

Shepherd's Voice

Volume 11 • Issue 5

A monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

June 2015

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July Newsletter Articles
due June 23

June



**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 the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Sometimes we get so used to coming to the liturgy every Sunday that we don’t think to examine it. As regular participants it’s easy for us to forget that everything we do in the liturgy is based on scripture. When we sing hymns, share the peace of Christ, have our sins forgiven, hear the sermon, break the bread, lift the cup, along with everything else we do, it is an action that has been passed on to us from our ancestors in the faith.

One of the central actions we receive in the liturgy is the Eucharist. Lutherans don’t often use the word Eucharist to describe the meal Jesus instituted: it’s a word that is seen as “too Roman Catholic.” But this word comes from scripture. The Greek word comes from Eucharistia which is translated above as “he had given thanks.” Eucharisteo comes from the words eu and charis meaning “Good Gift.” And this is exactly what we are given every week—a good gift.

Holy Communion, the Eucharist, the Table, whatever you call it, is a gift from God to us. As Luther says, “It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine, for us Christians to eat and to drink, instituted by Christ Himself.” The benefit of God’s good gift “is shown us in these words: Given, and shed for you, for the remission of sins; namely, that in the Sacrament, forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.” I can’t think of a *gooder* gift. In this meal we are united to our Lord and given forgiveness of sins and salvation.

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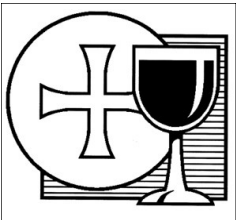
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There all kinds of ways churches practice this meal. The common cup is the oldest tradition. Intinction and individual glasses are recent innovations. But, those are by no means the only methods. There have been times in church history where people brought their own straws and spoons to drink from the chalice.

This summer during our one service we will be moving our practice to intinction as our method of participating in the Eucharist. You will receive the body of our Lord in your palm and then intinct (dip it) into the chalice. If you are unable to do this then know that the whole of Christ is promised and given in a single element alone. We are going to do this for the summer and may return to the individual glasses in the fall. If you have any questions or comments about this move to intinction please see me. I look forward to seeing you Sunday.

Peace,
Rev. J. Serrano

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 April 30, 2015			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	Difference
INCOME:			
Pledges	\$ 48,090	\$ 48,553	(\$ 463)
Unpledged	11,089	8,258	2,831
Other (Tower, Rent, etc.)	33,934	27,168	6766
TOTAL INCOME	93,113	83,979	9134
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	(78,689)	(82,644)	(3,955)
NET INCOME	\$ 14,424	\$ 1,335	\$ (13,089)

Thank you for your financial support.

A Message from our Council President

I am writing this note on Sunday May 24th, a little earlier than normal. The reason being I am leaving for Toronto with my grandson tomorrow, May 25th and return Friday, May 29, so I would be missing the cutoff date for this edition of the newsletter.

This weekend is a special time in our lives as Americans; Memorial Day. I hope you had an opportunity to observe Memorial Day activities and remember our service men and women both present and past.

On Thursday, May 21, most of the Council members and Call Committee members participated with Rev and Pastor Price at our second Healthy Start meeting. This two hour session delved into communications, roles and relationships. One thing we discussed was the need for all of us to talk to one another, and should there be something that is bothering us, we need to bring it out into the open and not let it fester. Let's address the matter head on, resolve the issue and move on. This pertains to all of us, not just Council.

Another item discussed was our successes and the need to celebrate those successes. One is our Sunday School which Rev and Jessica got off the ground and it has been a success, in addition to the adult class that Rev has been leading! Let's have a party! What do you think about a potluck on the first Sunday of our going to one service, June 14th?

If you did not attend the Hands Only CPR and AED training in April 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.

I had the opportunity to hike two of the Channel Islands last week, Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Islands. These islands are one of our National Parks. They are located about a three hour boat ride off the coast of California, west of Santa Barbara. On the boat rides out to the islands, we went two days; we observed whales, dolphins and many sea birds. Also, island caves that go into the island at sea level. How far they go in I do not know. It is truly a wonderful country we live in and having a chance to play in God's backyard.

Peace, Herb
GOD BLESS AMERICA

Can You Help?

Longtime GSLC members, Ron and Mary Figueroa, need assistance in finding low income housing in Concord, preferably near the church, definitely ground floor, no stairs. New rules at their current apartment have caused rent to increase dramatically, necessitating a move. If you know of or hear of suitable locations, please either call the Figueroas at 687-6889 after 1:00 p.m., or talk with them at church.

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.

June Birthdays

Emily Rodemsky	04
Janet 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



May 2015 - Council Meeting Notes

Meeting Called to order at 7:09 pm by vice president Leone McCullough.

Devotions were given by Jon Moss.

Present: Pr. Jeremy Serrano, Leone McCullough, Tony Rogelstad, Nils Anderson, and Donna Albrecht.

Absent: Herb Yonge, Vicki Smiglewski, Laura Mott, Emilie Patton, and Greg Buchholz.

Recognitions: Jon Moss recognized Jamie Rodemsky for replacing the lights on the flagpole. Long Range Planning and Property committee recognized Rod Uffindell for his work on the church's security system.

Pastor reported he came back from the Homiletics seminar rejuvenated and refreshed. Pastor Jeremy reviewed the summer schedule. He also reported he would like to plan for single joint services on festival Sundays including Palm Sunday, Easter, Ascension Sunday, and Pentecost. Some concerns had been raised about the quality of the cleaning job done in the kitchen and fellowship hall after a recent event. Pastor assured the council that the issue has been handled.

Child Safety Policy: It was discussed that parts of our Child Safety policy are not being adhered to currently; specifically the qualifications of the Sunday School teacher. The discussion was tabled until we have a larger turn-out.

Action Item: Herb will investigate whether some requirements of the Child Safety Policy can be relaxed. Specifically, Council wants to know if the rules on the Sunday School teachers and assistants needing to be members of our congregation are necessary.

Action Item: Finance Committee will contact our insurance agent to determine whether we are covered for liability purposes for people who are members who use the facilities for private events, whether they pay or use the space gratis; and whether it makes any difference in our insurance whether non-members using the facilities pay or receive the use gratis.

Property Committee: Jon moved that the immediate storage needs for Friends Feeding Friends and ways to fill those needs be explored. Nils seconded the motion. Msc.

Jon opened a discussion about having his mother, Leida Moss, a Marriage, Family, and Child Counselor rent space two mid-week days in the Fireside Room. He will discuss our concerns with her and get back to the council next month.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Albrecht, Council Secretary

Church Potluck Barbecue to CELEBRATE our Sunday School on Sunday, June 14 at 10:30 a.m.



The potluck works like this: If your last name begins with:

- * "A through F", bring an appetizer
- * "G through L", bring drinks
- * "M through R", bring a side dish to go with hamburgers and hot dogs
- * "S through Z", bring a dessert

and the church will provide the hamburgers and the hot dogs.

► Join us for a brief 15 minute planning meeting on Sunday, June 7 immediately after 8:30 a.m. service in Fireside Room.

Ruth Circle Bible Study Group Is Going to Lunch!

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

Note: We will not meet in June or August.

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

Leisure Lunch in June

Please join the Leisure Lunchers for our June cook-out! We'll hot dogs and hamburgers and all the fixins'. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, June 16th at noon. Questions? Need a ride? Call Susan or Bob Ripley: 925-827-9717.

NOTE: Leisure Lunchers will not meet during the months of July and August. Have a happy summer and see you again in September!

**Call Susan and Bob Ripley for any questions:
925-827-9717**

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.

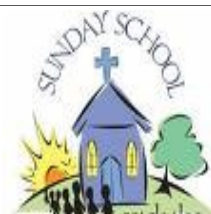
Wedding Anniversaries

James and Cathy
Setchell
June 5, 1999

Jack and Frances
Mecklenburg
June 16, 1967

Chris and Suzanne
Christensen
June 19, 1954

Valentine and Evelynne
Kingwell
June 20, 1969



*** 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.

*** LAST DAY IS JUNE 7**



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 10:00 am in Sanctuary)

June 14: 9:30 a.m. Single Blended Worship begins
Blessing of the Bikes **BARBECUE!** (see page 5)

August 23: Blessing of the Back Packs

September 13: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services
Resume

June 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	2	3	4 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 2:00 p.m. Finance 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	5	6
7 See Schedule Above ▶▶ Last Sunday for Sunday School and 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship Times	8	9	10 10:30 a.m. Quilting (FH) 3:00 p.m. Worship and Music Committee (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	11 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	12 10:00 a.m. DVLC Board Mtg. (FH)	13
14 Blessing of the Bikes ▶▶ Summer Schedule Begins today: One service at 9:30 a.m. No Sunday School. Barbecue!	15	16 7:00 p.m. Council (FH)	17 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	18 9:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	19 9:00 a.m. Ameriprise Service Day w/ Friends Feeding Friends	20 9:30 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kitchen)
21 Summer Schedule See above. HAPPY FATHERS DAY	22	23 Noon Leisure Lunch (FH) Newsletter Articles Due	24 10:30 a.m. Quilting (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	25 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	26	27
28 Summer Schedule See above.	29	30				
CH = Church	FH = Fellowship Hall	FR = Fireside Room				

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."



863 Grocery/Food bags distributed
1003 People helped with food
305 Hot Meals served
14 People helped with household furnishings

Next FFF Lunch: June 20, 2015:
9:00 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:

Paper Towels
 Disposable razors
 Kitchen towels

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:

- The remaining Lent and Easter stuffed critters went out to the Concord Police Department where they will be distributed to patrol cars for kids in crisis. And, the last of the grooming supplies went out to the homeless at the shelter, and to people we furnished. Thank you!
- FFF continues to distribute household items and groceries to those we furnish for as long as needed.
- Thank you Central County Homeless Outreach (formerly Pacheco/Martinez Homeless Outreach) for placing our food bags in the hands of those people who would normally go hungry throughout Contra Costa County.
- Please pray for those whom FFF helps. Many have had multiple challenges. What separates us from them frequently is a job.

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

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



An example of the fresh produce that FFF receives from the food bank. This allows us to distribute wholesome, nutritious produce that is not processed.



This is a bag of shelf stable food. These bags are packed by our Tuesday group. FFF distributes over 600 bags each month to people who would otherwise go hungry.



Our awesome group of Tuesday food bag packers. We couldn't distribute as much food as we do without their help! (From left to right, Jean, Carolyn, Kay, Dottie, and Joan. Not pictured is Jean Moore)

Worship Assistants – May 31 through June 28, 2015

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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
4000 Clayton Road
Concord, CA 94521

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Concord, CA

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 Patton, 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