

Shepherd's Voice

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Feeding bodies, minds and souls...

Volume 14 • Issue 1

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February

Newsletter Articles

Due January 22, 2018

January



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

Sunday Worship at 9:00 a.m.

**Refreshments and
Sunday School for children
begins at 10:15 a.m.**

Rev's Reflections

*"Most of us have two lives. The life we live, and the un-lived life within us.
Between the two stands Resistance." - The War of Art*

I have been reading very slowly the book from which the above quote comes. I find that it rings true in my life. There are so many things that I want to accomplish. There are so many goals that I have set. There are so many dreams I have for myself and our congregation. Yet, I find that I am met with Resistance at every turn. This resistance is not external, it comes from within.

If you've ever made a New Year's resolution, set upon a new endeavor, wanted to be more spiritual, or perhaps eat healthier, but failed to begin in any of these things, you know well what Resistance is.

Resistance is evil. We face it every time we try to live into the un-lived life within us. The author of *The War of Art* says, "Resistance is invisible, internal, insidious, implacable, impersonal, infallible, and is universal. Resistance only goal is to keep us the way we are." This is why it is particularly sinful.

We believe in the God of new life. The old Adam, the old person, the one within us who only listens to Resistance, has been put to death in our baptism. But, we often forget that our old selves have been drowned or we give that old self CPR because we are afraid of the unknown newness that can be our future.

My hope this year is that I live the un-lived life that God is calling me towards. The life that the Holy Spirit whispers in my ear about my health, my ministry, my relationships, my way of being in the world. I have hope that God is calling us all toward being the un-lived church that we can be in the world.

So, in this new year let us take Resistance behind the barn and bury it deep. The new life we have in Jesus has already declared that it is dead. We have to just keep being reminded that the Holy Spirit within us leads us into the un-lived life God has for us. This year may we win many battles against Resistance.

Peace,
Rev.

GSLC Annual Meeting

Immediately following 9:00 a.m. worship.

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Fellowship Hall

Potluck Brunch



Paper copies of the 2017 Annual Reports will be available on Sunday, January 21.

**Would you be interested to serve
as a Communion Assistant or Usher on Sundays?**

**If you have questions or would like to serve,
please contact Rev or the church office.**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE ~ IMPORTANT NEWS !

In order to have a newsletter in your email box on the first day of the month and available in the church in a timely manner for those who do not receive the email,

THE DEADLINE WILL BE THE 22ND OF EACH MONTH.

**If you miss the deadline, your information will not appear in the
newsletter of the current month.**



Come be a part of an exciting new monthly ecumenical program for children & youth!

All Youth K-12th grades are welcome to attend!

We meet on the first Sunday of every month from 4:00-6:00 pm (Unless it is Super Bowl Sunday)

We meet at several different churches.

There is a different theme each month. There will be games, discussion, pizza, and worship!

Should you have any questions, please contact Rev.

In February we will meet on Feb. 11 at Concord United Methodist Church

January Birthdays

Julie Sasaoka	04
Jauire Welsh	04
Kim Christiana	05
Austin Fiene	08
Mary Figueroa	09
Candace Bradley	10
Ed Chambers	12
Ryan Kich	14
Angie Morgan	15
Suzanne Christensen	17
Samuel Buchholz	22
Phil Kich	22
Craig Peterson	23
Sherry Chaplin	26
Patricia Fiene	27
Linda Mahloch	28
Carol Beran	29
Ronald Fassl	29
Glen Bradley	30



Good Shepherd Book Exchange is Almost Here!

There will be a Book Exchange on January 14, 2018 after church that you won't want to miss.

If you have books you've loved by don't really want to dust any more, drop them off in the Fireside Room next to the rolling cart and you'll clear out your space and we'll have books ready to go the day of the exchange!

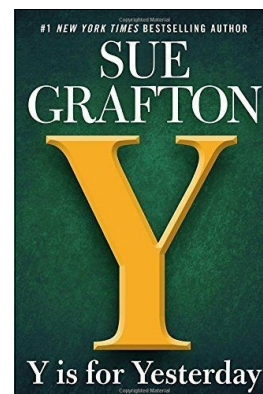


GOOD SHEPHERD BOOK CLUB

For our next meeting, we're reading "Y is for Yesterday" by Sue Grafton.

It's 1989 and one of the perpetrators of a vicious rape, Fritz McCabe, has been released from prison.

A tape of the assault had disappeared before the trial and the person suspected by her peers of having the tape is found murdered. Moody, unrepentant, and angry, Fritz is a virtual prisoner of his ever-watchful parents — until a copy of the missing tape of the crime arrives with a ransom demand. That's when the McCabes call Kinsey Millhone for help. As she is drawn into their family drama, she keeps a watchful eye on Fritz. But he's not the only one being haunted by the past. A vicious sociopath with a grudge against Millhone may be leaving traces of himself for her to find . . .



This is the 25th novel in her Alphabet Mystery series. Sadly, Grafton died on December 28, 2017. She had publicly stated that the final novel in the series would be titled "Z" *Is for Zero* but did not live to start writing it. Her daughter said Grafton would never allow a ghostwriter to write in her name and "as far as we in the family are concerned, the alphabet now ends at Y."

Join us on **March 8 at 7:30 pm** in the Fireside Room to discuss this amazing novel by a master of her craft.

Questions? Contact Donna Albrecht at donna@albrechts.com

News from the Council President

Hello everyone,

First off, I would like to thank everyone who helped make for such a wonderful Christmas season!

Here are some highlights from our Church Council meeting on December 11th. Our meeting was mainly focused on discussing topics associated with the upcoming Annual Meeting.

- o Annual Meeting: The Council has set January 28th as the date for our Annual Meeting. As with last year, we are planning a combined potluck brunch and meeting to be held right after the church service. We need your input so please plan on attending!
- o 2018 Budget – We definitely face challenges in the upcoming year as our income from contributions remains below what was pledged late last year, and we discussed the need to increase the Pastor’s salary to be more in-line with Synod guidelines. As mentioned in the subsequent email blast with the revised suggested budget, we decided as a Council to increase Pastor’s salary by 5% and to reduce the rent he pays for the parsonage by \$200/month. While this helps close the gap with the Synod guidelines, it does not fully get there. As always, Gordon Monroe has done a fantastic job at coming up with a suggested budget, even with all these issues.
- o 2018 Church Council – We have one confirmed, and possibly two members willing to join Council next year. This still leaves room for anyone else whom might be interested. Please let me know if you wish to have your name added to the list.
- o Lastly, as always, a reminder that full minutes of our Council meetings are posted on the Good Shepherd web site.

In God’s Peace,

Greg Buchholz
Council President



Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding
Anniversaries in
January



**On January 3, 2018 we
began a**

**Mid-week Prayer
Service
Led by Pastor Jeremy**

**We pray for
Good Shepherd
Wednesdays
at
11:30 a.m.
January 17, 24 and 31
2018.**

**All are welcome
in the Sanctuary.**

The Men's Breakfast
and Bible Study
is Saturday, January 27.



All men are welcome.



Let the Light of Christ Shine in Your Life

CANDLELIGHT WALK

Saturday, January 20, 2018 @ 6:30pm

St. Bonaventure Catholic Church

**5562 Clayton Rd.
Concord CA 94521**


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.”



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

Friends Feeding Friends

1169 Families helped*
1394 Bags of food distributed
1600 People helped with groceries
332 Hot Meals served (Concord and Brookside shelters)

Highlights:

- In December, we provided Christmas Holiday groceries, and served hot meals at the shelters, in addition to our regular activities of distributing food and furnishing. It was a very busy month. *We did close between Christmas and New Year's.
- We also launched 2 fundraisers (pictured below) to help ensure FFF can continue serving the needy community through 2018. FFF runs exclusively on volunteer labor, private donations, and an occasional FEMA grant. Thank you to all who contributed!!

Next Shelter Lunch: January 20, 2018: 9:00 at Good Shepherd to prep. All are welcome!!

Items needed this month:

- Warm Blankets and Coats
- Packaged snacks
- New socks

You can contact us at friendsfeedingfriends@yahoo.com or friendsfeedingfriend-sca@gmail.com, and we are on the church website at <http://gsconcord.com/outreach-ministries/friends-feeding-friends/>



We launched a Facebook fundraiser and our annual Angel Bins fundraiser to help us serve our needy neighbors.

ANGEL BINS
 "Your Partner in Recycling & Fundraising"

GOT SHOES?

**Athletic Shoe Drive
Fundraiser**


Please help Friends Feeding Friends, in their charitable fundraising by donating your unwanted gently used or new athletic shoes. No muddy, or shoes with holes should be offered.

All shoes are refurbished and given to those in need here in the U.S. and around the world!

Clean out your closet and help a good cause!
Our goal is to collect as many pairs as possible by December 31st!

Shoes may be dropped off at Tabernacle Christian School, or Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Concord
 Or contact Shoe Drive Coordinator Dana Merritt at accessdara@prodigy.net for pick up or questions

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 a.m. Sunday Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 10:15 Sunday School for all 10:15 a.m. Coffee (FH) 12:30 Lighthouse (FH)(#3) 6:00 p.m. NA Group (FH)	1	2	3 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	4 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 5:00 p.m. Finance Com 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	5	6
7 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above.	8	9 7:00 Council Mtg. (FH) 7:30 p.m. Book Club (FR)	10 4:00 Worship & Music Mtg. (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	11 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (FH) 10:00 a.m. DVLC Board 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	12	13
14 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above. GSLC Book Exchange (FH)	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. Office closed in observance. 	16 Noon Leisure Lunch	17 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	18 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	19	20 9:00 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kitchen)
21 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above.	22	23 7:00 p.m. Long Range Property Comm. (FH)	24 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	25 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	26	27 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast & Bible Study. Noon DVLC Annual Mtg.
28 9:00 a.m. Schedule above. ANNUAL MEETING (FH)	29	30	31 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)			February Newsletter Articles Due Jan. 22
	CH = Church FH = Fellowship Hall FR = Fireside Room					

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

2017 Executive Committee:

President: Greg Buchholz, **Vice President:** Sue Hertless, **Secretary:** John Mott
Member-at-Large: Adam Castle

2017 Congregational Council

Rebecca Berg, Candace Bradley, Greg Buchholz, Adam Castle, Tyler Costa,
Sue Hertless, Nancy Judge, John Mott, Tony Rogelstad

Ministry Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Jeremy Serrano - rev@gsconcord.com
Office Administrator: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com
Organist: Gloria Chuang
Interim Choir Director: Emilie Patton
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.