

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

Happy New Year



**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
2nd Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 31st 2010
There is only one service at 9:45 p.m.**

All committee reports are due to the church office no later than Monday, January 18th. Thank you.



*The new pictorial directories have arrived please drop by the church office to pick up your copy.
(One copy per household please, thank you)*



Welcome to Youth Director Lauren Chambers

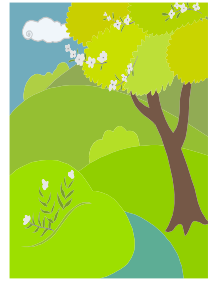
Hello everybody!! I would like to introduce myself -- my name is Lauren Chambers and I will be the new youth director here at Shepherd of the Valley. I am originally from Visalia, Ca where I worked as a youth intern at Christ Lutheran Church. I am looking forward to working here and I'm very excited and ready to jump in and get started. I can't wait to meet and talk with all of you!!



ON SALE NOW... Good Shepherd Lutheran School hard bound Cookbooks are on sale in the church office they make a great gift anytime of the year. The cookbooks are loaded with recipes from family members of the students. Drop by anytime and pick yours up for a mere \$20. Proceeds are to fund the school to keep Lutheran education available in Simi Valley.

Serving the community...

Still Waters Cafe



“A **no cost** dining service to those who are suffering economic hardship, homelessness or who are lonely and wish to have a dining companion”

Amenities at the café:

- **Mealtime is 5:00–7:00 p.m. every Thursday**
- Fresh home cooked meal served in a family atmosphere with home style table settings.
- To go snack bags are offered.
- Highchairs and booster seats are available for the younger family members.
- There are wheelchair accessible entrances and bathrooms available.
- Prayer requests can be satisfied.
- Homework help is available for school age children K-8th grade 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. and includes a snack.

For further information please call 805-526-7577

Shepherd of the Valley Preschool News...



The preschool Christmas program was a delightful event, well attended by families and friends. Nancy Hawthorne gave a wonderful message reminding the children about why we celebrate Christmas, and the children performed the songs they had been learning very well (of course there are always a few with stage fright). And then we mingled and ate refreshments

served by GSLS leadership students. It was a wonderful afternoon.

In our classrooms, we have talked alot about the Christmas story, and Mrs. Susan asked the children what was their favorite thing about Christmas was. Brennon said he likes how everything goes slow at Christmas. Ethan likes the "surprises". Katherine said her favorite thing was her tree and Christmas cookies, Laci likes Family time, Tyler likes ice, snow, skating and falling, Rylie likes the stockings, Ayla likes the star in the sky and Adriana likes books, monkeys, and kitty cats at Christmas.

We are going to be welcoming three new children into our program in January, and we are very blessed to have them join our group. We feel that we are offering a wonderful learning experience for children between the ages of 2.9 and 5, allowing them to grow and learn -not only physically socially, emotionally, but also being able to help them grow in their knowledge of God, and that He is always there for them.. We still have openings. If you know of families that are looking for an excellent preschool program for their little ones, please be sure to pass our name on.

May God bless you in the coming year, Terry Labrum

Thank You

Dear Shepherd of the Valley Family and Friends,

Thank you for your generous gifts, your thoughts and your prayers for our family this past Christmas. You continue to be a blessing to us and it is our honor and pleasure to serve with you. We look forward to sharing more ministry together in 2010.

Sincerely,

The Stevenson Family

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



Prayers needed...



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, Geoff Connors (*Ralph Nelman's grandson-in-law*)

Wendy Weathers (*friend of Elizabeth Hood*) Julie Rolph (*friend of Jan Yoder*)

Gary Lee Boswell (son of *Gloria Holst*). Michael Merilar (*son-in-law of John Yanuklis*), Phil Manger.

Under convalescent or hospice care... Tommy Timms (cousin of Jeanne Fisher)

Hazel Gade (SVLC member), Tim Simpson, Hortensia Salcedo (*Helen Anderson's mother*).

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

Elsie Pusateri, Mike Moriarty, John Moore, Kristofer Maass (*friend of the Baas family*), Kenny Kotwitz, to regain some vision; 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*); Irene Tangren's daughter, Debbie; Pr. Paul Werfelmann, John Yankulis Jr. (*son of John Yankulis*), Diana Anderson (*Carol Jackson's sister*) Florence Huff (*Carol Jackson's mother*), Calvin Olson (*father of Lisa Lewis*), Priscilla Thompson (*continued relief from pinched nerve in neck*), Colin Thompson (*relief from severe arthritis pain*), Katie Corrigan, Steve Anderson (*Helen Anderson's son*) Wendy Beauliu (*friend of Sigrid Bremer*)

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Allen Steinke, Robert Deobler, Sgt Elliott Van Marion, Matthew Wilkins, Cpl. Brett Tyre, Travis Girard.

Vance Reece (*relative of Arlene Fowler*).

Thank you for all your prayers during 2009

HOMELESS? IN SIMI VALLEY?

The County of Ventura 2009 Homeless count has been updated. The total number of persons counted in Simi Valley was 303. There were 266 adults and 37 children. A breakdown of the data collected from adults is as follows:

1. Location 98% of persons (298) were counted on the streets and 2% (5) in facilities;

2. Age 5% of adults (12) were seniors (age 62+); 18% (48) were youth between the ages of 18 – 24; and 4 (1%) were unaccompanied youth (without parents) between the ages of 13-17.

3. Gender 69% of adults (183) were men and 31% (83) were women;

4. Ethnicity 69% of adults (183) were White; 23% (62) were Hispanic or Latino; 1% (2) were American Indian or Alaskan Native; 3% (8) were African American or Black; 1% (3) were Asian/Pacific Islander; and 3% (8) stated Other;

5. State Born 67% of adults (178) were born in California;

6. Children 12% (37) of the total number of persons counted were children;

7. Family Composition 18 families were counted—10 two-parent family 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?”



Ring in the New Year with financial resolutions

With the New Year comes the opportunity to improve your financial well-being. Here are five financial resolutions to get you started:

- 1. Establish your 2010 financial goals**, including your retirement and overall savings goals. Post them where you'll see them often.
- 2. Establish a budget** based on what you spent last year, taking rising gas, heating and food prices into account.
- 3. Cut back on debt** by paying off a credit card balance, foregoing unnecessary purchases or adding \$50 a month to your mortgage payment.
- 4. Prioritize major purchases** you want to make and figure out how to pay for them out of your current income.
- 5. Review your will or estate plan** to ensure it reflects your current life situation.

For help achieving your 2010 financial plan, contact Lisa Henrikson, Financial Associate at 805-813-4406 or Lisa.Henrikson@Thrivent.com today or visit thrivent.com.



SCRIP NEWS

Rain or shine, Wind or heat. The Scrip table is open on the patio between services every Sunday. (Well, we are not masochists. If it is raining we are in the Library).

We try to maintain a good inventory of your most asked for merchants for your convenience. But we would appreciate your letting us know what cards you would like us to keep on hand. During the Christmas season, we were able to order quite a few that we normally do not stock because you asked for them. We aim to please.

Also for those of you who swipe your cards at Ralph's, it is time to re-register. And for those of you who have never done this, it is a simple way to donate a portion of your purchase to our church. All you have to do, once you are signed up, is to swipe your club card when you go through the check out lane and Shepherd of the Valley will automatically be credited with a percentage of the amount you spent. It is so simple and so easy. See us at the SCRIP table for advice on how to register and join your fellow parishioners in financially supporting our church.



Y.I.M.A.H

All those 50 years of age and older who are "Young in Mind and Heart"

Thursday, January 21st @ 11:30 a.m. in Eichele Hall

For further information please call the church office 526-7577



LIBRARY NEWS

January is the time for New Beginnings. Check the book cart for an assortment of books that will help us all improve ourselves during the coming year. As we make our New Year's resolutions, we might do better if we had some help and your Library can do so. No matter what you plan to change in 2010, there are books that can make it more successful..

As we head into February, your book cart will feature books on loving relationships - what they should be and how they can be achieved or improved. Whether you are looking for ideas for parents, children, spouses, those with severe illnesses, or work related associates, you will find some wonderful ideas collected here for you

Remember most children's books do not need to be checked out but all adult books do, except those on the free book exchange shelves. Please do remember to return all books within two weeks. They need to be available for others to read.

And good reading to all during the coming months.!



SVLC-SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for grades K through 8 meets at 9:45 am each Sunday. Children meet in the classrooms at 9:45 am and return to church at 10:30 am so they can commune with their families. Grades K-5 meet in the upstairs classrooms, Grades 6-8 meet in the youth room.



School News

Good Shepherd Lutheran School

A Christian community challenging minds and nurturing hearts since 1979



Volume XXXI, Issue VI

www.gsls-simi.com

January 2010

OUR MISSION FIELD IS HERE, TOO

It is important to take care of those less fortunate than us. Churches help provide for the needs of those who do not have enough food, clothing, or shelter in their communities. It is important to travel to less fortunate parts of the world and help provide food, clothing, and shelter along with many other needs. When we do this, it gives us a chance to spread the Gospel message.

But, what about people in our community who do not have need for such material things, but do have a need for spiritual nourishment? How do we bring them the Gospel message? How do we tell those who have no church that God is there for them, that God loves them, that God forgives them.

Statistics are showing that the percentage of Americans who have an ongoing relationship with God is dwindling. It is pre-

dicted that only 4% of the children in the current school-age generation will have a personal and meaningful relationship with Christ.

We have a huge responsibility to teach children about our loving God who has given them the unearned gift of grace, the unearned gift of forgiveness. That is the mission field for the Lutheran Schools of Simi Valley. The system is in place.

Pray for this outreach ministry. Pray for God to work in the hearts of our schools' students and families. Pray for God to work in the hearts of all of us connected with these schools: faculty, staff, parents, alumni, and church members.

**DINNER FUNDRAISER
MONDAY, JANUARY 11
PUT AWAY THOSE
POTS AND PANS
ENJOY DINNER OUT!**



Students in kindergarten through grade three presented this year's Christmas musical *Shepherds, Sheep, and a Savior* last month at the Shepherd of the Valley campus.



Middle school choir students sang at the Simi Valley Town Center in December

News and Notes

SPECIAL DATES

- January 6—Morning coffee—Stop on by the Trinity campus, 7:30-9:00 a.m., for a morning pick-me-up
- January 8—First grade to see Shanghai Circus Acrobats—Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza
- January 8—Middle School Winter Dance—Shepherd of the Valley campus, Eichele Hall
- January 13—School-wide Spelling Bee final
- January 20 - Morning coffee—Stop on by the Shepherd of the Valley campus, 7:30-9:00 a.m., for a morning pick-me-up
- January 26-February 8—Book Fair

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

2nd Annual Meeting

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January 2010

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1 Happy New Year Office closed 7:30-Sat. PADS <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	2 10:00-AA-CR 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
3 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 9:45- No Sunday School 11:00-Worship 12:00-Honda Eagle Scout- Eichele Hall 1:00-NA 6:30-Pack 3643-CR 7:00-Al-anon-CR	4 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC	5 10:00 SVLC @Attic 3:00-GSA #34-Hall 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA#622-Hall 7:00-Youth Board	6 9:00-GSLS Chapel 3:00-GSLS BAKE 4:30-SVLC @ Samaritan Ctr. 7:00-Youth Group 7:00-Confirmation	7 9:30-Naomi Circle 3:00-Still Waters 5:00-SWC Team 1 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-CR	8 3:00-GSLS Winter Dance-Eichele Hall 7:00- Sat. - PADS <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	9 10:00-AA-CR 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
10 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 9:45-Sunday School K-8th 11:00-Worship 11:00-Women's Bd. 3:00-SVLP Xmas Program-Sanctuary 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	11 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC	12 10:00-SVLC@ Luther's Attic 3:00-GSA#340-Hall 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA#622-Hall 7:00-SVLC Council	13 9:00-GSLS Chapel 7:00-Youth Group 7:00-Confirmation	14 9:00-SVLP Chapel 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 9:30-NAOMI- Leona Stewart 3:00-Still Waters- Team 2 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-CR	15 7:30-Sat.- PADS <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	16 Youth to El Camino Pines Retreat 10:00-AA-CR 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
17 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 9:45-Sunday School K-8th 11:00-Blended 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	18 Martin Luther King Day GSLS & SAC CLOSED 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC	19 10:00-SVLC@ Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-BSA #622-Hall 7:00-Men's Group 7:30-HANNAH- Carol Ramsey	20 7:00-Youth Group 7:00-Confirmation	21 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 11:30- Y.I.M.A.H. 3:00-Still Waters- Team 3 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-CR 7:00-GSLS Bd. Library	22 Confirmation Retreat @ El Camion Pines 7:30-Sat. - PADS <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	23 10:00-AA-CR 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
24 8:30-Worship 9:45-Rejoice 9:45-Sunday School K-8th 11:00-Worship 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	25 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon-CR 7:30-Al-ateen-SAC	26 GSLS BOOK FAIR BEGINS GSLS CLOSED 10:00-SVLC@Attic 3:00-GSA#340-Hall 5:30-GSA#665-PR 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-BSA #622-Hall 7:00-Property Mtg	27 7:00-Youth Group 7:00-Confirmation	28 GSLS Parent Conferences 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 3:00-Still Waters- Team 4 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-CR	29 7:30-Sat. - PADS <i>PASTOR OFF</i>	30 10:00-AA-CR 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church 31 9:45- Worship 11:00 - SVLC ANNUAL MTG. 6:30-Pack #3643-PR