the rising of our Lord in the sure and certain hope that beyond the portal we pass at our death, is a new day which never ends. Happy Easter.

Peace,
Rev. J. Serrano

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday of the Passion Palm Sunday: Sunday 9:00 a.m. (April 9)

Maundy Thursday: Single worship service at 7:00 p.m. (April 13)

*Good Friday: Noon , Stations of the Cross GSLC (April 14)
7:00 p.m., Worship service at GSLC*



*Resurrection of Our Lord
Easter Day*

*Join Us for our Easter Worship Service
April 16 ~ 9:00 a.m.*

*Followed by Brunch and an Easter Egg Hunt
Immediately following our Worship Service.*



Reformation 500

1517-2017

Start with us at the beginning of what will be the
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Reformation Festival in October 2017.

When does it begin?
Sunday, April 30 at 11:00 a.m. we will meet in Fellowship Hall.

Bring your ideas and join us at the beginning
as we plan how to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation
with neighbors and friends in our community.

Look Whooooooooo's coming!



Please join us in showering Tom and Shelby
Deans-Flegel with love as they welcome

Baby Jack

When: April 9, 2017 right after church
Where: Pastor Jeremy's house

Tom and Shelby are registered at
Amazon.com and Buy Buy Baby.

Baby Jack is due May 21st.
Please bring diapers of any size.

This is a co-ed shower. Everyone is invited!
RSVP to Jessica 619-920-6404



April Birthdays

Ann Brandt	02
Leone McCullough	04
Rebecca Berg	05
Edythe Marshall	09
Susan Metzger	09
Vince Mahon	13
Mark Deniston	14
Teresa Wagner	14
Cal Fraga	16
Melissa Henry	18
Evelyn Hidy	18
Gordon Monroe	18
Krystle Bartlett	19
Connie Batchelder	20
Mike Carzino	20
Duane Peterson	20
Cathy Setchell	20
Vicki Smiglewski	20
Herb Yonge	21
Mark Poston	22
Mike Henry	27
John Mott	28



Good Shepherd is Planning Fun Times at the A's Games for 2017.

We have purchased tickets for two fantastic baseball games this summer:

- * **The first game is June 17 - Yankees/A's at 1:05 p.m.**
- * **The second game is September 23 - Rangers/A's at 6:05 p.m.**

The second game, on September 23 will feature Fireworks with a Star Wars Theme. It is going to be a lot of fun, so invite your family and friends, too!

PLEASE: Make your check payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and note on the memo line which game you are paying for.

Both games are fundraisers and proceeds will go toward our Reformation Festival.

- **Note: Our seats are accessible without using stairs. There is also assistance available for those with mobility issues.**

PLEASE NOTE: Council Meeting Notes will now be available on the church website at: gsconcord.com

Have You Started Your Spring Cleaning?

Spring has begun! Are you starting your Spring Cleaning? If you answered yes, you should know that Good Shepherd is planning a **Parking Lot Sale on Saturday, June 4.**

You will have an option to rent a space and sell your own items

- OR -

You will have an option to donate your items to GSLC for us to sell.

All proceeds will toward go our Reformation Festival.

Our Aluminum Can Drive Continues

The Evangelism Committee is sponsoring an aluminum can drive to raise money for the El Salvador Church. Will you bring your empty aluminum cans to church in a plastic bag? Leave them outside the church doors on the right. Each Sunday they will be picked up after church for recycling. As always, many thanks for your support.

News From Our Council President

Hello everyone, here are some highlights from our Church Council meeting on March 14:

Recognitions:

- o Betty Jacobsen and Wilma Seppala were recognized by Pastor Jeremy for designing and creating our baptismal banners. Thank you Betty and Wilma!
- o Tyler Costa recognized Laura Mott and the Finance Committee for the warm welcome to this committee.

- A hearty thank you to Sue Hertless for leading our efforts to support our sister congregation, Resurrection Lutheran in El Salvador. Sue was able to forward a check for \$10,000 which reflects the fundraising efforts to-date and includes the donations from our congregation as well as many other churches in our Synod. Thank you to Sue and Betty for all of their efforts in making this happen!

- In regards to the El Salvador donation, it should be noted that the Council voted to fund the final approximately \$300 from one of the idle finance accounts, the Stephen Ministry fund. This prompted further discussion on the need to review all of the special purpose designated funds to see if they are still active, and if not, figure out what to do with the funds. The Council has asked the Chair of the Finance Committee, Tyler Costa, to find out which funds are actively used and which are not, and to give recommendations on how to handle any idle funds. This will be discussed again in upcoming Council meetings. No action will be taken without first bringing the plans to the Congregation for input. In the meantime, please feel free to catch me on Sunday, or call me at (925) 681-8255, should there be any questions or comments.

- My thanks to Joseph and Denise Husary for volunteering to represent Good Shepherd at the upcoming annual meeting of the Synod in Fresno.

- The Council has scheduled a retreat for Saturday, May 13.

- Please consider coming by the church on Saturday, April 8, to assist in setting up for Palm Sunday. Check the bulletin, newsletter or weekly email 'blast' for more details. Thank you!

In God's Peace,
Greg Buchholz
Council President

Wedding Anniversaries

Mark and Sally
Poston
April 5, 2003

Paul and Susan
Brodley
April 16, 1981

Phil and Elizabeth
Kich
April 22, 1990



Men's Breakfast & Bible Study



**Saturday, April 29
8:00 a.m. in the
Hall**



April Leisure Lunch - Fourth Week in April!

Please join our Leisure Lunchers on Tuesday,
April 25th from Noon to 1:30 p.m.

The menu is sure to be the start of a spring thaw! Don't hesitate to call Bob or Susan Ripley at 925-827-9717 with any questions or menu suggestions.

See you soon!

A Social Ministry Lent Project

Thank you from our Social Ministry Committee for your generosity again this year!

By donating soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, hair combs and hair brushes

during Lent, you have provided items for our Friends Feeding Friends volunteers to assemble hygiene bags with that will serve many in our community.

Thank you!



Palm Sunday is April 9 Preparation begins April 8 - Join us!

We will be hanging palms and preparing the Sanctuary for Palm Sunday, on Saturday, April 8, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary, and you are invited to join in the fun of preparing for this special day.

If you have palms and/or Bird of Paradise plants to donate, please let Rev know.

GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK CLUB

On May 2, Good Shepherd's Book Club will meet to discuss Barbara Delinsky's *FAMILY TREE*.

Publishers Weekly reported, "When Dana and Hugh Clarke's baby is born into their wealthy, white New England seaside community, the baby's unmistakably African-American features puzzle her thoroughly Anglo-looking parents. . . By the time the Clarkes have uncovered the tangled roots of their family trees, more than one skeleton has been unearthed, and the couple's relationship—not to mention their family loyalty—has been severely tested."

Even if you've never come to the book club, please join us as we discuss this fascinating story.

We'll be in the Fireside Room at 7:30 p.m. Questions? Contact Donna Albrecht at Donna@Albrechts.com.



Friends Feeding Friends

An outreach ministry of Good Shepherd that serves the needy in our county

Sarah Jean's
Dream at age 4

—
“So people who
are really hungry
have food.”



For we are God's
workmanship cre-
ated in Christ
Jesus to do good
works, which God
prepared in
advance for us to
do.

Ephesians 2:10

966 Bags of food distributed
753 Households helped
994 People helped with groceries
148 Hot Meals served

Highlights:

- We picked up our annual load of donated furniture from the Oakland Museum White Elephant Sale. We are very blessed to be one of the charities that they support!!!
- The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano donated 2 pallets of new pillows to FFF, greatly appreciated!!
- This month for our shelter lunch, we had volunteers from Clayton Community Church, Good Shepherd, Life Church, Valley Christian Church, and The Boys Club. We served brisket with homemade bbq sauce, pork and beans, corn bread, green salad & fruit salad.

Next Shelter Lunch: April 15, 2017 - 9:00 at Good Shepherd to prep. All are welcome!!

Items needed this month:

- Loveseats and Living room chairs
- Bars of soap
- Dressers

You can contact us at friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com or friendsfeedingfriendsca@gmail.com, and we are on the church website at <http://gsconcord.com/outreach-ministries/friends-feeding-friends/>





**Pictured here are some of
our helpers from our shelter
← lunch prep.**

**FFF picks up a vanload of food
every week, rain or shine.**



April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 10:15 Sunday School (Rm 3) 10:15 a.m. Coffee (FH) 12:30 Lighthouse (FH)(#3) 6:00 p.m. NA Group (FH)	Sundays 4/9 & 4/16 No Sunday School and No Confirmation					1
2 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above.	3	4	5 3:00 p.m. Worship & Music Meeting (FH) 6:30 P.M. SOUP SUPPER (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (CH)	6 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 5:00 p.m. Finance Mtg. 6:00 Lighthouse (Rm. 3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	7	8 9:00 Palm Sunday Church Prep (CH)
9 PALM SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Baby Shower for Tom & Shelby Deans-Flegel (Parsonage)	10	11 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting (FH)	12 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	13 Maundy Thur. 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (FH) 1:00 p.m. DVLC Board (FH) 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm 3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH) 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thur.	14 Good Fri. 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service (CH) 	15 9:30 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kitchen)
16 EASTER 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Brunch & Egg Hunt 	17	18 7:00p.m. Property (Kitchen)	19 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	20 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:00 Lighthouse (Rm. 3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	21	22 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast and Bible Study (FH) 9:00 a.m. DVLC Check-in (FR)
23 9:00 a.m. Schedule 30 9:00 a.m. Schedule 11:00 Reformation Planning Mtg. (FH)	24 Newsletter Articles Due Today!	25 Noon Leisure Lunch (FH)	26 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	27 6:00 Lighthouse (Rm. 3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	28	29
CH = Church		FH = Fellowship Hall		FR = Fireside Room		

Worship Assistants April 2 - April 30, 2017

[illegible]

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Concord, CA

2017 Executive Committee:

President: Greg Buchholz, **Vice President:** Sue Hertless, **Secretary:** John Mott
Member-at-Large: Adam Castle

2017 Congregational Council

Rebecca Berg, Candace Bradley, Greg Buchholz, Adam Castle, Tyler Costa,
Sue Hertless, Joseph Husary, Nancy Judge, John Mott, Tony Rogelstad, Kelly Schaefer

Ministry Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Jeremy Serrano - rev@gsconcord.com
Office Administrator: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com
Organist: Christopher Hewitt; chrishe Witt@gsconcord.com
Interim Choir Director: Emilie Patton
Contemporary Music Leader: Tom Deans Flegel - tdeans08@gmail.com
Sound/Technology: Jamie Rodemsky - jamier1263@gmail.com
Treasurer: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com
Financial Secretary: Vicki Smiglewski

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

4000 Clayton Road

Concord, CA 94521



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church exists to **reach** out in Jesus name and **gather** in deep community, to **learn** and grow into God's Kingdom, to **serve** our neighbor and **worship** the creator.