

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

& The Vineyard Preschool

September, 2011

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Website address: [goodshepherdgilroy.org](http://goodshepherdgilroy.org)

## WHAT IS IMPORTANT ABOUT CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

On Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 am we will gather in worship and celebrate our congregation's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

EXODUS 12: 14, THIS DAY SHALL BE A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR YOU. YOU SHALL CELEBRATE IT AS A FESTIVAL TO THE LORD; THROUGHOUT YOUR GENERATIONS YOU SHALL OBSERVE IT AS A PERPETUAL ORDINANCE. That was the command from God to the Israelites as they observed the very first Passover. Further, in EXODUS 12:24-27, YOU SHALL OBSERVE THIS RITE AS A PERPETUAL ORDINANCE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN. WHEN YOU COME TO THE LAND THAT THE LORD WILL GIVE YOU, AS HE HAS PROMISED, YOU SHALL KEEP THIS OBSERVANCE. AND WHEN YOUR CHILDREN ASK YOU, "WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THIS OBSERVANCE?" YOU SHALL SAY, "IT IS THE PASSOVER SACRIFICE TO THE LORD, FOR HE PASSED OVER THE HOUSES OF THE ISRAELITES IN EGYPT, WHEN HE STRUCK DOWN THE EGYPTIANS BUT SPARED OUR HOUSES." AND THE PEOPLE BOWED DOWN AND WORSHIPED.

We are celebrating our congregation's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary because God has blessed us at Good Shepherd. We observe days of remembrance because we need to keep God in the center of the picture. **God's Rich Blessings** is our theme. It starts with God. It started with God for the Israelites, and their uninterrupted observance of Passover continues to this day. It continued with God, and God's redemptive actions in delivering Israel from slavery and keeping God's promise to give them a land. EXODUS 13:8, YOU SHALL TELL YOUR CHILDREN ON THAT DAY, "IT IS BECAUSE OF WHAT THE LORD DID FOR ME WHEN I CAME OUT OF EGYPT." In an amazing way, each Israelite was to take upon themselves the plight of their ancestors as slaves in Egypt, and in the same way, to receive God's deliverance as their own deliverance from slavery to freedom. "I came out of Egypt by the Lord's hand, and you will tell this same story to your child."

Our history is a corporate history. Our celebration is communal. The Israelites gathered in families to observe Passover, or if they were too small a family to consume the Passover lamb alone, they would partner with a neighboring family. The connector was the timing of the celebration. You knew that in every Israelite home that night, Passover would be celebrated. You can count on that today as well. The same can be said for Christians gathered to observe The Three Days, Christmas, and Epiphany. In fact, every Sunday is the Lord's Day. We gather to remember what the Lord did for us when we came out of Egypt. We gather to remember what the Lord did for us in the incarnation, life and ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Life in Christian community means ongoing learning and continual growth. We are not done once we have said yes to Jesus' invitation to take up our cross and follow. We are just beginning. Because the journey comes with trials and struggles, as well as joys and celebrations, we need ongoing nurture in Word and Sacrament. We trust that those gifts are enough for us. We remember who we are in the stories we share. We trust that God's love, shown in the past to our ancestors in the faith, is enough for us as well. On our congregation's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we gather to remember God's Rich Blessings. May we gather in joy and thanksgiving. May we be renewed in our energy to be God's people in ministry in this place. May we cherish the legacy of not only our congregation's 60-year history, but also the entire holy history of God's compassion for all people and God's calling of us to be agents of justice in our world.

Here's to 60 years of **God's Rich Blessings**, celebrated in joy and thanksgiving,

*Pastor Koch*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September 2011</h1>				<b>1</b> N.A. 8 pm	<b>2</b> N.A. 8 pm	<b>3</b> N.A. 9:30 am FlowersNeeded N.A. 8 pm
<b>4</b> 9:30 am Worship G.S. Sisterhood after worship N. A. 4 pm	<b>5</b> Labor Day Holiday N.A. 6 & 8 pm	<b>6</b> N.A. 6 pm	<b>7</b> N.A. 7 & 8:30	<b>8</b> N.A. 8 pm	<b>9</b> Girl Scouts 3:15 – 6:15 N.A. 8 pm	<b>10</b> N. A. 9:30 Flowers- Herm Weyland N.A. 8 pm
<b>11</b> 9:30 am Worship Adult Forum At 11:15 N. A. 4 pm	<b>12</b> N.A. 6 & 8 pm	<b>13</b> N.A. 6 pm Board of Directors 7:30 pm	<b>14</b> N.A. 7 & 8:30 Choir 7:30 pm	<b>15</b> N.A. 8 pm Handbells 7:30	<b>16</b> N.A. 8 pm	<b>17</b> 9 am Paint the Social Hall N.A. 9:30 am FlowersNeeded N.A. 8 pm
<b>18</b> 9:30 am Worship 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Brunch NA 4 pm	<b>19</b> N.A. 6 & 8 pm	<b>20</b> N. A. 6 pm	<b>21</b> N.A. 7 & 8:30 p Choir 7:30 pm	<b>22</b> N.A. 8 pm Handbells 7:30	<b>23</b> Girl Scouts 3:15 – 6:15 N.A. 8 pm	<b>24</b> N.A. 9:30 FlowersNeeded N.A. 8 pm
<b>25</b> 9:30 am Worship Adult Forum At 11:15 NA 4 pm	<b>26</b> N.A. 6 & 8 pm	<b>27</b> N. A. 6 pm	<b>28</b> N.A. 7 & 8:30 p Choir 7:30 pm	<b>29</b> N.A. 8 pm Handbells 7:30	<b>30</b> N.A. 8 pm	Sixtieth Anniversary celebration on Sunday, Oct. 2 9:30 am

**September Birthdays**

1 Joshua Yothers    11 Zita Weyland  
19 Jack Penkethman    23 Kelly Cox

**September Anniversaries**

None

**September Assisting Ministers**

Date	Coffee Time	Clean up	Acolytes	Lectors	Ushers
4	<u>Set up</u> Amy Low Critzer	Herm Weyland	Kyra Guerra	Steve Andrade	Karen & Sabrina Spence
11	Karen Spence	Debbie Andrade	Nicole Critzer	Carolyn Carver	Mariah Garcia & James Guerra
18	Brunch - <b>Team 4</b>		Ben Anderson	Rozanne Koch	Steve & Debbie Andrade
25	<b>Team 4 Members:</b> H & Z Weyland	Ruth Compton, Patty Johansen, Amy Low Critzer, Norma Rymers and Duane Brown Mariah Garcia	Kyra Guerra	Patty Johansen	John Hopkins

**Flowers for September**

4 - NEEDED  
11 - Herm Weyland for Zita's Birthday  
18 - NEEDED  
25 - NEEDED



## STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

Our adopted budget for 2011 is \$ 121,310  
Total Passive Income Stream: \$ -36,910  
Offerings needed \$ 84,400  
Offering expectation \$104,000 (based on last 3 years)  
Divided by 52 weeks: \$2,000.00 / week.

### Stewardship Update through August, 2011

Average attendance for **35** Weeks: 31  
Offering expected weekly at \$2,000/week: \$70,000  
Actual Offering: \$56,459  
Shortfall: \$13,541  
Average shortfall per week: \$387

2011	2010
This Year	Last Year
1st 6 months	1st 6 months
Ave. attendance: 33	Ave. Att.: 44
Ave. Offering/wk: \$1,638	Offering: \$1,875
July ave. attendance: 31	July ave. Att.: 40
July Offering: \$8,068	Offering: \$9,623
Aug. ave. attendance: 31	Aug. ave. Att.: 40
Aug. Offering: \$5,793	Offering: \$7,205

Attendance is the cumulative average for the year.

## Special Worship to Mark 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11

We will begin our worship on Sunday, September 11 with a service similar to the beginning of our worship on September 16, 2001, the Sunday right after 9/11. We began worship that day with an extended Kyrie in a solemn chant tone. Traditionally the Kyrie is three-fold: Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy. After each Kyrie, we offered a prayer. This was one of them: "O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, work to accomplish your purposes on earth; that in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord."

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Highlights

At the August meeting, the Board of Directors spent much time on Vineyard Preschool issues. We directed the Vineyard Contract Committee to form the 2011-12 school year contracts with a 3% raise for the entire staff. Jack Penkethman will run an ad in the Gilroy Dispatch to let the community know that the Vineyard has room for more students. Preparation of the new classroom space is nearly finished. Furnishings have been ordered. An inspection by Community Care Licensing is scheduled.

The church/school parking lot will be sealed on August 18. There is also a need to schedule a workday to wash windows, clean the floor in the Social Hall and the breezeway, and paint the Social Hall. We'd like that done by October 2, our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration Sunday.

Zita Weyland asked what kinds of programs would be of interest to people for Adult Christian Education. An "in depth" look at the lessons for the Sunday was suggested. It was also suggested that we might enjoy switching liturgies more often.

With the great amount of the Board's time spent on Vineyard Preschool business recently, it was suggested that we might take up preschool business in a Tuesday afternoon meeting with some of the Board members and our new director, and then report to the whole board at the evening meeting. We will see if the preschool business decreases for the Board in two months before we try a second meeting.



# 60th Anniversary Celebration

## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship Plans

On Sunday, October 2, we will gather to worship God and to celebrate our congregation's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. First, our **worship** will be made special by your attendance. Your presence fills us all with joy that you, too, share in **God's Rich Blessings** and desire to uphold and sustain our communal life. Second, we will install our newly hired Vineyard Preschool Director, Denise Higuera, and also give recognition to the Vineyard Preschool ministry by honoring our teachers and staff. Third, we will invite the Vineyard children to come to worship and sing a special anthem they will prepare in the weeks leading up to October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Fourth, we will invite the parents of our Vineyard families to help us make up a festival choir to present a special anthem for worship. And we will also ask if there are other musical gifts some of these young parents might bring to enhance our day. Maybe a trumpeter can play a descant for a hymn, for example. We are being very intentional about asking for offerings of talents and gifts from our Vineyard families. We need to include and invite this part of the community that entrusts their children to us for the first formative years of their education. Maybe some will think about making a church connection for their families, if they have no current church home. Of course, this also means that you members/friends of Good Shepherd are urged to be the core of our special worship: we want your voices for choir, your arms for handbell ringing, your presence and support in worship.

## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon Plans

Debbie Andrade and Lenore Penkethman have volunteered to co-chair our congregational 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary festival meal on Sunday, October 2 after worship. The menu looks good with tri-tip and chicken barbeque, plus all the fixings. We need volunteers for the fixings. We need people to help decorate and prepare our Social Hall for the communal celebration. Can you help? Call Debbie (847-4118) or Lenore (842-6393) to volunteer.

## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program Plans

Third, a **program** to celebrate the day. Pastor Koch wrote the following in the July Newsletter

"We are at a milestone of 60 years in our congregation's life. At 60, we have accumulated a bit of wisdom from having lived a while. Congregations are like people in some ways (not all). We get older and maybe a bit wiser. We remember some good times and try to learn from the rough patches in the road. As a way to help observe our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I invite you to write up a memory from your experience as a member of Good Shepherd. I'll collect them and edit them for space and temporal flow, and put them into a booklet for us all to read and share. Often these kinds of stories get told at a banquet, or merely in passing, but are soon forgotten. I'd like for this anniversary booklet to be a way to remember our shared history."

It seems that we have the makings of a program if we follow through with some contributions from you who are moved to write. Pastor Koch will put what we collectively gather into a meaningful presentation. That history gives us a broad perspective of our 60 years of Christian ministry in this place, of **God's Rich Blessings**.

## Paint Party Planned

After seeing how great the newly prepared classroom looks in the north section of the Social Hall, we need to spruce up the rest of the Hall in time for the celebration of our **60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**. A Paint-the-Social Hall party is scheduled for Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 am. Bring your painting equipment and we'll provide the paint. Lunch will be provided by the Good Shepherd "Sisterhood."



## Sign up for Fall Dinner Groups

A new sign-up sheet has been prepared for you to join the next round of Dinner Groups. Photos of some of the gatherings from the last round are posted as well. Check it out there in the Breezeway. Usually about 8 people make up a dinner group. Hosting of the dinner is at one of the group-member's homes with the host providing the main course, and the other group members bringing dishes to share. All are Welcome! If you have any questions, please feel free to call Debbie Andrade at 847-4118. Thanks.

## GSLW Changes Its Name

At the August meeting of the leadership team of Good Shepherd Lutheran Women, the decision was made to change the name of the group. A different emphasis on mutual support of one another and of our congregation and its ministries went along with the name change. It was agreed that the new name would be Good Shepherd Sisterhood. From the minutes of the meeting came the following: "1. To come to know one another and to learn from each other in order to help live the lives each of us has been blessed with. To benefit from one another's experiences, their successes and their failures, and to share one another's burdens and joys, and to help when needed. 2. To take notice and act on the health and welfare of the whole family at Good Shepherd, as well as those who use our facilities and come to us for help. 3. To help discover and acknowledge talents in each one of us and encourage the use of those special gifts. 4. To see things as they truly are, in honesty and love. 5. To explore new ideas and to carry them out in a humble and loving manner. 6. And last, but certainly not least, to learn to serve God as women within our church family and in our community." The concept of a sisterhood seemed to be a better fit, thus the name change.

Our Next "Sisterhood" meeting will be held after Service on September 4th. All are Welcome and encouraged to come!

The Sisterhood put together 8 toiletry bags for St Joseph's Center.

## Parking Lot Paving Repair & Sealing

The parking lot and driveways have been repaved where needed, and the entire area sealed and re-stripped. We are very happy with the results. We need to maintain our property as part of our ministry at Good Shepherd. We have a ministry of people, programs, and property, and the responsibility to care for and maintain that entire ministry. Our parking lot is heavily used by our Vineyard Preschool, by the Narcotics Anonymous group, by congregational members, and even by the Girl Scouts. Large expenditures like this are difficult to budget for in these times. We paid the \$25,000.00 cost from our reserves. The Board of Directors now asks you for an **extra offering to help restore those reserves**. This offering is in addition to your regular offering, not merely a re-assignment of what you usually donate. Please indicate on your check, Parking Lot. Thank you!

## Vineyard Preschool Begins 37<sup>th</sup> Year

School started on Wednesday, August 31 for the Monday, Wednesday, Friday classes. We have 33 enrolled in the morning, and 8 in the afternoon. Our Tuesday Thursday group has 23 enrolled in the morning only. We are very excited to be opening the new classroom in the north end of the Social Hall to increase our capacity potential. While overall enrollment is down from previous years, we are excited to be moving ahead with new ideas and leadership to offer the best preschool experience in Gilroy and prepare the children for kindergarten. We have a new Director, Denise, Higuera, who brings 22 years of experience in working at the preschool level to her task. We have also welcomed back to teaching Kristin Bright who taught here a few years ago. We will honor the entire staff and install Denise as our new Director on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> during our worship at 9:30 am. The entire Vineyard family of parents and children are also invited to worship that day and welcome our new Director as well as help us celebrate 37 years of Vineyard ministry and 60 years of congregational life.