

# Shepherd's Voice

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

*Feeding bodies, minds and souls...*

Volume 12 • Issue 6

2 Resurrection Church

3 New Member Story

4 Happenings

7 Council Highlights

*July Newsletter Articles due  
June 20*

**JUNE**



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

**Regular Worship Schedule:  
Sundays 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.**

**Summer Worship: 9:30 a.m.  
Single Worship Service**

## Rev's Reflections

*But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house, I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you. Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness. (Psalm 5:7-a, NRSV)*

Dependence is a difficult thing to internalize because we are constantly pushed toward independence. For Americans independence seems to be the highest ideal. It is sung about in our national anthem, it is spoken of in national debates, and it is hailed on July 4.

From childhood we are rightly reared from dependence toward independence, but in adulthood dependence is seen as an arrested development.

Yet, the Psalmist example shows us that dependence is the way of faithfulness. He cries out, "through the abundance of your steadfast love." The Psalmist can act only because he is dependent on God as the originator of his action. He cries out, "Lead me, O Lord..." God acts first, and then continues to show the way. The way of faith is not independence but dependence that God will act first.

We are dependent from birth moving toward independence but we are called to move back to dependence in faith.

The way of faith is to rely on God as the first actor in our lives. God is the one who gives us trust. It is only through God's abundant love that we are able to enter God's presence. We need God to lead which means we rely on God and not ourselves.

The maturing of faith is the move from independence to dependence. We must abandon ourselves in order for faith to take hold. God is there to catch us when we give up our independence and depend solely on Jesus.

Ultimately, God empowers us through steadfast love and we receive that love through dependence.

Peace, Rev. J. Serrano

## Resurrection . . . Our Sister Parish

By God's Grace when Good Shepherd asked for a sister parish they were given Resurrection Lutheran Church in San Salvador, Bishop Merdardo Gomez's Church. Bishop Gomez is the Lutheran Bishop in Central America.

He takes serious Jesus command to "feed the hungry, house the homeless, cloth the naked and care for the sick." El Salvador is a very poor country and the money the church has is used to support a clinic, a homeless shelter, and a school.

Resurrection Lutheran began in 1972. It has 5 pastors but only one gets paid a mere \$100 a month. The church has about 300 members and averages 80 to 100 worshippers a week. They currently hold worship services in the house where the clinic is located. Their original church was an old house that was bombed during El Salvador's civil war and was demolished to make room for a simple, but beautiful church that is safe for their people to come and worship.

In communicating with Christian Ayala, our contact at Resurrection, he indicated that right now they are at a point in construction where they need a roof. Once the roof is completed they will have a place to worship that represents new hope and God's goodness as they firmly believe God will provide.

The Evangelism Committee is having a vendor fair to raise money for our sister parish; but seeing as a roof will cost about \$31,000 and knowing there is no way Good Shepherd can afford this, please pray for the committee as they explore ways to "think outside the box" for additional funds.

On September 18th, Resurrection will be celebrating their 44th year as a parish. They have invited anyone from Good Shepherd to come celebrate with them. Sue Hertless and Betty Jacobsen plan to go. Let Sue know if you would like to join them.

By the way Christian Ayala our contact in El Salvador, is a famous artist. Pastor Jeremy has some of his artwork on the wall in his office. You might want to stop by and see it. During the civil war in El Salvador, Christian was targeted by death squads. His mother arranged a hasty exit to Sweden where he lived for 2 ½ years. We will be writing more about this in the July issue of Shepherd's Voice.

The Evangelism Team





*By Linda Rodemsky*

### Introducing New Members Tyler and Kristina Costa !

Tyler and Kristina are new to Good Shepherd and to our area. They both grew up as Evangelical Lutherans, and most recently attended a Lutheran Church in Monterey. Kristina is a nurse for Facebook, and Tyler works in engineering for several large factories. Both had horrendous commutes, so they've returned to the Bay Area and relocated to Concord. As they went out in search of a new Church home, they found us, felt welcomed, and decided to stay! They've joined the Evangelism Committee, and are looking forward to sharing their creativity and enthusiasm with our Congregation.

A heartfelt 'Welcome' to Tyler & Kristina !

### *Summer is right around the corner... Here are some dates to remember.*



- \* June 12 Summer Worship begins - one worship at 9:30 a.m.
- \* June 18 Church Board Game Night in Fellowship Hall
- \* June 19 Father's Day
- \* July 9 Evangelism Fundraiser in Lower Parking Lot
- \* July 16 Church Kick Ball Game at Good Shepherd
- \* Aug. 13 Church BBQ and outdoor games

# 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
Magic Jaquez	20
Jean Moore	20
Jacqueline Fassl	21
Jack Mecklenburg	22
Chloe Setchell	22
Christiana Dominick	24
Tracy Hein	24



## Social Media and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Did you know Good Shepherd is on social media?

Check us out on: Facebook  
Twitter  
Instagram

You can find the links to all of these through our webpage at:  
gsconcord.com

## June Leisure Lunch

Please join our Leisure Lunchers on Tuesday, June 21, from Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Come on down for our Leisure Lunchers on Tuesday, June 21 from noon to 1:30 p.m. This is our last luncheon before summer break and it is FUN.

We'll start up the BBQ for hamburgers and hot dogs! There will be potato salad, there will be deviled eggs and there will be ICE CREAM!

ALL ARE WELCOME, JOIN US FOR A FUN LUNCH.

We will *not* meet in July or August; we'll start up again in September.

So, put on your Hawaiian Shirt and COME share your vacation plans with us!

Call Susan or Bob Ripley at: 925-827-9717 with any questions or transportation needs.

# B-B-Q

**To those who brought snacks on Sunday mornings in April and May:** Kay Bennett, Linda and Jamie Rodemsky, Rich & Connie Batchelder, Friends Feeding Friends and Ron & Kathy Price we say...

To everyone who enjoys our great goodies and snacks, you are invited to check out the new snack sign-up sheet for June through December and sign-up!

*Thank You!*

Please bring snacks by 8:10 a.m. Sunday morning. Suggested servings are: 4 dozen cookies OR 3 dozen assorted doughnuts OR 4 nut breads.



**Ruth Circle Bible Study  
GOES TO THE BUTTERCUP FOR LUNCH!  
11:30 a.m. Thursday, June 9**

Join us for lunch and like Mary and Elizabeth, let us enjoy some time as  
"Sisters across the generations."  
To help us to understand one another across the generations as supportive  
sisters we invite you to come and join us for lunch.

Need a ride? Have questions? Call Donna Monroe.

**Everyone is welcome!**

*Wedding  
Anniversaries*

James and Cathy  
Setchell  
June 5, 1999

Jack and Frances  
Mecklenburg  
June 17, 1967

Chris and Suzanne  
Christensen  
June 19, 1954

Valentine and Evelyne  
Kingwell  
June 20, 1969



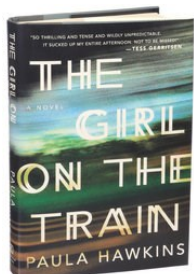
**Board Game Night at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

Save the date! On Saturday, June 18,  
we are having a Board Game Night in Fellowship Hall.  
The games begin at 6:00 p.m. Join us!



*When leaving any building on the  
church campus... lock the door and  
double check that it is locked.  
Thank you.*

**GSLC Book Club July Pick**



THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN by Paula Hawkins is our next Book Club read. According to review Janet Maslin at The New York Times, "The Girl on the Train has more fun with unreliable narration than any chiller since Gone Girl. . . ." Another review said it "pulls off a thriller's toughest trick: carefully assembling everything we think we know, until it reveals the one thing we didn't see coming."

**Join us on July 12 at 7:30 pm in the Fireside Room** to discuss this amazing Best Seller which will be a film starring Emily Blunt this fall! Questions? Contact Donna Albrecht at [donna-at-albrechts.com](mailto:donna-at-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."



**517 Grocery/Food bags distributed**  
**493 People helped with food bags**  
**118 Hot Meals served**

**Next FFF Lunch: June 18, 2016**  
**9:00 at Good Shepherd to prep. All are welcome!!**

Email us at: [friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com) OR  
[friendsfeedingfriendsca@gmail.com](mailto:friendsfeedingfriendsca@gmail.com)

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:

- \* The past month was a busy one, as we furnished many folks, picked up a lot of furniture, prepared and served a shelter meal, and packed and distributed a lot of groceries.
- \* When we furnish them, we are surprised how little they have. This past week, we helped 2 Veterans with small window air conditioners. One went to an elderly man and his wife who were living in a miniature house in Antioch. When a caseworker went to visit them last week, their house was over 90 degrees inside. The other went to a single man who was placed in a low income apartment in Pittsburg that is bug infested. Please pray for all our veterans.

**Items needed this month:**

- \* Kitchen towels
- \* Jams and Jelly, and canned fruit (dollar store is fine)
- \* Water glasses (We never have enough of these)



These photographs were taken during FFF by a Clayton Valley Charter student as part of a project to demonstrate the process of hand preparing a meal for FFF.

## May Council Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, May 10, 2016, 7:00 p.m.  
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall

Present: Nils Anderson, Candace Bradley, Greg Buchholz, Adam Castle Sue Hertless, Betty Jacobsen, Leone McCullough, Tony Rogelstad, Kelly Schaefer

Excused: Pastor Jeremy Serrano, John Mott

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Greg Buchholz.

**Invocation and Devotions:** Council President Greg Buchholz led us in prayer.

**Recognitions:** Sue Hertless recommended that we recognize Linda Rodemsky for writing articles on our new members for Shepherd's Voice. Nils Anderson thanked Adam Castle, Karin Olson and Greg Buchholz for doing the 2015 audit in his Finance Report.

**Worship and Music Committee:** Leone McCullough reported that on June 12 we will begin our summer schedule with one service at 9:30 a.m. We will have pulpit supply on June 5 when Pastor Jeremy is at the Synod Assembly.

**Long Range Planning and Property:** Tony Rogelstad reported that the suggestion of using a pew from Fellowship Hall was not a feasible solution to prevent tripping in the bell choir area, as the pews are too long and the problem with bolting down for stability. Tape will be put on the steps in the choir area. A leak in the irrigation system and rain gutter replacement must be addressed. Doors should be checked for door closers; this is important for fire safety requirements. Tony reported that they plan to overlay the deck at Luther Hall with plywood instead of doing a ramp.

**Evangelism Committee:** Sue Hertless reported that the Craft Fair to support our sister parish in El Salvador has been moved to July. Sue also reported that Lone Bantly will be heading up the "Laying on of Hands" Ministry and Kristina Costa will have "thinking of you" cards for shut-ins, for members to sign on the third Sunday of each month.


**Social Ministry Committee:** Candace Bradley reported that Friends Feeding Friends is still providing food bags for congregational members to distribute to those in need. Bags of dog food are also available. Also, FFF appreciates everyone who volunteers to help in this important ministry at Good Shepherd.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by, Betty Jacobsen, Council Secretary

# June 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>8:30 a.m. Sunday</b> <b>Schedule:</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 9:30 a.m. Coffee (FH) 9:40 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. NA ( FH)	<b>9:30 a.m. Sunday</b> <b>Schedule:</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 10:45 a.m. Coffee (FH) 6:00 p.m. NA Group (FH)		<b>1</b> 3:00 p.m. Worship and Music (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	<b>2</b> 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 8:30 a.m.</b> <b>Schedule See above.</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:00 a.m. Primary Election Polling Place (FH) 	<b>8</b> 7:00 p.m. NA (FH) <b>Council Reports are due for Council Mtg. Folders</b>	<b>9</b> 11:30 Ruth Circle Summer Lunch / Buttercup Restaur. (Classroom 3) 10:00 a.m. DVLC Board 2:00 p.m. Finance Comm 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Private Event 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.
<b>12 SUMMER</b> <b>Schedule Begins</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Schedule See above.</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting (FH)	<b>15</b> 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	<b>16</b> 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:00 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends ( Kit) 6:00 p.m. Church Board Game Night
<b>19 FATHER'S DAY</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Schedule See above.</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Newsletter Articles Due!</b>	<b>21</b> Noon Leisure Lunch (FH) 7:00p.m. Property Comm. (Kitchen)	<b>22</b> 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	<b>23</b> 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:30 a.m. <b>Schedule See above.</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7:00 p.m. DVLC Small Group Tutoring (FH)	<b>29</b> 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	<b>30</b> 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)		
CH = Church    FH = Fellowship Hall    FR = Fireside Room						





# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

## *2016 Executive Committee:*

**President:** Greg Buchholz, **Vice President:** Leone McCullough, **Secretary:** Betty Jacobsen  
**Member-at-Large:** John Mott

## *2016 Congregational Council:*

Nils Anderson, Candace Bradley, Greg Buchholz, Adam Castle, Sue Hertless,  
Betty Jacobsen, Leone McCullough, 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 - chrishewitt@gsconcord.com  
**Bell Choir Director:** Magic Jaquez  
**Choir Director:** Kathleen Flemming  
**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.