



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
NEWSLETTER, Volume 67, Number 10, October, 2018  
1735 Hecker Pass Highway, Gilroy, CA 95020  
Website address: [goodshepherdgilroy.org](http://goodshepherdgilroy.org)

## THE ROLE OF THE ARTS IN THE CHURCH

I HAVE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE TO SEE THE INTERIORS OF MANY CHURCHES THROUGH THE YEARS. WHAT IMPRESSES ME THE MOST IS THE EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE CHURCHES TO TELL THE STORIES OF THE BIBLE THROUGH THE VISUAL ARTS FROM CREATION TO CRUCIFIXION TO GLORY.

**We have some very fine** expressions of the visual arts in our sanctuary. The wheat and grapes on our ceiling beams; the twisted wire “cross tree” made by our own Pr. Earnest Brooks (ret.); the woodcarving of the Good Shepherd on our back wall; the wood carving of the hymn verse, *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*, on the wall above our exit doors; not to mention the visual art on our various banners and the altar paraments and clergy vestments. These all endeavor to help tell the story.

The furnishings of the altar and baptismal bowl, and even the appearance of the organ pipes are there to enhance our experience of God in worship. Many times we have heard visitors express that our sanctuary is so beautiful and peaceful. I agree, and I am proud of the congregation in embracing the importance of the ambience of our sanctuary. That also includes the performing arts. You have supported the purchase and upkeep of the pipe organ and the handbells and hand chimes. Immersing ourselves in worship through the environment of beauty around us seems to me one of the best ways to experience God’s holiness as well as God’s immediate presence with us in Word, Water, Bread and Wine and each other. The extraordinary as well as the ordinary.

After we recently had our preschool building repainted, it occurred to me that we had a huge outdoor space that looked pretty bare. I am referring to the long wall below the porch railing. It didn’t help that the flowers and plants had all but died out. Trudi Souza volunteered to put in some new plants, and that was a big help. But that wall was doing nothing. And it is a big space. And it was just the right size for a mural. Why not bring the amazing beauty of our environment into the playground area?

Our new Preschool Director, Kerry Drago, told me about a mural artist from the Dabble Art Center. Sheryl Cathers agreed to draw up a plan to depict the landscape of our area on the long, bare wall. She has completed the mural and will be with us Sunday. It is an amazing creation that completes an idea to enhance and beautify our Vineyard Preschool playground area. The mural depicts the beauty and grace of God’s good creation with lots of the animals we often see (or at least know are around) in this part of California. Vineyard parents and children are awed by its beauty and scope. Word is getting around Gilroy that the Vineyard playground has this amazing mural. I couldn’t be more pleased.

In many and various ways we proclaim the goodness and mercy of God toward us and all creatures. Our proclamation is not limited to the church sanctuary; we proclaim God’s goodness and mercy outside as well. Come and see the Creator’s design and beauty in our outdoor mural. *Pastor Koch*



Table 1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>October 2018</b>	<b>1</b> NA 6:30 and 8 pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Handbells 2 p NA 7 & 8:30 p	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> NA 9:30 am Flowers: Patti Johansen
<b>7 Pentecost 20</b> Eucharist 9:30 Vineyard Teacher Recognition and Mural Dedication	<b>8</b> NA 6:30 & 8 pm	<b>9</b> Council 7:30 p	<b>10</b> Handbells 2 p N.A.7 & 8:30 pm	<b>11</b> NA 8 pm	<b>12</b> NA 8 pm	<b>13</b> NA 9:30am Flowers: Patti Johansen
<b>14 Pentecost 21</b> Eucharist 9:30 am	<b>15</b> N.A. 630 & 8 pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Handbells 2 p N.A.7 & 8:30 pm	<b>18</b> NA 8 pm	<b>19</b> N.A. 8 pm	<b>20</b> N.A. 9:30am Flowers: Patti Johansen
<b>21 Pentecost 22</b> Eucharist 9:30 am Pastor's 40 Years of Service Lunch	<b>22</b> NA 630 & 8 pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Handbells 2 pm N.A.7 & 8:30 pm	<b>25</b> N.A. 8 pm	<b>26</b> NA 8 pm	<b>27</b> NA 9:30am Flowers: Patti Johansen
<b>28 Reformation</b> Eucharist 9:30 am	<b>29</b> NA 6:30 & 8 pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Handbells 2 pm NA 7 & 8:30 pm			

## October ASSISTING Ministers for Sunday Assemblies

Date	Coffee Time: <u>Set up</u>	<u>Clean up</u>	Acolytes	Lectors	Ushers
7	Special Team Johansen, Rymers, Spence	Charles Brown	Will Anderson	Bill Seip	Karen Spence
14	Gary Batchelder	Charles Brown	Matthew Stelzner	Hannah Stelzner	Ryan Stelzner
21	Special Luncheon for Pastor's 40th		Kadence Lewis	Michelle & Ben Anderson	NEEDED
28	Michelle Anderson	Charles Brown	Matthew Stelzner	Hannah Stelzner	Ryan Stelzner

**Flowers: October 7, 14, 21, 28 Patti Johansen. Thank you!**

**With the luncheon on October 21st, the Spaghetti Feed on November 2nd, and Christmas cookie Sunday on December 23rd, we will wait to have our next Brunch Sunday until January. We are reorganizing Brunch Teams. If you want to be part of this ministry, please watch the bulletin board for a sign-up sheet coming soon.**





## September Congregational Council

We received an update on Vineyard preschool enrollment and plans to have a blessing of the teachers and dedication of the new mural on October 7th. A special coffee time on the playground is planned

We discussed the current Coffee Time and Brunch arrangements. Some of the Brunch teams need to be realigned; we need a reset of volunteers. With the October luncheon and the November Spaghetti Feed and the December Christmas cookie Sunday, we will ask for new Brunch Sunday volunteers for January and take a Brunch Sunday break until then. It was also suggested that if we simplify the Coffee time snacks, we could get more volunteers. These occasions are important to us in order to help foster fellowship at Good Shepherd.

The Spaghetti Feed is set for November 2, a Friday, beginning at 5 pm. We will invite all church members as well as the entire Vineyard family of teachers, parents and children. This will be a fund raiser for the Vineyard Preschool, with a raffle and silent auction of one of the Habitat for Humanity playhouses. The Chef will be Bob Filice, husband of our church office secretary, Patty Filice. Bob has cooked for St. Mary's Spaghetti feeds for many years.

## Statement of Good Shepherd's Welcome

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Gilroy is an inclusive Christian community. St. Paul, in Galatians 3, reminds us that baptism makes us children of God, and therefore, "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Therefore, we welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities fully into the life of our congregation.

## Offering and Attendance for 2018

2018 Offering Goal: \$100,100  
Needed/week:  $\$1925 \times 39 = \$75,075$   
Received through September \$71,443  
Amount under needed: **\$3,632**  
Average offering per week: \$1,832  
Average Attendance: 28

## Mural Dedication this Sunday

Sunday we will recognize and bless the Vineyard Preschool teachers during worship. Coffee time will be on the playground when we will dedicate the mural and greet the artist. Please attend.

## Pastor's 40th Anniversary Luncheon

Sunday, October 21, after worship  
We need your response to be sure we have food and other provisions enough for all. Please call or email Zita Weyland to indicate your participation. Her email is [zitaw@charter.net](mailto:zitaw@charter.net). Home phone is 408 779-4441. You can call and leave a message. If we don't hear from you, we'll call you to get a count. Thank you!



## Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

September 24, 2018

The Rev. Ronald Koch  
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
1735 Hecker Pass Rd  
Gilroy, CA 95020-8837

**We had a special offering in August for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. We collected \$660.00 toward helping in this important ministry. Here is their response. My personal thanks to all who gave; it says a lot about our congregation's commitment to help those who are marginalized. Pastor**

Dear Pastor Koch and Friends,

I cannot thank you enough for your recent gift, which we received from Sierra Pacific Synod on Thursday, August 30, 2018.

Your gift is providing life-changing care for migrant and refugee families both as they arrive and during the time it takes to build a new life. Thanks to you, children who were separated from their parents have been reunited with their loved ones and given the resources and connections needed to recover from trauma. You're also helping us advocate with a firm resolve for ending shameful policies that tear families apart and prevent newcomers from finding safety and refuge here.

You are a voice of hope in a world too often filled with violence, a nation too often filled with hate.

Since LIRS was founded nearly 80 years ago, people like you and I have helped more than 500,000 migrant and refugee men, women, and children rebuild their lives in welcoming communities across the United States. And even now, as that legacy of welcome is threatened, we stand united in hope.

By helping LIRS welcome the stranger, you are sending a powerful message of hope conquering fear. The critical support and sustaining relationships your gift provides truly make a life-changing difference. I am eternally grateful for your compassion, and I know the families you help extend their gratitude too! Thank you so much for your gift!

With a grateful heart,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kay Bellor", is written over a horizontal line.

Kay Bellor  
Vice President for Programs