Shepherd's Voice

Volume 11 · Issue 11

A monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church November 2012

Points of Interest

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December Newsletter Articles due November 22nd



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 4000 Clayton Road Concord, CA 94521 925-682-8410 gsconcord.com Worship Schedule: Sundays 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Interim pastor s November message,

So here we are at the start of a time of interim ministry at Good Shepherd – and some of you may be thinking, *"Again*? Didn't we just do this?!"

Maybe others are thinking, "Why are we doing this? We should just call a new pastor as soon as we can."

And still others are thinking. "This time, let's really try to figure out what's going on here!"

As your new interim pastor, I am excited about that third statement – about discovering with you what this particular community of faith is all about. What are the ways in which you are energized about being conduits of God's grace in Concord and the surrounding region? What issues or dynamics may be impairing your witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ?

But I also have a sense of where the first two sentiments above may be coming from. In my first month here, I have heard some of the pain many of you have experienced in the upheaval surrounding your former pastor leaving. Some of you have shared with me your confusion, frustration, hurt and anger over the tenure of various former pastors. In the search for answers, blame begins to arise: It's the pastor's fault. It's the synod's fault. It's the fault of this group or that person in the congregation.

In the midst of all this, let's make a point to remind each other that the Spirit is at work at Good Shepherd. Let's assume that participants in this congregation, pastors in general, and synod staff are all people who are – however imperfectly! – trying to be disciples of Christ. Let's trust that God has something in mind for us, as the church on earth – and that we've come together at such a time as this to serve God's purposes.

And let's understand this: *Everyone* in any group of human beings has an impact on that group. *Everyone*. The group could be a family, a class, a book club, a sports team, an office team, a volunteer organization, strangers on a bus, a presidential cabinet or a congregation. It is vital that we understand that each person who enters, exists in, or leaves a group impacts the group as a whole. That means that each one of us plays a role in the health and vitality of Good Shepherd – which isn't surprising, since we already know we are all part of the body of Christ.

A Start A Start

Note that this month we celebrate **All Saints Sunday** (Nov. 4), **Commitment Sunday** (Nov. 18), Thanksgiving (joint **Thanksgiving Eve** service with St. Mark's and St. Luke's on Nov. 21 at 7 p.m.) and **Christ the King** (Nov. 25). What is all of this all *about*? Even as a congregation in transition, you are remembering saints and committing to stewardship and giving thanks. And then the church year culminates with ... celebrating Christ's reign! *That's* what it's all about! Christ lives and rules our hearts, and Christ calls us to make God's grace visible in this world. The church exists to be the hands and heart of Christ to our neighbors and to one another. Let's be about *that*, always. Then the rest will fall into place.

Peace,

Pr. Lori

Interim Pastor Lori's Schedule



To reach Pastor Lori call: 925-997-3478 or email: pastorlori@me.com

Monday Off Day

Tuesday 9:00 - 5:00pm

Wednesday 11:00 - 7:00pm

Thursday 9:00 - 5:00pm

Friday Writing sermon at home

Saturday Off Day

Sunday Preaching

Pastor Lori would like to meet with everyone and "drop-in" visits are welcomed—just be aware that pastor may have home visits, pericope/sermon meetings, lunch meetings, etc. on any given day, so it may be helpful to call ahead.



Sock It To 'Em With a Sweet Twist





It's hard to believe, but it is already that



time of year to start thinking ahead for the holidays! We plan to collect Halloween candy and sock/ mitten/beanie donations for the next couple of months and then distribute

the care packages at the December Friends Feeding Friends lunch at the North Concord Shelter. Below is

what the focus of each month will be...as always, we welcome your support and donations!

End of October: Save that leftover

Halloween candy (or stock up on the sales) and donate it in the boxes in the Narthex or office. Socks/mittens/ beanie donations are accepted as well.



November: Please bring in new **SOCKS**,

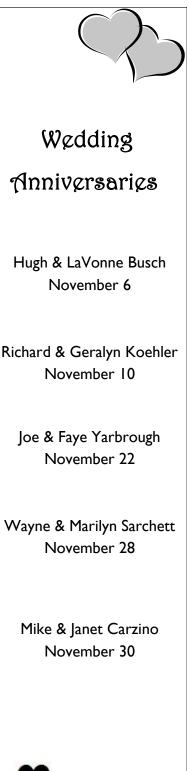
mittens and/or beanies to the box in the Narthex or office. We will also still be collecting that leftover candy.

December: Keep donating those socks, mittens and/or beanies. It's getting cold this time year and our friends <u>really</u> appreciate this part of the care package.



We also will wrap the packages in mid-December to prepare for distribution at the December Friends Feeding Friends lunch. If you have any questions or would like to be more

involved, please contact Aimee Oimedo at 697-0410 or aoimedo22@yahoo.com





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GOOD SHEPHERD INCOME STATEMENT							
AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2012							
					OVER (UNDER)		
	ACTUAL		BUD	BUDGET			
INCOME:							
Pledges		\$119,230		\$128,198	\$ (8,968)		
Unpledged		38,029		29,250	8,779		
Other (Tower, Rent,etc.)	77,874		85,141		(7,267)		
TOTAL INCOME	235,133			242,589	(7,456)		
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES		(238,699)	(239,591)		892		
NET INCOME	\$ (3,566)		\$ 2,998		\$ (6,564)		

Note:Pledged and Unpledges combined, are under Budget by \$192.

Total Income is \$3566 under Budget. Total Expenses are \$2998 under Budget

REQUEST: If possible, please make a pledge rather than "unpledge" for 2013

so we can better budget funds for Outreach programs. Etc.

REQUEST FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Recently we have heard from several members giving Temple Talks during our Stewardship Campaign requesting we try to make a pledge rather than going the "unpledged" route. Making a pledge helps the Finance Committee and the Council to better allocate/budget resources. Making a pledge is not "cast in concrete." If you need to adjust your pledge that can be accomplished by just letting our Financial Secretary know.

This year, 2012, our Unpledged was budgeted for \$39,000 and as of September 30th have received \$38,029 almost reaching the annual budget in just 9 months.

Some of us may not have pledged for 2012 as we did not know the direction we were going. We have a good sense of our direction with Pastor Lori joining us as Intentional Interim and with the objective of having a call pastor by the fall of next year.

Thanks for your consideration

Commitment Sunday will be November 18th.

					2	3
			6:00 Confirmation (FR) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	9:00 a.m. Senior Food Program 2:00 p.m. Finance Committee. 7:00 p.m. Property/Long Range 7 pm Robinson Small Group		
 4 8:30 a.m. Worship (CH) 8:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 9:45 a.m. Choir (Basement) 10:00 a.m. Lectio Divina (FR) 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 5:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH) 	Ŋ	\$	7 6:00 Confirmation (FR) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	8 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle Bible Study Noon DVLC (FH) 6:00 p.m. Hats for Homeless (FH) 7 pm Robinson Small Group	6	0
	12	13	14	15	16	17
11 8:30 Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH)	7:00 p.m. Council (FH)	12:00 pm Leisure Lunch	9:30 Quilting 6:00 Confirmation (FR)	9:00 a.m. Senior Food Program Noon—5 p.m. FFF (FH)	8 a.m4 p.m. FFF (FH)	8 a.m.—Noon 2 p.m.—4 p.m, Friends Feeding
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18 8:30 Worship (CH) 9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 9:45 a.m. Choir (Basement)	61	20	21 6:00 Confirmation (FR) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	22 December Newsletter Articles Due Today!	23	24
10:00 a.m. Lectio Divina (FR) 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 5:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Dinner (FH)				7 pm Robinson Small Group		
25 8:30 Worship (CH)	26	27	28	29	30	
9:45 a.m. Refreshment (FH) 9:45 a.m. Choir (Basement) 10:00 a.m. Lectio Divina (FR) 10 am Blood pressure (O) 11:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 5:00 p.m. Hertless Group 6:00 p.m. Women's NA (FH)			9:30 a.m. Quilting (FH) 6:00 Confirmation (FR) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)			
-						

NOVEMBER 2012

CH = Church FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room O = Office

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President's Message.....

GIVING THANKS AT THANKSGIVING

Eight years ago Good Shepherd's Pastor Eric Strom and Council Members Susan Metzger and Sue Hertless presented to First Lutheran's Pastor Jim Muller and their Council the vision of providing a Thanksgiving Dinner for people in the community who needed a hot meal and/or to people who didn't want to be alone on this holiday. After much discussion, the plans began to come to life with meetings, request for volunteers, assigned task, and some guiding principles for the event. Some principles were:

The table must look as if you were coming to my house for a Thanksgiving meal.

That means, linen tablecloth, real plates, silverware, glasses, table decoration and a traditional meal with all the trimmings.

There is no cost. It is free.

And, you can see God's love for each person through us.

We have been blessed every year since 2006 with more volunteers than we need. What a wonderful problem to have. We quit advertising for volunteers because people were so disappointed when they were told all the positions are filled. People wanted to volunteer their time, and give of themselves to help others. We began to collect socks, blankets, coats, and sleeping bags and allowed any who needed these items the opportunity after their meal to receive these gifts. Just another way of giving thanks at Thanksgiving.

We even assigned table host/hostesses to each table to help people with getting to know one another. Create a natural conversation, not in a forceful or contrived way but a loving way. This is an area that is delicate, and needs to be handled with utmost love and tenderness as we interact with each other.

Why did we go to First Lutheran Church to hold this event? Good question! We did not have a commercial kitchen at Good Shepherd and we knew our sister and brothers at First Lutheran did. We also had built some relationships with First Lutheran and knew their goals and our goals were aligned for they had the same concerns about the community and what a great way to create a ministry where we are serving the community - TOGETHER. Over the years, we branched out and offered other churches the opportunity to participate with us in this ministry. They are: Saint Matthews, and CrossRoads.

Thrivent Financials has been beside us all the way every year for eight years, offering financial support in food, clothing, and utensils. Can you name any other financial institution that gives back to the community like Thrivent does? Yes, there is paperwork that has to be filled out. However, we understand they must show the government when asked how the money was used. So we fill out the paperwork with a smile because we know how Thanksgiving Day is going to be for those people who come.

If you are interested in volunteering two or more hours of your time before or on Thanksgiving Day see the attached form in the newsletter. Fill it out, and turn it in to First Lutheran Church ASAP as the positions fill up fast. It is a wonderful way to serve and let others see the face of Jesus through each of us.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!! Sue Hertless Council President 2012 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church





IT'S TIME AGAIN FOR OUR ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER AT GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH. THIS YEAR IT WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH AT 5:00 PM, IN FELLOWSHIP HALL. YOU ARE ALL WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR A TURKEY DINNER WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS.

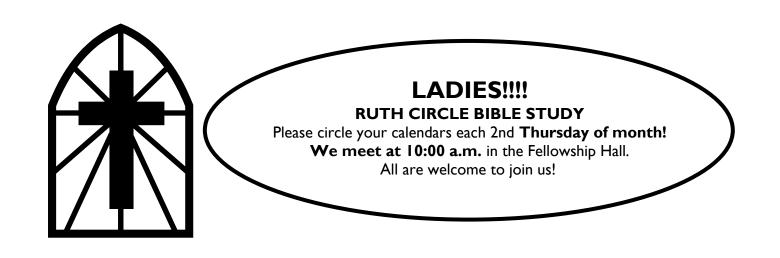
A POSTER WILL BE IN THE CHURCH NARTHEX, SOON, FOR YOU TO SIGN-UP, LETTING US KNOW HOW MANY WE MAY EXPECT TO SERVE.

THERE IS NO CHARGE, BUT A FREEWILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN.

ANY QUESTIONS CAN BE DIRECTED TO JEAN MOORE 925/672-6237



A heartfelt thanks to everyone who sent cards, good wishes and prayers during my recovery. It has been difficult at times and your prayers and cards helped me so very much. Life is beginning to return to normal again. Thank you! —Lawa Mott





Friends Feeding Friends





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 Here's an update from Friends Feeding Friends--an outreach ministry that serves needy in our county.

We served 98 meals at our October lunch at the shelter, a meal of lasagna, broccoli salad, green salad, bananas, and yummy desserts. Special thanks go to all of you who donated groceries, desserts, clothing, furniture, household items, computer monitors and keyboards, etc. making our ministry possible. We are still in need of canned or dried groceries, can openers, toilet paper, laundry detergent, laundry baskets, lamps, light bulbs, dressers and toasters for distribution to needy families, senior citizens, and those we furnish.

The next time we meet will be Saturday, November 17, 2012. We will serve meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green salad, broccoli salad and fruit. If you would like to help sort donations, pack hygiene kits and "food for later" bags, meet us at Good Shepherd at 9:30 AM. If you would like to help serve lunch and pass out donations, meet us at the shelter at noon. Come join us and invite a friend!

If you can help with groceries for the next luncheon, we will need

broccoli crowns red grapes bottled water salad fixings and dressing fresh fruit of any kind any desserts

There's an on-going need for:

laundry soap lan	nps linens/towels
pots & pans toasters	potholders
eating utensils	groceries dish soap
cooking utensils tra	vel size hygiene items
microwave ovens dre	essers & end tables

For the "Food for Later" bags: Shelf-stable meals (ravioli, hearty soups, stews, chili, spam, tuna kits, etc.) Fruit cups/fruit snacks Packaged bars, snacks and desserts

If you have questions or need additional information, please call Dana Deniston 768-9087 or Linda Rodemsky 864-9266. Or, email us at <u>friendsfeedingfriendsca@gmail.com</u>

Thank you once more to all our faithful supporters whose contributions benefit so many in our community.

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.

Worship Assistants November 11—December 2, 2012							Page 9	
C.O.D.	Ken Robinson		Linda Rodemsky		Vicki Smiglewski		Herb Yonge	
Counters	Greg Buchholz k Nils Anderson		Greg Buchholz Nils Anderson		Joe Carlson Paul Rusch S		Joe Carlson Paul Rusch	
Coffee Ministry	Greg & Kristi Buchholz		Doug and Reyanne Freeman		Jon & Moss		Ron & Kathy Price	
Communion to Shut-Ins					Duane			
Sound Ministry	Jamie Rodemsky		Jamie Rodemsky		Jamie Rodemsky		Jamie Rodemsky	
Ushers	Doug and Reyanne Freeman Jim and Carin Olson	Linda Rodemsky	Ron Figueroa Mary Figueroa Sue Hertless Paul Rusch	Alden Johnson Linda Rodemsky	Jon and Heidi Moss, Vicki Smiglewski, Ron Figueroa	Rick Koehler	Gary and Linda Mahloch Greg Buchholz Paul Rusch	Linda Rođemsky
Welcome Table	Ron & Mary Figueroa	Victor & Aimee Olmedo	Greg & Kristi Buchholz	Alden Johnson	Larry & Marcia Sander	Connie Summers	Kay Bennett & Jeanette Kaul	Bohling Rosemary Fassl Linda
Altar Guild	Kathy Price Else Welsh Heidi Moss Cindy Rogelstad		Jan Harmon Pam Dietz Willajean Rogelstad Linda Mahloch		Laura Carlson Vicki Smiglewski Elizabeth Kich Emily Kich	oue Teruess	lone Bandey Karen Vetterli	McCullough Karin Bohling
Crucifer	Ryan Kich		Doug Olson		Carter Munson- Ring		Lauren Wardle	
Acolyte, Torchbearer	Carter Munson -Ring		Sam Buchholz		Jacob Mollwitz		Erin Wardle	
Lector	Ingrid Burns	Linda Rodemsky	Donna Albrecht	Linda Rodemsky	Candace Bradley	Rosemary Fassl	Kristi Buchholz	Sherry Chaplin
Communion Assistant	Ken and Nikki <mark> </mark> Robinson	Linda Rodemsky Rick Koehler	Mike Albrecht Leone McCullough	Linda Rodemsky Sherry Chaplin	Sue Hertless Duane Peterson	Rosemary Fassl Sherry Chaplin	Sue Hertless Duane Peterson	Rosemary Fassl Sherry Chaplin
Assisting Minister	Bill Dietz		Duane Peterson		Candace Bradley		Lynne Davies	
Time	8:30	00:11	8:30	00:11	8:30	11:00	8:30	00:11
Date			81/1		11/25		12/2	



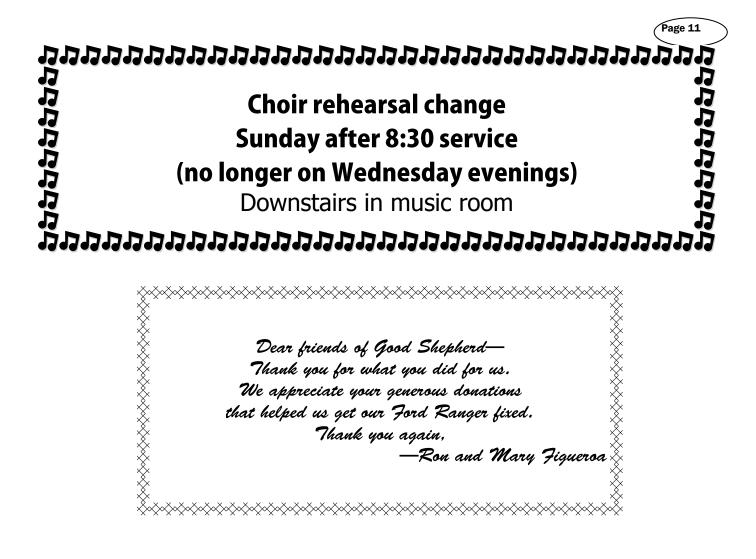
Book Club for November

STATE OF WONDER by Ann Patchett is the November selection for the Good Shepherd book club. The publisher describes it :"As Dr. Marina Singh embarks upon an uncertain odyssey into the insect-infested Amazon, she will be forced to surrender herself to the lush but forbidding world that awaits within the jungle. Charged with finding her former mentor Dr. Annick Swenson, a researcher who has disappeared while working on a valuable new drug, she will have to confront her own memories of tragedy and sacrifice as she journeys into the unforgiving heart of darkness. Stirring and luminous, *State of Wonder* is a world unto itself, where unlikely beauty stands beside unimaginable loss beneath the rain forest's jeweled canopy."

Join us in discussing this remarkable book. We'll be meeting on November 13 at 7:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Questions? Contact Donna at <u>donna@albrechts.com</u>.



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News from our Good Shepherd Hats For the Homeless Group

Our group will have our last meeting for 2012 on **Thursday, November 8 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.** Some of us will will continue making hats and scarves through the end of November. These items will be given to Friends Feeding Friends to be



We are nearing a count of 100 handmade hats and scarves! To all of those who have and those who continue to donate handmade items thank you! Many hearts and heads will be a little warmer this winter because of your generosity of time and talent.



If you have questions about our group or where to leave donations please contact Laura at: <u>lauramott@gsconcord.com</u>.

Coucord, CA 94521 4000 Glayton Zoad אססק צניבאיקטיבים קחניניביט רעוובני

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God's work. Our hands. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Concord, CH Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Member-at-Large: Ken Robinson President: Sue Hertless, Vice President: Victor Olmedo, Secretary: Betty Fraga Executive Committee:

רסמקדבקתדניסמשך ריסממביר

Victor Olmedo, Jim Olson, Ken Robinson, Linda Rodemsky, Vicki Smiglewski, Herb Yonge Pamela Dietz, Mark Deniston, Betty Fraga, Sue Hertless, Jean Moore, Jon Moss, Laura Mott,

Ministry Stable:

Financial Secretary: Vicki Smiglewski Treasurer: Lynne Davies - finance@gsconcord.com Sound/Technology: Jamie Rodemsky - jamier 1263@gmail.com Contemporary Music Leader: Tom Deans Flegel - tdeans08@gmail.com Choir Director: Phoebe J. Rosquist - phoebe@netzero.net Director of Instrumental Music: Margaret Halbig Mono-brooks@thomshaller Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com Senior Pastor: (open)