

Seek the Lord, Study God's Word, Serve the World

## Newsletter August 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**...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 (SVLC member), John Moore (SVLC member), Kristofer Maass (friend of the Baas family), Kenny Kotwitz, to regain some vision; Dorothy Myers; John Yanuklis, Pr. Kenn Bergmann; Sammi Brazenor; Christine and Paul (Pastor Lynn's friends); Lydia Christensen; Eloise Cooley (Marcia's mother); 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). Marion Green (*friend of Sigrid Bremer*) Dennis Moore (Delores Moore's son *awaiting Kidney transplant*), Jim Geres (friend of Norma Studer), Hortensia Salcedo (Helen Anderson's mother), Priscilla Thompson (*pinched nerve in neck*). Becky Rodriguez (former manager for Luther's Attic).

**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, Shane Denning, Tyson and Blake Crosby, Joe Anderson, Mike Hultman, 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, Jorden Gutowski, Allen Steinke, Robert Deobler, Sgt Elliott Van Marion. Matthew Wilkins, Cpl. Brett Tyre, Travis Girard

### HOMELESS? IN SIMI VALLEY?

The County of Ventura 2009 Homeless count has now been completed. The total count of homeless for all of Ventura County is 1,715 persons. Of these, 303 were counted in Simi Valley. Of these 303 persons:

- 98 % were living on the street, 2% in facilities
- 5% were seniors (62+), 18% were between the ages of 18-24, 1% were unaccompanied youth (without parents) between the ages of 13-17
- 69% were men, 31% were women
- 69% of adults were white; 23% were Hispanic or Latino; 1% were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 3% were African-American or black; 1% were Asian/Pacific Islander; and 3% were other
- 67% were born in California
- 12% of the total number of persons counted were children
- 18 families were counted – 10 two-parent families with children and 8 one-parent families with children.

20% of the homeless in Ventura County call Simi Valley "home". "Lord, when did we see you hungry and homeless and invite you in?"

## Did you see this Ventura Star article? Pastors on ride around U.S. to make T.O. stop

By Mike Harris – Correspondent

In a fundraising trek to combat world hunger, three 60-year-old Lutheran pastors from West Virginia are pedaling cross-country on a bamboo bicycle built for three.

Pastors David Twedt, Ron Schlak and Fred Soltow Jr., self-described best friends, are attempting to visit 65 cities and cover 13,000 miles in 100 days in what they dub the Tour de Revs.

On sabbaticals from their regular pastoral duties, they started their journey May 13 in Chicago at the national headquarters of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. They plan to complete the trip Aug. 19 during the ELCA's Churchwide Assembly in Minneapolis, Minn.

On a Web site devoted to the trio's trek, <http://www.tourderevs.org>, the pastors explain that the goal of their tour is to encourage contributions to support the church's anti-hunger, anti-poverty ministry known as ELCA World Hunger.

"We are seeking funds from individuals, congregations, and synods to support the ELCA in meeting the \$25 million annual goal set in 1999," they say. "Along the way, the team will also encourage folks to set personal health and wellness goals."

The three, who blog daily as they pedal on their "triplet" bicycle from city to city, say they also want to stimulate "hunger committees and local congregations to formulate and implement realistic plans to eradicate hunger within this lifetime! We also want to get our religious partners active to make 'wellness' a higher priority within this church."

But why a bamboo bicycle? "Bamboo has numerous qualities that make it an excellent material for a bicycle frame," their Web site states.

"It has excellent tensional rigidity with the dampening quality of carbon fiber and the durability of steel.

Bamboo is a readily available, self-generating, renewable resource that leaves no carbon footprint. It's a great bike to ride!"

Christopher Carpenter, associate director for ELCA World Hunger, said the church is not officially sponsoring the pastors' cross-country trip, but is supportive of it.

"It's about three people who are very passionate about ending hunger in the world," Carpenter said. "When they were confronted with the realities of hunger and poverty both internationally and domestically, they really felt compelled to do something to tell their story and the story of those who are hungry in the world."

The 65-city bike tour, Carpenter said, "is their faithful response how to live out their calling as pastors but also as conscientious people in the world who care about those who remain in poverty."

To donate to ELCA World Hunger, go to <http://www.elca.org/hunger>, <http://www.tourderevs.org> or call 800-638-3522

### 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"

***We wish everyone a blessed summer loaded with  
love, happiness and health***

We have enjoyed being together this year average attendance was 29 AWESOME!!

**We are looking forward to our next meal together - September 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.**

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

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The ladies group of OSLC began saving stamps ago. Now that we have united as Shepherd of the Valley, let's continue this worthwhile mission. Please set aside any used postage stamps you receive, and drop them off at the church office or in the narthex. You can either leave the envelopes whole, or cut a quarter inch or more around the stamps. I will collect them regularly and send them as a donation to one of several charity organizations which use them to earn money from stamp dealers and/or for educational purposes.



donations by the congregation several years ago. Now that we have united as Shepherd of the Valley, let's continue this worthwhile mission. Please set aside any used postage stamps you receive, and drop them off at the church office or in the narthex. You can either leave the envelopes whole, or cut a quarter inch or more around the stamps. I will collect them regularly and send them as a donation to one of several charity organizations which use them to earn money from stamp dealers and/or for educational purposes.

I recently received a thank you note to the congregation from Stamp Camp USA (you can check them out at [www.stampcampusa.org](http://www.stampcampusa.org)) for stamps from the US and Britain and picture frames which were donated. I have learned that they need any and all stamps, even ones that are torn, etc. They also need any other philatelic and general office supplies, craft materials, used award trophies and small picture frames,

By way of full disclosure, I am a stamp collector. I sort and collect many stamps during the year and regularly mail donations of duplicate material on my own. I generally do not need the stamps you donate, but if I see one that I do not already have, I will replace it with more than one of my own. Anything you include for Good Shepherd School I will sort out and deliver as well. If you wish, please contact me at [stampdude03@gmail.com](mailto:stampdude03@gmail.com), or 805/581-2923.

Thank you, Bill Wacenske



## LIBRARY NEWS

New “must read” in Library!

A recent phone call between Jerry and a Texas friend resulted in Jonathan, Jerry & I each read the story of Ron and Debbie Hall and Denver Moore, Same Kind of Different as Me. Can one person make a difference in the lives of the homeless? Can one person change a city? This true story takes place in Fort Worth, TX and shows how one person *can* make a difference, and how friendship can occur amongst the most unlikely individuals. As we attempt as Christians to be the hands and feet of Jesus, this book brings great perspective to that task. I encourage you to read it – you will be deeply touched by their story.  
*Marilyn Shapiro*



### Relay for Life

#### **“The Power of the Dream 25 Years of Hope”**

is this year’s theme for the Simi Valley Relay for Life. Relay will be October 10 & 11, 2009 at Royal High School. Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society’s signature event. It is a 24 hour team event that raises awareness of cancer in the community and raises funds to fight cancer. Throughout the event, Relay for Life teams commit to keeping at least one member walking the track . . . because cancer never sleeps. Cancer also knows no race, gender or age.

Last year Our Saviour raised **\$13,364!!** and had over 71 walkers. For the fourth year in a row we won the “Golden Sneaker” Award for the most money brought in by a non profit team. The award is on display in the narthex. Our Saviour has helped to put an end to cancer for the past 10 years and I don’t want to stop until there is a cure. This year we are going to continue our fight as Shepherd of the Valley. The American Cancer Society’s goal is to wipe out cancer by 2015. That means we would see a cure for cancer in our lifetime. Let us help to make that goal a reality. Anyone may walk, from the young to the old. Please contact me or visit the website printed below if you would like to join our team, pray for us, or sponsor one of our walkers. Also contact me if you are a survivor of cancer and would like to participate in the survivors events.

Julie Honda 341-3866 [R6Hondas@Roadrunner.com](mailto:R6Hondas@Roadrunner.com)

Website [www.relayforlife.org/simivalleyca](http://www.relayforlife.org/simivalleyca)

Click on view teams and then click on Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

## **Women's Combined Bible Study**

**When:** Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Lynn Squire’s Home  
3877 Citronella Street

**Time:** 11:00

All Women are invited to come and enjoy Lunch and a Wonderful Bible Study lead by Marcia Cooley.

**Please Bring a Salad to Share.**

**Don’t forget your Bibles**

Please e-mail Carol Bunn at [CABunn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:CABunn@sbcglobal.net) if you have any questions.

**INTERFACE ITEMS NEEDED...**the following items are needed by the Battered Women’s Shelter and will be collected at the Women’s Combined Bible Study on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> .

by Jennifer Wacenske - STANDARD SIZES PLEASE of Shampoo & Conditioner, hairbrushes, combs, body lotion, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, tampons, disposable razors and pocket size Kleenex. You may also drop items off at the church office for pick up by Jennifer.



## PRESCHOOL NEWS

The summer is flying by so quickly. The children have been keeping busy playing in the water, cooking, painting, learning social skills-all things necessary for a good basis for the next level.

Our new school year officially starts on September 8th. Our wonderful staff-Mrs. Susan, Ms. Ann, Ms. Carla and Mrs. Carolyn will all be coming back and are looking forward to another year of helping children grow and develop.

We have openings available for children in all three classrooms (ages 2.9 through 5 years of age). For more information, or to set up an appointment to see the school, call 526-9069.

Terry Labrum



## Wedding Anniversaries for August

**Sean & Barbara Corrigan – June & Alfred Goldberg – Phil & Christine Manger – James & Cheryl Mears – Dave & Carolyn Nell – Richard & Ruth Pealer – Bill & Jennifer Wacenske – Bill & Denise Wilson**

*If you are celebrating your anniversary this month also and you are not listed it maybe that the office does not have your anniversary date In your records, if you would like this information corrected please contact the church office 526-7577 and we will be happy to add the information to your records.*

*Note: this type of information can be of help to family generations who maybe tracking heritages.*



Dear Members of the Endowment Fund Committee,

Thank you so much for your scholarship gift! I have had an absolutely wonderful first year at California Lutheran University and am thrilled to be able to continue my education. With the state of the economy and the costs of college constantly rising, a good education is becoming much more difficult to attain, and all the more valuable. Thank you again for helping make this possible for me! I really appreciate it.

Sincerely, Katie Stevenson

### Summer Offering Update

	Pledged	Non-Pledged	Total
Offering budgeted through July	\$ 144,333	\$ 79,847	\$ 224,180
Offering received through July	<u>138,263</u>	<u>72,373</u>	<u>210,636</u>
Offering shortfall	<u>\$ 6,070</u>	<u>\$ 7,474</u>	<u>\$ 13,544</u>

In addition to our regular offerings above, designated benevolence offerings have been received and passed on:

World Hunger	\$ 2,795
Samaritan Center	1,042
Good Shepherd Lutheran School	250
Souper Bowl	366
Covenant Players	231
Gideons	222
LIRS	40
Street Faire soup	<u>15</u>
Total	<u>\$ 4,946</u>

Reiterating our 2009 stewardship theme, "Walking with Jesus," are we on the correct road? Are our offerings reflective of our faith? Recall that Jesus teaches of giving not to meet the church's need, but rather to meet our personal need to give! Interim giving statements can be issued at any time if you want to see where your year-to-date giving is at -- just contact me at 522-0331 or send an email to m1shapiro@aol.com. Thank you for remembering Shepherd of the Valley in your prayers and your offerings.

*Marifyn Shapiro, Financial Secretary*





# School News

## Good Shepherd Lutheran School

A Christian community challenging minds and nurturing hearts since 1979



Volume XXX, Issue XII

[www.gsls-simi.com](http://www.gsls-simi.com)

August 2009

### OPENING SERVICES AUGUST 26

Opening services for the 2009-2010 school year of Good Shepherd Lutheran School will be held Wednesday, August 26 at 8:30 a.m. Services will be held on both the Shepherd of the Valley and the Trinity campuses. All are welcome to attend.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL ORIENTATION

An orientation meeting for middle school students will be held Monday evening, August 24 at 6:00 p.m. on the Trinity campus. The evening will begin with a barbeque giving new families a chance to meet returning families and all a chance to begin or renew friendships.

The program will begin with presentations for the parents and community building activities for the students. Lockers will also be assigned this evening, and everyone can meet the teachers. The presentations will be followed by an ice cream social on the courtyard lawn.

### TEACHERS REPORT FOR DUTY

On August 17, the Good Shepherd faculty reports back for duty to prepare for the school year which begins August 26. Teachers will spend these days in studying the Bible, getting classrooms ready, preparing lesson plans, attending faculty meetings, and making home visits. We visit the homes of each of our elementary students before the school years starts.

### 2008-2009 Highlights



Pastors who attended our first ever Pastor Appreciation Day Chapel Service.



The GSLS float in the Simi Valley Days Parade wins the People's Choice Award.



Leadership students visit a seniors group home.

### Your Ministry in Action

By making Christian education an important part of your church's ministry, you provide opportunity to share the Gospel.

Teachers actually get to share their faith in Jesus Christ with the students. Teachers are allowed to pray over their students whenever they want, giving the students encouragement.

The students at Christian schools are not any different from the students at public school just because they go to a Christian school. However, the good values that the students learn by studying the Bible in classroom discussions have a very positive influence on their everyday lives.

Every school has traditions, large and small, but some traditions just mean a little bit more to the students. Small things like praying at the beginning and the end of an assembly, or much bigger things like having chapel once a week with live worship music, have great impacts on the students.

Bringing faith to children, it is more than worth it.

**REGISTER NOW FOR 2009-2010  
526-2482**

### News and Notes

#### RECYCLING NEWS

Recycling will continue throughout the summer on both campuses. If you want to help, bring your recyclables to the blue recycling containers at Shepherd of the Valley and Trinity Lutheran Churches.

#### REGISTRATION CONTINUES

Registrations are still being accepted for the 2009-2010 school year. Call the office, 526-2482.



Back  
to  
School

August 2009

Please note the Covenant Players will be using the facilities  
from 6/22-8/14 ☺

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 10:00-AA-Conf.Rm. 10:00-SVLC@Attic 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church 6:45-Covenant Players-Showcase
<b>2</b> 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 11:00-Worship 12:00-Still Waters Café Task Force 1:00-NA-Conf. Rm. 7:00-Al-anon-CR	<b>3</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities 6:00-Stretch N Tone-SAC 7:00-Boy Scouts #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC	<b>4</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities 10:00-SV9C@Attic 3:30-Youth Board 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-BSA#622-Hall	<b>5</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities 4:30-SVLC@ Samaritan Center 6:30-Youth Group	<b>6</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-CR 6:45-Covenant Players Showcase	<b>7</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities  <i>ELIZABETH OFF</i> <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	<b>8</b> 10:00-AA-CR 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church 6:45-Covenant Players-Showcase
<b>9</b> 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 11:00-Worship 12:00-Still Waters Café Task Force 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	<b>10</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC	<b>11</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities 10:00-SVLC@ Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-BSA#622-Hall 7:00-SVLC Council	<b>12</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities 6:30-Youth Group	<b>13</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-CR 6:45-Covenant Players Showcase	<b>14</b> 8:00-Covenant Players-facilities  <i>ELIZABETH OFF</i> <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	<b>15</b> 10:00-AA-CR  5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
<b>16</b> 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 11:00-Worship 12:00-Still Waters Café Task Force 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	<b>17</b> 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC	<b>18</b> 10:00-SVLC@ Luther's Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-BSA #622-Hall 7:00-Happy Squares 7:00-Men's Group- IHOP	<b>19</b> 6:30-Youth Group	<b>20</b> 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-CR	<b>21</b>  <i>ELIZABETH OFF</i> <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	<b>22</b> 10:00-AA-CR 10:00-SVLC@Attic 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
<b>23</b> <b>SVLC Quarterly Meeting</b> 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 11:00-Worship 12:00-Still Waters Café Task Force 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	<b>24</b> 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC	<b>25</b> 10:00-SVLC@ Luther's Attic 3:30-Youth Board 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-BSA#622-Hall 7:00-Property Mtg.- Library	<b>26</b> <b>School Begins</b> 8:30-GSLS Chapel 6:30-Youth Group	<b>27</b> 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-CR	<b>28</b>  <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	<b>29</b> 10:00-AA-CR  5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
<b>30</b> 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 11:00-Worship 12:00-Still Waters Café Task Force 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	<b>31</b> 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC					

Pastor Gary and Corrine will be on vacation beginning July 29<sup>th</sup> through August 19<sup>th</sup>. Please keep them in prayers for safe travel and renewed spirit.