

Shepherd's Voice

Volume 11 • Issue 7

A monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

July 2015

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August Newsletter Articles
due July 27

July



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

**Summer Worship Schedule:
Sundays 9:30 a.m.**

Rev's Reflections

**“For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,
that Jesus said, “Follow Me.”**

The definition of a Christian is simply a person who follows Jesus. One can believe in God, in heaven and hell, in being a good person; but, none of that makes them a Christian. Jesus is the dividing line between Christian and non-Christian.

Jesus calls individuals into relationship with himself and his family. I think we often forget the “and his family” part because that’s what the church is. A Christian church is the family of Jesus who together follow Jesus wherever he may lead. One can’t have one without the other; you can’t have Jesus without his family. One can’t have complete relationships in the church without Jesus. “My brothers and sisters,” Jesus said, “are those who hear the word of God and do it.” “You are my friends,” Jesus said, “if you do what I command you. And this is my command – that you love one another.”

Christian love is not about a sentimental feeling, but sacrificial faithfulness toward those whom we are in relationship with. It is faithfulness to Jesus’ word, faithfulness to Jesus’ family, faithfulness to his creation. I am thankful for the Holy Spirit that produces within us the very thing we are not humanly capable of doing: love. Love is a verb. Love is a doing, a sacrifice on the behalf of, a faithfulness in spite of, which is impossible without the grace of God in Jesus Christ.

We witnessed love this last month when the family of those killed in Charleston forgave the killer. We witness love when those who rejoice in the supreme court decision to allow same sex-marriage nationwide continue in dialogue with those who disagree. We witness love when we see people sacrifice their agenda and will in order to be in relationship with those with whom they strongly disagree.

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Christians, you are called to love, to be sacrificially faithful for those in your community. Sacrifice hurts, so we often don't want to do it. But, we have Jesus, who shows us what sacrifice is and empowers us to give ourselves up for each other as he did for us. Amen.

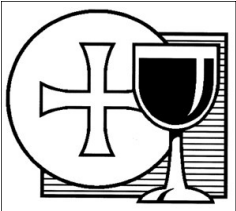
Peace,

Rev. J. Serrano

Did You Know?

You can find out the latest happenings at GSLC every Thursday by signing up for our weekly email blast. Send an email to: lauramott@gsconcord.com and Laura will sign you up. You will also receive your copy of the GSLC newsletter in color on the first day of each month.

Communion Instruction



There will be a two-part Communion Instruction for anyone who desires instruction before receiving Communion in October.

Part One will be held on Sunday, October 11, during the Sunday School hour.

Part Two will be held on Sunday, October 18, also during the Sunday School hour.

GOOD SHEPHERD INCOME STATEMENT			
AS OF May 31, 2015			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	Difference
INCOME:			
Pledges	\$58,572	\$60,691	(\$2,119)
Unpledged	13,238	9,656	3,582
Other (Tower, Rent, etc.)	43,146	34,626	8,520
TOTAL INCOME	114,956	104,973	9,983
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	(105,312)	(103,948)	1,364
NET INCOME	\$ 9,644	\$ 1,025	\$ (8,619)

Thank you for your financial support.

A Message from our Council President

I hope this month's newsletter finds you in the full swing of summer. Having one service at 9:30 a.m. has been a summer tradition here at Good Shepherd, and hopefully this works for you. Great to see everyone together.

I want to thank Tony Rogelstad for the time and talent in getting the sanctuary lighting repaired. Thanks to Jamie Rodemsky for helping, too. There are still some lights that need to be replaced in the sanctuary and I am sure the Property Committee will get this done soon. Replacing the carpet is also on the radar screen.

I hear there is a need and desire to do some cleaning in the sanctuary: scrub the floors and clean the pews. Any volunteers? (See below)

I understand the Celebration/Potluck held Sunday, June 14, was a great success. We need more celebrations! The Rev, Jessica and others who help with Sunday School, both young and adult, must be thanked for their dedication and service. Thank you!

The week of June 14 through June 20, Kathy and I were in the Calaveras Big Trees area. If you have never been there, you should go. If you want to see some of God's greatest creations, huge Sequoia trees, some over 3000 years old, you must go. Great hiking too!

The candy bars given out on Father's Day were a big hit and a great idea. I believe we did this last year, too. Let's keep it up. I like chocolate!

Enjoy the summer, and Happy Fourth of July.

Peace, Herb

GOD BLESS AMERICA

Summer Dates to Remember



August 23: Blessing of the Backpacks

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

Sanctuary Cleaning ~ Helping Hands Needed

Coming in August we will be scheduling a couple of weekday mornings to thoroughly clean the church sanctuary. There are variety of items that need attending to including polishing the brass fixtures, cleaning the pews, rinsing the artificial greenery, dusting and polishing and spiffing up our lovely church.

Stay tuned! *The exact date and time will be in the August newsletter.* Contact Kathy Price, Cindy Rogelstad or Else Welsh if you would like to help or have any questions.



July Birthdays

David Batchelder	10
Jim Carson	11
Kelly Schaefer	11
Mickey Kuehner	13
Betty Fraga	15
Sarah Mollwitz	15
Larry Sander	16
Regis Filibert	17
Ryan Filibert	17
Lucilleroose Fassel-Lemons	21
Amy Harris	22
Donna Abeyta	23
Mike Albrecht	24
Elizabeth Griffis	26
Patrick Carson	26
Donna Bauders	27
Sue Hertless	28
Marcia Sander	29



June 2015 - Council Meeting Notes

Council Meeting was held on June 9, 2015

Present: Herb Yonge, Emilie Patton, Nils Anderson, Donna Albrecht, Tony Rogelstad, Pr. Jeremy Serrano, and Jon Moss.

Absent: Vicki Smiglewski, Laura Mott, Greg Buchholz, and Leone McCullough.

Guest Present: Jamie Rodemsky.

Recognitions: Jon recognized Tony Rogelstad for handling the updates of the lights in the sanctuary; Tony recognized Jamie Rodemsky for helping get the job done. Pastor recognized Tony for fixing the trap door in the parsonage. Emilie was recognized for her awesome Pentecost cake and for subbing as choir director. Pastor recognized Laura Mott, Pamela Dietz, and Lynne Davies for purchasing items and using them to decorate the sanctuary for Pentecost. He also recognized Linda Rodemsky, Rosemary Fassel, Tracey Rentner-Glen, Jessica Serrano, and Aimee Olmedo for their readings in different languages for the Pentecost service.

A letter was received from SHARE Food Pantry thanking us for our \$650 donation to their program.

Jaimie Rodemsky proposed that special cable be run, connecting the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and the Office to prepare for technological and security updates. He and Larry Huddleston will do the work. The Council approved \$808.98 to pay for supplies.

During summer services at 9:30 a.m., Tom Deans Flegel will lead the musical liturgy, and communion will be done by intinction. Pastor will be on vacation July 3-11 and August 3-14.

Youth Protection Policy: The discussion from the last meeting was continued. Volunteers do not have to be current members of GSLC, but they should have been attending regularly for the last six months and be willing to have their fingerprints and background checked.

Concern was expressed about the Firearms section of the Policy as there is interest in creating a small group at GSLC for the purpose of sport shooting. The current policy reads, "With the exception of law enforcement officers, firearms and other dangerous weapons are not permitted during church activities." Nils moved and Tony seconded that the following words be added. "except for properly supervised shooting activities at properly licensed sites."

Finance: Nils reported that GSLC passed its financial audit with flying colors.

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Council Meeting Notes, continued from previous page.

The kitchen and fellowship hall will be used by Dana Deniston for a youth mission event June 25-26.

There will be a private party wedding and reception using the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall by a non-member on September 19, 2015.

Council agreed to have Friends Feeding Friends use two smaller side rooms on the upper floor of the office building for storage.

Respectfully Submitted, Donna Albrecht, Council Secretary

Wedding Anniversaries

Greg and Kristi
Buchholz
July 31, 1993



A Note of Thanks from Sue Hertless

During my recent illness, it was your prayers, cards, calls, and visits that helped me through a very difficult time. Your acts of love, support and encouragement were just what I needed to strengthen my faith and keep me fighting. You were angels from God. Hallelujah.

Poverty and the Church

Beginning on Sunday, July 12, through Sunday, August 2, Pastor Jeremy will lead a study on Poverty and the Church in the Fireside Room immediately following our 9:30 a.m. Worship Service.

Bible Study Group Beginning

A Bible Study Group is forming and will meet approximately every two weeks. We meet from 3:00pm to 5:00pm. Each gathering begins with prayer, fellowship and a light refreshment before our study time.

Join us on July 12. We will meet at the home of Sue Hertless.

Good Shepherd's Book Club is reading M.P Cooley's Ice Shear for our Summer Read

June Lyons thought high-profile cases were behind her when she left the FBI and returned to Hopewell Falls, New York. June's father looks after her daughter while June, a widowed, single mother, works on the police force her father led for years. Then, responding to a call, she finds the body of a local congresswoman's recently married daughter...

Join us on Tuesday, July 7 at 7:30 in the Fireside Room as we discuss the cool-weather thriller in the hot summer time. Questions? Contact Donna Albrecht at donna-at-albrechts.com

Ruth Circle Bible Study Group Is Going to Lunch on July 9!

All women of GSLC are invited to join the women of our Ruth Circle Bible Study group at the Buttercup Restaurant on Clayton Road, Thursday, July 9th, at 11:30 a.m., for a summer luncheon and fellowship. Join us!



* Adult Sunday School

* Children's Sunday School

We are on vacation!

We'll be back September 13.



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Happy Father's Day !



In June we sang, blessed our bikes and shared a BBQ

July 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Summer Sunday Schedule: 9:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 10:45 a.m. Coffee (FH) 6:00 p.m. NA Group (FH)			1 10:30 a.m. Quilting (FH) 3:00 p.m. Worship and Music Comm. (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	2	3 Church Office Closed in observance of 4th of July	4 
5 Summer Schedule See above.	6	7 7:00 p.m. GSLC Book Club (FR)	8 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	9 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 11:30 a.m. Ruth Circle Luncheon (Buttercup Rest.) 2:00 p.m. Finance 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	10 10:00 a.m. DVLC Board Mtg. (FH)	11 Private Event (FH)
12 Summer Schedule See above. 10:45 a.m. Poverty and the Church Study with Rev (FR)	13	14 7:00 p.m. Council (FH)	15 10:30 a.m. Quilting (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	16 9:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	17	18 9:30 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kitchen)
19 Summer Schedule See above. 10:45 a.m. Poverty and the Church Study with Rev (FR)	20	21 7:00 p.m. Property and Long Range Planning (Kitchen)	22 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	23 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	24	25
26 Summer Schedule See above. 10:45 a.m. Poverty and the Church Study with Rev (FR)	27 Newsletter Articles Due	28 6:30 p.m. DVLC Meeting (FH)	29 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	30 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	31	
CH = Church	FH = Fellowship Hall	FR = Fireside Room				

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."



906 Grocery/Food bags distributed
1,151 People helped with food
438 Hot Meals served
20 People helped with household furnishings

Next FFF Lunch: July 18, 2015: 9:00 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:

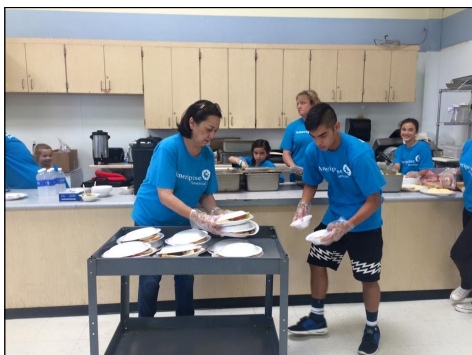
- * Toilet paper
- * Backyard fresh fruit
- * Dish Soap

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

Highlights of the past month:

- FFF was blessed this month to work with Ameriprise Financial's Walnut Creek office staff and their families. We prepared and served a shelter lunch.
- FFF also welcomed East County Shared Ministry (ECSM) for their 2 day, 1 night Mission Trip. ECSM came with Karen Hastings-Flegel, 3 other adults and 4 youth to help FFF with work projects (bagging food, packing grooming supplies, sorting and sizing linens, assembling, etc.) In addition, the group prepared and served a shelter lunch. The youth really enjoyed serving the shelter residents. It was a rewarding event for all of us.
- This month, we furnished clients referred to FFF from Contra Costa Interfaith Housing, Anka Behavioral Health, Contra Costa County Mental Health, Antioch Unified School District, Contra Costa County Shelters (both Concord and Richmond), and VA.

Email us at friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com or friendsfeedingfriendsca@gmail.com



Ameriprise Financial staff, family members and Ross, serving lunch at the shelter.



East County Shared Ministry preparing fruit salad and other lunch items.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church *Concord, NH*

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