

Shepherd's Voice

Volume 11 • Issue 3

A monthly newsletter of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

March 2015

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April Newsletter Articles
due March 20

March



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

Worship Schedule:
Sundays 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Rev's Reflections

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."
(Exodus 20:16)

Lent is a great time to read through Martin Luther's Small Catechism. Luther wrote this small book (it's more a large pamphlet) in order to give parents a document to teach their children the essentials of the Christian Faith. It also serves as instruction for those who desire to be reminded again and again of what we should know as Christians.

The Small Catechism is divided into 4 main sections: The Ten Commandments, The Apostles Creed, The Lord's Prayer, and The Disciplines of Faith (Baptism, Confession, Communion, Prayer). Each Sentence in the Commandments, Lord's Prayer, and Creed is followed by a question—What does this mean? Then question is answered.

If you haven't decided on a practice for Lent, I suggest meditating regularly on the eighth commandment and it's explanation—"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

On its surface the eighth commandment seems to only be saying "Don't Lie about your neighbors." However, for every prohibition commanded there is an inverse call to do something. Luther's explanation sums it up perfectly.

"We are to fear and love God,
so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors,
betray or slander them,
or destroy their reputations.

Instead, we are to come to their defense,
speak well of them,
and interpret EVERYTHING they do
in the best possible light."

We are commanded not to hurt our neighbor with our words and at the same time we are called to defend them and give them the benefit of doubt.

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One simple discipline you can do is recommended by Martin Luther in the Small Catechism. "In the morning, when you rise, make the sign of the cross, and you say: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Then, kneeling or standing, you shall say the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer."

As we enter this season together, there will be more opportunities for us to hear God's Word. Every Wednesday during Lent we will have a soup supper followed immediately by evening prayer. The focus of the evening will be the Ancient Spiritual Disciplines of the Christian Faith.

Peace,
Rev. J. Serrano

Holy Week Schedule

Passion / Palm Sunday	Sunday	March 29	8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Sanctuary
Maundy Thursday	Thurs	April 2	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Stations of the Cross	Fri	April 3	Noon	Sanctuary
Good Friday	Fri	April 3	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Easter (One Service)	Sun	April 5	9:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt	Sun	Immediately following Worship		Fellowship Hall

A Note of Thanks!

I'm greatly appreciative to all of you who prayed for success and healing in my recent hip replacement. Thanks also to Rev for the home visit and to all who called or sent cards and warmly welcomed me back to church the last couple of Sundays. I feel surrounded with love from my Church Family! God's Peace to all of you. – Rosemary Fassl

GOOD SHEPHERD INCOME STATEMENT

AS OF JANUARY 31, 2014

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	Difference
INCOME:			
Pledges	\$12,300	\$12,138	\$(162)
Unpledged	2,059	1,931	(128)
Other (Tower, Rent, etc.)	11,363	6,792	(4,571)
TOTAL INCOME	25,722	20,861	(4,861)
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	(19,399)	(19,359)	40
NET INCOME	\$ 6,323	\$ 1,502	\$ (4,821)

Thank you for your financial support.

A Message from our Council President

Last month was a busy month for us. On Saturday, February 7th most of our Council members along with the Call Committee and Dana Deniston attended an all day Healthy Start Workshop. The facilitator was Pastor Mark Price from Lodi helping us define our roles and relationships here at Good Shepherd. We will continue to meet with our next meeting scheduled for May 21st.

On Sunday, February 8th our new Council was installed. At the Council meeting of February 10th we re-elected members of the Executive Committee. Also, most Council members will continue to be members of their respective committees with the exception of Greg Buchholz who will move to Youth and new members Laura Mott representing Christian Education and Tony Rogelstad representing Property.

Shrove Tuesday, February 17th saw a good gathering for the event. Great pancakes, bacon, sausage, coffee, etc. Thanks to all who helped set up, cook, serve and clean up. Thanks.

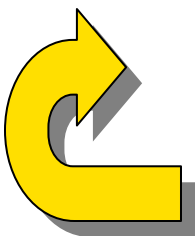
On Ash Wednesday, February 18, Pastor Jeremy along with Leone McCullough and I participated in "Ashes to Go." Pastor administered ashes to over 100 folks at the Concord BART station between the hours of 6:15am and 8am. We provided those receiving ashes with an information leaflet the Rev had prepared letting them know of our events leading to Easter Sunday.

Lenten Soup Suppers and Evening Prayer are now underway having begun last Wednesday, February 25th. We will have these events for the next four Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:30pm. The various committee members are taking the responsibility for providing the delicious soups for the evenings.

If you did attend the Lenten Soup Supper last Wednesday you may have noticed the improved lighting in the upper parking lot. Thanks to our Property Committee for lighting up the area.

During March Pastor and his family will be moving into Pioneer House. Our Property Committee, along with Rev, have been doing the necessary work to get the house ready for the family.

Peace,
Herb



**GSLC Youth Group is looking for 3 couches,
in relatively good condition.
If you have a couch or two to donate,
please call Pastor Jeremy.**

March Birthdays

Madeline Batchelder	01
Laura Carson	01
Rachel Fassl	02
Jan Harman	02
Lisa Henry	02
Christian Anagnostopoulous	04
Richard Batchelder	04
Sheila Huddleston	04
Kristi Buchholz	06
Johnathon Berg-Eaton	07
Justin Berg-Eaton	07
Jim Olson	07
Maria Batchelder	16
Kathleen Bennett	17
Michelle Christiana	17
Pam Dietz	17
Erin Wardle	17
Rebecca Mears	18
Keith Mecklenburg	19
Paul Rusch	21
Willajean Rogelstad	24
Nancy Knapp	25
Johnny Bantly	26
Sean Harless	28
Nancy Judge	30



February 2015 - Council Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on February 12, by president Herb Yonge.

Devotions were given by Nils Anderson and included a prayer for Doug Olson who is ill.

Members present: Herb Yonge, Pr. Jeremy, Vicki Smiglewski, Laura Mott, Leone McCullough, Nils Anderson. Greg Buchholz, Donna Albrecht, Tony Rogelstad, and Jon Moss.

Member absent: Emilie Patton.

There was a discussion of the Healthy Start retreat last Saturday where Pr. Jeremy, the Call Committee, and Council gathered at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church with facilitator Pr. Mark Price to work toward smoothing and strengthening the transition of the Pastor and Congregation to a solid, healthy relationship. The discussion focused on the Behavioral Covenant presented there and the one currently on the wall in the church office. Over the next month, Pastor, Jon and Laura will work together to meld the two into a single document. The first follow-up to the Healthy Start meeting will be on May 21.

Recognitions: Laura recognized Victor Olmedo for his excellent job done as greeter for the congregational meeting. Jon recognized Nils for handling the water audit for the church, and Greg recognized Tony for work on the parking lot. Herb recognized Laura for ordering the food and helping with the planning of Healthy Start. Mike Albrecht was recognized for picking up the food at Togo's and bringing it to the meeting. John Mott was recognized for bringing the water and Pastor Mark Price of Lodi for leading the Healthy Choice retreat.

Election of Officers: Jon nominated Herb for president, Vicki nominated Leone for vice president, and Leone nominated Vicki for member-at-large on the Executive Committee. They each accepted nomination and were elected. Greg will lead the Youth Committee, Nils will lead Finance, Leone will lead Worship and Music, Laura will lead Christian Education, Vicki will lead Social Ministry, Jon will lead Long Range Planning and Tony will lead Property.

Minutes: Nils moved to accept the January minutes as written, Jon seconded. Msc.

Annual Meeting Minutes: Greg moved to accept the minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting as written. Leone seconded. Msc.

Pastor's Report: Included plans for Shrove Tuesday and Lenten Soup Suppers. Pastor and 2 others will be at BART in the morning to offer "Ashes to Go" to commuters at the Concord Station. Pastor will be gone April 14-16 for First Call Theological Education; May 11-15 for a Festival of Homiletics, and May 29-31 for Synod Assembly.

Herb initiated a discussion about acquiring an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) machine and getting training for members to use it in the event of a medical emergency on campus. Leone moved that we allocate no more than \$2,000 for a portable AED and provide training for our congregation on using the AED and hands-on only CPR. Laura seconded the motion. Msc.

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Social Ministry announced that they will be starting up the Dinner Group program again under the leadership of Reyanne Freeman.

Facilities Requests: The Bay Area Crisis Nursery wants to use Fellowship Hall on April 20 for their annual meeting and volunteer recognition dinner. Council decided there would be no charge for the BACN. Donna moved to approve the request; Nils seconded. Msc.

Member Andrew Smith and his fiancée, Julie Campbell, who was baptized at Good Shepherd, have requested the use of Good Shepherd's Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for their wedding and reception on May 2 from 1-8 pm. Terry moved to accept the request; Jon seconded. Msc.

Bill and Tiffany Boreland have requested the use of Fellowship Hall on April 21 for a Court of Honor for Boy Scout Troop 1994 that meets at Good Shepherd. Nils moved to accept the request; Vicki seconded. Msc.

Finance Committee: Nils reported our budget is currently in the black. Worship and Music reported plans for the Lenten services and Palm Sunday. Fellowship and Youth Committees did not have reports.

Long Range Planning and Property Committees have had a work party to remove nuisance trees on the upper level. Tony reported that the lights in the Sanctuary can be repaired rather than replaced. He will find a scaffolding company to set up the scaffolding which will allow the repairs to be done in one day.

Christian Education is doing well with both Adult Education and Sunday School for Children between worship services.

Nils moved to adjourn at 9:05 pm; Jon seconded. Msc.
Respectfully Submitted, Donna Albrecht, Council Secretary

Wedding Anniversaries

Gordon and Donna
Monroe
March 21, 1954

Duane and Patricia
Fiene
March 27, 1993



* **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.

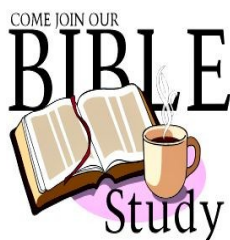
Clocks "spring" forward on March 8

**Daylight Saving Time (United States) 2015 begins 2:00 AM
on March 8 and ends at 2:00 AM on November 1, 2015.**



RUTH CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

MEETING IS THURSDAY, MARCH 12 at 10:00 A.M.



We will meet briefly for coffee and treats before moving to the Fireside Room for our Bible Study. This lesson on Transformation and Faith will explore the story of Job with speeches from Job, his friends and God. Paul's letter to the Romans will help us to understand the Christian perspective on how suffering can lead to endurance and hope. Let's see how to untangle the presumed complexity of the book of Job.

GSLC we're on the move...

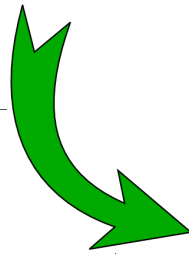


Children's Sunday School begins at 9:40 a.m. combining fun and faith on Sunday Mornings.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,
a light shining in the darkness.

THANKS to our Property Committee!





Rev and his family getting the parsonage ready.
Making a house their home!



Lent Soup Supper 2015

This year our Soup Suppers will be hosted by our Church Council Committees. The host committees will be serving a simple dinner of soup and bread. Pastor Jeremy will discuss the spiritual disciplines and close with evening prayers after our suppers. Below are the dates. Our soup suppers will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Please plan on joining us during Lent.

March 4 / March 11 / March 18 / March 25



Social Ministry Lenten Project

During Lent, Social Ministry is collecting basic hygiene items for Friends Feeding Friends to distribute to those in need. Beginning on Sunday, February 22, (the first week of Lent), we will have a bin available, next to the altar rail, for you to place your donations. The items requested are: Week 1 - Soap, Week 2 - Toothbrushes, Week 3 - Toothpaste, Week 4 - Shampoo, Week 5 - Hair combs. All of these items can usually be purchased at any local dollar store. Thank you!



Coats on Passion / Palm Sunday



And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mark 16: 7-8

You are invited to bring coats and place them in the bin in the narthex. The coats will be used for a procession into the church on Passion / Palm Sunday morning, March 29 at the 8:30 a.m. Worship Service. We will then give the coats to Friends Feeding Friends to distribute to those in need. Gently used coats in all sizes and colors will be greatly appreciated.

Leisure Lunch in March

Everyone is Irish at our next Leisure Lunch! Join us for a jig on Tuesday, March 17th from noon - 1:30 p.m. (The jig is optional!) We'll be serving a variety of soups to ward off the chilly weather.

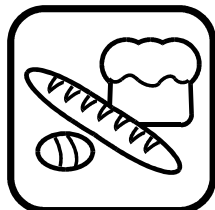
Call Susan and Bob Ripley for any questions: 925-827-9717.



Happy St. Patrick's Day !

Friends Feeding Friends

An outreach ministry that serves needy in our county



584 Grocery/Food bags distributed
655 People helped with food
124 Hot Meals served
18 People helped with household furnishings

Highlights:

- Furnished people transitioning from homeless to housing including a Vet, a single dad with 5 children.
- Worked with Tabernacle students as they baked desserts for shelter lunches and packed food bags.
- Provided Pacheco/Martinez Homeless Outreach with shelf stable food, blankets and warm coats.
- Provided a hot meal, food bags, grooming supplies and clothing to the adult shelter.
- Worked with Tabernacle school on their "Gifts of Love" project that includes a school-wide drive to collect donations for Friends Feeding Friends.

Next FFF Lunch: March 21, 2015, 9:30 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:

- Pyrex or other casserole dishes
- Lamps
- Can openers, potato peelers

Have questions, want to help or know of someone needing help? Contact Dana (925)768-9087 or Linda (925)864-9266 or email: friendsfeedingfriendsca@gmail.com



Kim Christiana along with her mom, Dottie Davis, preparing lunch for our needy friends in the 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.

Sarah Jean's Dream at age 4 – "So people who are really hungry have food."



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

Worship Assistants – March 1 to March 29, 2015

Date	Time	Assisting Minister	Communion Assistant	Lector	Acolyte, Torchbearer	Crucifer	Altar Guild	Greeters	Ushers	Sound Ministry	Communion to Shut-Ins	Coffee Ministry	Counters	C.O.D.
3/01	8:30	Drew Cremisio	Candace Bradley and Duane Peterson	Betty Fraga	Allie Buchholz	Sam Buchholz	Donna Abeyta Nancy Knapp Nancy Judge Becky Berg	Larry and Marcia Sander	Greg Buchholz and Vicki Smiglewski	Jamie Rodemsky		Greg and Kristi Buchholz	Jan Carzino and Betty Jacobsen	Jon Moss
	11:00							The Bibb Family						
3/08	8:30	Kelly Schaefer	Susan Metzger and Leone McCullough	Kristi Buchholz	Ryan Kich	Sam Buchholz	Kathy Price Else Welsh Heidi Moss Cindy Rogelstad	Kay Bennett	Doug and Reyane Freeman	Jamie Rodemsky		Doug and Reyane Freeman	Jan Carzino and Betty Jacobsen	Emilie Patton
	11:00							Nancy Judge						
3/15	8:30	Lauren Wardle	Linda Rodemsky and Erika Berg	Candace Bradley	Allie Buchholz	Sam Buchholz	Jan Harmon Pam Dietz Willajean Rogelstad Linda Mahloch	Jaire and Else Welsh	Paul Rusch and Ron Figueroa	Jamie Rodemsky	Duane Peterson	Jon and Heidi Moss	Tony Rogelstad and Herb Yonge	Vicki Smiglewski
	11:00							Nancy Knapp						
3/22	8:30	Erika Berg	Susan Metzger and Mike Albrecht	Donna Albrecht	Erin Wardle	Ryan Kich	Laura Carlson Vicki Smiglewski Elizabeth Kich Sue Hertless	Willajean Rogelstad	Gary and Linda Mahloch	Jamie Rodemsky		Ron and Kathy Price	Tony Rogelstad and Herb Yonge	Tony Rogelstad
	11:00							Victor and Aimee Olmedo						
Palm Sunday 3/29	8:30	Candace Bradley	Linda Rodemsky and Duane Peterson	Ingrid Burns	Caedmon Serrano	Lauren Wardle	Ione Bandy Leone McCullough Karin Bohling Tracy Rentner	Ron and Mary Figueroa	Greg Buchholz and Sam Buchholz	Jamie Rodemsky		Gary and Linda Mahloch	Reyane Freeman and Pam Dietz	Leone McCullough
	11:00							Connie Summers						

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 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



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