

Shepherd's Voice

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Feeding bodies, minds and souls...

Volume 16 • Issue 1

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*February
Newsletter Articles
Due January 30, 2020*

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

I love the new year, it just seems like there is so much potential for the year ahead. I like to give myself loose goals for the New Year. This year, I am going to learn how to make flour tortillas from scratch, I am going to work out more, I am going to eat better. If you like me, you probably have some similar goals. The truth is, most of these are my goals every year.

The trick to having goals for the New Year is to not invest your worth in them. Sure, you work towards them, but don't assign value to yourself for completing or not completing them. I am not less lovable for not learning how to make tortillas, or working out less, or eating poorly. I am not less lovable because I do not measure up to the goals I've set for myself. We live in a time when we are constantly judged on what we produce, but your value as a child of God does not rest in that kind of commodification.

You are loved by God, because you are a child of God. There is nothing you need to do, say, practice, or produce in order to get God to love you. In fact, until you understand that you are loved exactly as you are, you will always be trying to earn God's approval. That is impossible, that's a little like trying to earn sunshine.

Jesus came to stop that cycle. He came to show us that we are loved while we are messed up. God loves you just as you are, with all the sins you commit, with all the brokenness, all the guilt, and shame, and pain you have. There is nothing you need to do, God loves you with all that stuff, not despite it.

So this New Year, my hope for you is that you come to understand this love of God and that you rest in it. In God's love is rest for your soul.

Peace, Rev. J. Serrano

In 2020

*May you have a blessed year full of
joy, service, and love! Happy New Year.*

GSLC Annual Meeting

Immediately following 9:00 a.m. worship.

Sunday, January 26, 2020

Fellowship Hall

Potluck Brunch ~ Sign up in the Narthex



Paper copies of the 2019 Annual Reports will be available on Tuesday, January 21.

The Men's Breakfast
and Bible Study
is Saturday, January 25.



All guys are welcome to
partake in good food and
good conversation at 8 a.m.

>> We meet in the office
Conference Room.

Calling all youth...

We are going bowling from 12 to 2:00 p.m.
at Clayton Valley Bowl.

All Youth are invited - bring a friend!

We will meet at church, in the parking lot,
on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020**



COUNCIL PRESIDENT NEWS

Hello Good Shepherd Friends,

Happy New Year! Good Shepherd Lutheran Church had a very busy Christmas Season. A brief summary of the Council and congregation activities from December into January are as follows:

Christmas Eve Services: We held two nice services at 7 pm and 11 pm on Christmas Eve. The music was great at both services with the Pop Up Choir singing "Carol of the Bells" at the 7 pm service. A large thank you goes out to all that helped with both services, and a special thank you to Pastor Jeremy and Tom our Music Director for their hard work with preparation for both services.

Christmas Faire: The Faire was held November 30 and December 1 and it generated over \$1,300 in revenue for donation to our Sister Church in El Salvador. A large thank you to Laura Mott, Tyna Headrick-Phipps, Sue Hertless and all the other folks that helped make the fund raiser a success.

Christmas Dinner: The dinner was held on Christmas Day in Fellowship Hall, and 130 people attended the event. A large thank you goes out to Laura Mott, Sue Hertless, and all the other folks that helped with the dinner.

Music Ministry: Our next Pop Up Choir is Sunday, January 12. We hope to have a lot of friends join us for this choir event. Please check the Good Shepherd website for details posted by Tom, our Music Director, for the January 12 choir session.

New Floor in Fellowship Hall: Now that the new floors have been installed in the 3 rooms used by Friends Feeding Friends, the Property Committee will work on getting a second quote for installation of new flooring in Fellowship Hall. Church Council and the Property Committee will keep the congregation apprised of the progress on this flooring project.

Annual Meeting: We will hold our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26, 2020 after our worship service. Additional information regarding our Annual meeting will be provided in the near future.

Good Shepherd 2020 Budget: Council, at their December meeting, reviewed a draft budget prepared by Finance which includes staff salary increases, donations to outreach ministries, and other expenses. Council and Finance will have the final 2020 budget prepared for our Annual Meeting.

Open 2020 Council Positions: Three current Council members will be leaving Council for the 2020 year. Some well qualified congregation members have put their names on the ballot list for the open Council positions which will be voted on at our Annual Meeting. But we still have open positions! Additional congregation members who are interested in participating on the 2020 Council should contact Pastor or a Council member.

Possible Change in Sunday Service Start Time: At the Annual Meeting we will discuss possibly changing the starting time for our Sunday Service. A few folks have said that starting our Sunday service a bit later (10 am?) may increase our attendance at our single Sunday service.

God's Peace,
Mark Deniston

January Birthdays

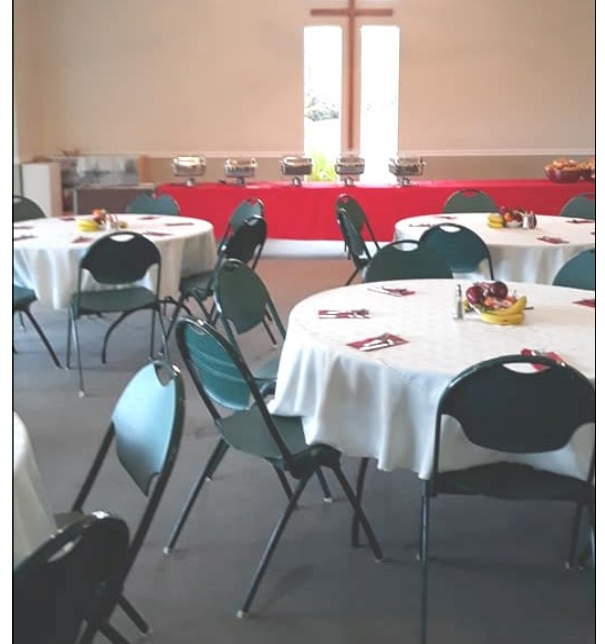
Julie Sasaoka	04
Jauire Welsh	04
Kim Christiana	05
Austin Fiene	08
Mary Figueroa	09
Candace Bradley	10
Ed Chambers	12
Ryan Kich	14
Angie Morgan	15
Suzanne Christensen	17
Samuel Buchholz	22
Phil Kich	22
Craig Peterson	23
Sherry Chaplin	26
Patricia Fiene	27
Linda Mahloch	28
Carol Beran	29
Ronald Fassl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

No Wedding
Anniversaries in
January

A Christmas Dinner Just for You!

December 25, 2019

Thank you to our volunteers!



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.”



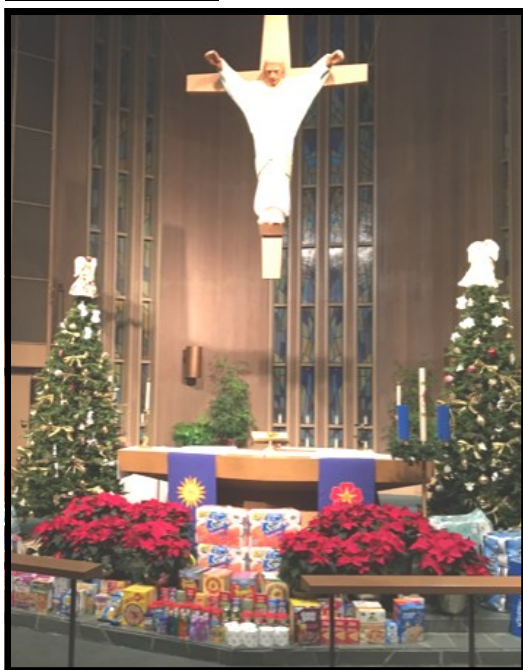
For we are
God's
workmanship
created in
Christ Jesus to
do good works,
which God
prepared in
advance for us
to do.
Ephesians
2:10

Highlights for the Past Month

2,975	Families helped
3,212	Bags of food distributed
3,332	People helped with groceries
177	Hot Meals provided to Shelter Clients

In December, we helped more than 3,500 people with food and meals. Flooring installation is now complete in all 3 food rooms. Throughout the flooring process (August-early December) we kept all FFF operations running at the same level, challenging to say the least! Thank you to all who donated volunteer time, athletic shoes, children's shoes, food and basic necessities. For those who support FFF with monetary donations, we appreciate you more than you know.

With donated funds, we purchase mostly food and small furnishings. We are also very grateful for the donations of quilts, placemats, and potholders from the Guild of Quilters of Contra Costa County, and of diapers and food from the Bay Area Crisis Nursery. The hot meals we prepare and serve to shelter clients are always greatly appreciated. For our Christmas meal of turkey, roast pork, lamb, stir-fried Winter vegetables, fresh fruit salad, mashed potatoes, and desserts, several male clients offered to marry Dana if her husband ever leaves because they liked the meal so much!!




Our Advent project was a success!!!
One of our volunteers said, “Jesus would care more about this collection for the needy than any decorations.” He delivers groceries and sees firsthand how many appreciate the toilet paper!!!



We delivered groceries and new hand made Quilts to Seniors. The quilts were donated to FFF from the Guild of Quilters of Contra Costa County. The man in the picture is 97 years young!!!

Worship Assistants January 19, 2020 through February 9, 2020[illegible]

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 a.m. Sunday Schedule: 9:00 a.m. Worship (CH) 10:15 Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Coffee (FH) 12:30 Lighthouse (FH)(#3) 6:00 p.m. NA Group (FH)			1 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	2 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	3	4 10:00 a.m. Private Party (FH)
5 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above.	6	7	8 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	9 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle (FH) 10:00 a.m. DVLC Board 12:30 p.m. Bible & Lunch (Office Conf. Rm.) 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	10	11 11:00 A.M. DVLC Annual Mtg.
12 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above. 12:00 p.m. Youth Bowl Clayton Valley Bowl.	13 5:00 p.m. Finance Meeting Office Conf. Room	14 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting (FH)	15 8:15 a.m. FFF Cooking (Kit) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	16 8:30 a.m. Senior Food (FH) 12:30 p.m. Bible & Lunch (Office Conf. Rm.) 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	17	18 9:00 a.m. Friends Feeding Friends (Kitchen)
19 9:00 a.m. Schedule See above.	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. 7:00 p.m. NA Meeting (FH)	21  Noon Leisure Lunch (FH) 7:00 p.m. Long Range Property Comm. (FH)	22 10:00 a.m. Cutting & Sew Tablecloth Group (FH) 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	23 NO Bible & Lunch Study 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	24	25 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast & Bible (Office Conf Rm)
26 9:00 a.m. Schedule above. ANNUAL MEETING & Brunch (FH)	27	28 7:00 p.m. GSLC Book Club (FR)	29 7:00 p.m. NA (FH)	30 12:30 p.m. Bible & Lunch (Office Conf. Rm.) 6:00 p.m. Lighthouse (Rm.3) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (FH)	31	February Newsletter Articles Due Jan. 30
CH = Church		FH = Fellowship Hall		FR = Fireside Room		

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

2019 Executive Committee:

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

2019 Congregational Council

Candace Bradley, Greg Buchholz, Tyler Costa,
Mark Deniston, Mike Henry, Sue Hertless, Nancy Judge, John Mott, Tony Rogelstad

Ministry Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Jeremy Serrano - rev@gsconcord.com
Office Administrator: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com
Music Director: Tom Deans Flegel - tom@gsconcord.com
Organist / Pianist: John Yeh
Sound/Technology: Jamie Rodemsky - jamier1263@gmail.com
Treasurer: Laura Mott - lauramott@gsconcord.com

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.