

Newsletter February 2009



Dear Friends and Family, if there are friends and loved ones whom you would like to have prayers for, or military persons on active duty, please contact the church office at 526-7577 and we will list them in our bulletin and newsletter.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER Pastor Gary and our church leaders.

Undergoing cancer therapy Daryl Barnett, Diane Voorhes, Geoff Connors (*Ralph Nelman's grandson-in-law*), Wendy Weathers (*friend of Elizabeth Hood*) Julie Rolph (*friend of Jan Yoder*).

Under convalescent or hospice care...Mary Giovinetti, Tommy Timms (cousin of Jeanne Fisher) Hazel Gade (OSLC member), Tim Simpson

Undergoing surgery, various tests, treatments, recuperating and continued comfort...

Elsie Pusateri, Mike Moriarty (OSLC member), John Moore (OSLC member), Kristofer Maass (friend of the Baas family), Loretta Blake, for continuing strength and health; Kenny Kotwitz, to regain some vision; Dorothy Myers; John Yanuklis, Pr. Kenn Bergmann; Sammi Brazenor; Christine and Paul (Pastor Lynn's friends); Judy Casamassina (friend of John Yanuklis), Lydia Christensen; Eloise Cooley (Marcia's mother); Edward Clark (a friend of Pastor Lynn); (Richard Westerdoll's nephew); Good Shepherd Lutheran School; Laurie Kephart (John Yanuklis' daughter); Millie McDermott (Mary Kotwitz' mother); Mary Milligan (friend of Pastor Lynn); Margie Schuelke (Mary Kotwitz' aunt); Pastor Leslie Soyster; Kelly Stemler (Carol Howard's daughter); (Marian's friend; Irene Tangren's daughter, Debbie; Pr. Paul Werfelmann, John Yankulis Jr. (son of John Yankulis). Elena Torres (*friend of Sigrid Bremer*) Dennis Moore (Delores Moore's son *awaiting Kidney transplant*) Scott Robison (*Paula Malloy's son*). Jim Gheres (friend of Norma Studer).

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR AMERICA, THOSE FIGHTING IN FOREIGN LANDS
AND FOR THE CONTINUED STRENGTH OF THE LEADERS OF THIS GREAT NATION

Our Military Personnel now serving: John Parker, Jay Cawley, Shane Denning, Tyson and Blake Crosby, Joe Anderson, Mike Hultman, Mason Siebert, Brian Lowen, Nick Goldsmith, Brian Richardson, Frank King, Michael Kidd, Nisha Dean, Dan Balaun, Chris Labelle, Raymond Schooler, Captain Ted Slocum, David Bond, Wayne Combs, Jeffrey C.A. Bower, Jonathan Scholberg, Brett Launer, Jordan Gutowski, Allen Steinke, Robert Deobler, Sgt Elliott Van Marion. Chris Wilkins

WOMEN'S CIRCLES FOR JANUARY....

NAOMI CIRCLE meets Thursday, February 12th at 9:30 a.m., in the home of Leona Stewart 2158 Ardenwood, 583-1063.

HANNAH CIRCLE meets Tuesday, Feb. 17th at 7:30 p.m., in the home of Chris Fisher 1073 Richardson Ave. 582-0233.



Congratulations to Sierra Kalinke on becoming Hollow Hills' Spelling Bee Winner!
She will represent her school in the District Bee in a few weeks.



Y.I.M.A.H

(Young In Mind And Heart)

All those 50 years of age and older who are "Young In Mind And Heart" are invited to our first of the new year potluck.

Where: Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
In Eichele Hall

When: Thursday, February 19, 2009

Time: 11:30 a.m.

For further information please call the church office 526-7577.



Dear Women's Board Members, Naomi and Hannah Circle Bible Studies,

I am deeply grateful for being presented with the "Giraffe Award" at the Annual Luncheon. That I have seen incredible role models of servitude receive this accolade for 15 years, only exemplifies its' honor.

In whatever capacity I've been able to "stick my neck out" however, has only been possible with the will of Our Lord, my immediate and church family's incredible support. We are a herd of giraffes and Pastor Gary is our tender zookeeper. Again, I share this and thank you.

Love,
Sandi Kalinke



LIBRARY NEWS

Valentine's Day has always been a time for romantic love. And that is good. But there are so many more kinds of love in our lives - Parent-child, sisterly or brotherly, close friends, compassion for the hungry or homeless, a desire to help the downtrodden. All are large parts of our days and makes our lives worthwhile.

But there is another love that defies description, that of our heavenly Father who cares for us so tenderly, and our love for Him in return.

This month the book cart will feature books on all these subjects. Our books will help you expand your field of love to make your life here on earth a preview of that to come.

Be sure to stop by the cart and find the reading material that will inspire you to be the loving Christian you were meant to be.



PRESCHOOL NEWS

During the month of January, our children were talking about winter weather, Arctic animals, and of course our new President. In the four year old room the children were asked if they wanted to be President, and why or why not? Here are some of their answers: "Yes because you can work in the White House and it is pretty. I would like to be Barack Obama", "Yes because the whole family gets to live in the White House", "Yes, because I like Barak Obama", "Yes because I would get to travel to the White House, live in the White House and it would be fun", "Yes because I will be the President and living in the White House", "No, because it takes too long", "No, because it is too hard", "No because I would like to stay at home", and "Yes because it's so much fun and you do hard work. You would work in an office. I want to live in the White House", and "No, because it is too much work". I wonder if President Obama had some of these same feelings???

In February, we are inviting parents to attend an informative evening presented by Good Shepherd Lutheran School on kindergarten readiness. Also, we are looking forward to Valentines Day. This day is always a preschool favorite as we exchange valentines with our friends and have heart shaped waffles and strawberries for snack.

We start registration for fall 2009 in March - so watch upcoming information information.



A REMINDER FROM GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL

The holidays are over, your shopping is done...did you turn in your Simi Valley Town Center receipts? If you have receipts, please drop them off in the GSLS Shopping for Students box in the church or school office – envelopes are provided if you want them returned to you.

THANK YOU to everyone who continues to support this program for our school...we are currently in 5th place!!!

Questions about this program?? Please contact Linda Radtke @ (818)464-5193



SCRIP SUGGESTIONS

HEY, GUYS what are you planning to get the little woman for Valentine's Day?

Flowers and candy? Order your SEE's gift card today and pick up your flowers at Von's or Pavilion's or Albertson's.

Breakfast in bed? Buy those waffles, strawberries, whipped cream and flavored coffee with our market gift cards.

Dinner and a movie? Check out our restaurants. We have many others you can order in advance and we have Regal Theater cards as well.

Thinking diamonds and furs? Don't know about the furs, but Macy's, Kohl's and Penney's have great jewelry. Or pamper her with a gift card to Bath and Body.

Any other ideas? I bet your Scrip coordinators can help you find that perfect gift but time is short. Tell us your plans and we will help you make Valentine's Day as wonderful as you are.

See us at the Scrip table every Sunday between services. We will be on the patio, weather permitting. If it is too cold, rainy or windy, trot on into the Library and we will be waiting for you.



To the Shepherd of the Valley exercise ladies for their donation of brooms, mops and 2 tablecloths for the kitchen in Eichele Hall

Good Shepherd Lutheran School Shopping for Students Contest Update:

Please help our school earn more points in the *Simi Valley Town Center Shopping for Students* contest by turning in your mall receipts to either the church office or place in the designated box in the narthex (envelopes are provided). If you wish, you may take your receipts to the *Guest Services Center* in the mall and have them logged for GSLS there.

Bonus points will be awarded this month for jewelry store and restaurant purchases—we will earn **TRIPLE POINTS** for mall gift card and Coach receipts! **HINT:** When shopping at the mall, buy your purchases with the gift card, then turn in your receipts for those purchases!

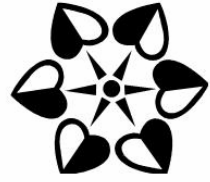
We are currently in 7th place out of 26! Thank you for turning in your mall receipts for GSLS! This program runs through April 30, 2009.



School News

Good Shepherd Lutheran School

A Christian community challenging minds and nurturing hearts since 1979



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The two basketball teams pose after a recent game. After a hiatus from intermural competition, it is good to be back on the courts.



YOUR OUTREACH MINISTRY

"Seek the Lord, Study God's Word, Serve the World." "In everything we SHARE Christ." What do these two things have in common. They are the mission statements of the two Lutheran churches who have made Good Shepherd Lutheran School an outreach ministry of their church.

Both churches have managed to take the Gospel and put it in a simple statement that says it all. And because of these two mission statements, Good Shepherd Lutheran School exists. Sharing the love of God with children, building a faith that lasts a lifetime, teaching students to share that faith with

the world. Mission statements in action.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School is now taking registration for the 2009-2010 school year. If you are a returning student, registration meetings have been scheduled. Call the office, 526-2482, for dates and times. If you are considering becoming a member of the Good Shepherd family, call the office, 526-2482, to set up a time to tour the classrooms and have all your questions answered by our admissions counselor, Mrs. Linda Radtke.

Music Festival

The Good Shepherd Lutheran School choir will be attending a music festival at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran School in West Hills on Wednesday, February 18. The choir will be given a chance to perform some of their material and will participate in a special concert with choirs from several Lutheran schools in the area. Mr. Scott Peters directs the choir.

News and Notes

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences for quarter 2 were held on Thursday, January 29, and Friday, January 30, at the Shepherd of the Valley campus.

BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair begins at the Shepherd of the Valley campus on Wednesday, January 28 and will stay until Sunday, February 8. Books will be available for purchase before and after school and during parent-teacher

conferences. The fair will also be open on Sunday for any church members who wish to purchase books.

THE HABIT

Come enjoy some lunch or dinner at the Habit on Tuesday, February 17. They tell me you can eat healthy and raise money for a good cause at the same time.

SCIENCE FAIR

Good Shepherd's annual Science Fair for grades 5-8 will be held Thursday, February 26. Projects will be displayed during school hours in the Trinity sanctuary and overflow room.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

Beginning Wednesday, February 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., weekly open houses will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran School. All are cordially invited to come tour the school.

Adopt A Student

During these difficult economic times, give the gift of a Christian education to a student at Good Shepherd Lutheran School. Respond to the appeal sent out in December and sponsor a student.

BEE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Grades 5-8 have completed competition in both the National Geographic Geography Bee and the Scripps Institute Spelling Bee.

Keats Willis was the last person standing at the school geography bee. She recently took a test that was mailed in to National Geographic.

John Scuoler will be representing GSLS at the area spelling bee this month at Medea Creek Middle School in Oak Park.

Youth Ministry Update



Elementary School Ministry
Monday February 16th at 3pm
Brunswick Zone *Simi Valley*
5255 Cochran St.
\$6 per Child

Middle School Ministry
Winter Retreat at El Camino Pines
March 6,7,8
Confirmation Every Wednesday
Hang out at 6:30pm
Classes Start at 7pm

High School Ministry
Winter Retreat at El Camino Pines
Feb. 27-March 1
Youth Group Every Wednesday
7:30-8pm Hang out time
8p-9:15pm Youth Group

High School Parents Meeting February 18th, Wednesday Night at 8pm
Informational meeting about the Faith and Human Sexuality Study
Starting March 4th – April 8th (6 sessions on Wednesday nights)

(All youth need a permission from parents to attend this study)
This will be our Lenten Study

Please make time to attend this meeting, contact me for any further information.

Mission in Mexico Trip

This is a synod wide church trip with usually well over 50 participants from all over southern California, and I have heard stories of lives being transformed on this trip. They have been taking this trip for many years and come back renewed and changed every time. I have wanted to go for years but never had the opportunity, and would love to go this year with as many youth and families as possible.

High School and Families (middle school ages and up)
Thursday – Sunday April 23-26 2009

Worship, Learn, Serve and Grow together in Mexico

Our Bible study theme for this year, "**Call Waiting**", is built around the truth that God is calling each and every one of us to something bigger than ourselves: We are all called to a life of faith, compassion, and love; We are all called to be Jesus' light in this world; We are called to live lives completely surrendered to Him, as Jesus places individual calls on our lives; We are called to be a body of people who live as one... God is calling – it's time to answer.

Cost per person (Includes meals at camp, all programming and T-shirt)
Before March 1st \$68 per person
(all info must be in to Elizabeth by Feb. 26th Thursday)
After March 1st \$82 per person





Jesus Justice and Jazz ELCA National Youth Gathering Update

Upcoming Fundraisers:

February 22 Beignets for sale (a French donut, they are so delicious!)

**February 24 FAT Tuesday Mardi Gras Celebration and Carnival
& Pancake Supper
Don't miss this fun night!!!**

April 18 & 19 Churchwide Rummage Sale

Every Sunday the Envelope Project 100% profit to the youth

We have raised a total of \$6,290 !!!

161 days until we leave!!!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT

