



Dear Fellow Pilgrims,

Growing up, our family would have a game night every week or two. We would pull out a board game like Monopoly, Life, Chutes and Ladders, etc, and fill our evening with popcorn, sodas and lots of laughter. We even had our own “home rules”, those places where we didn’t agree with or didn’t like the written rules and so adapted the rules to suit our needs and desires. The problem with “home rules” came into play when trying to play the games with other kids in the neighborhood. The neighborhood kids didn’t know our “home rules” and in some instances had “home rules” of their own. There were times when, because of changing rules, even discussion on how we were going to play the game became a bit sticky.

I can remember back in 1964 when the Beatles made their first appearance on U.S. television with Ed Sullivan. My grandmother became very upset with their performance because it challenged her understanding of how a musical group should perform and how an audience should react to the performance. Viewed today, the Beatles’ appearance on Ed Sullivan is innocent in comparison to some of today’s productions. If the rules for decorum had changed and upset my grandmother in 1964, were she to view some of today’s productions she would absolutely be livid. They would be more than enough to push her sense of acceptability over the edge.

Like it or not the rules of life are changing. True, they have always been evolving and changing, but now instead of changing over a decade or two it seems they are being challenged to change every month or two – if not more quickly. While there may be times we dislike the change or even fight against the change, trying to actually stop the change may be a little like trying to stand in the middle of train tracks facing a speeding locomotive simply hoping that holding up a STOP sign is enough to bring thousands of tons of speeding metal to stop on a dime.

We may rage against changes and refuse to accept them, acting as modern day Luddites. We may condemn the changes as being detrimental to life and bringing an end to civilization as we know it. We may even label the changes as “evil,” but in reality we will only be able to truly understand the full impact of change in retrospect, whether or not the change had a positive effect in our lives.

Perhaps no place is change resisted more than it is in the church. Whenever a move is made away from traditional music, traditional liturgy or, in some cases, the King James Version of the Bible, suddenly our faith practices are shaken to their foundation. (How quickly we forget that the hymns we sing today and know as the “traditional favorites” were once “contemporary worship songs” too.) One thing about the church is that we can refuse to change and continue those practices that make us feel comfortable, worrying about only our own needs or the needs of others who are like us. The problem with this, however, is that Jesus preached a faith that reaches outward rather than looks inward. Jesus was always concerned with reaching those on the margins as when Jesus told a parable about leaving the ninety-nine (the flock) to go after the one sheep that has strayed.

Jesus was anything but one to protect the status quo. Jesus was much more interested in looking at new ways to bring those lost into the fold, no matter what it took. As those who claim to follow Jesus and bear his ministry into the 21st century can we expect to do any less?

Your Partner in Pilgrimage,

Pastor Gary

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.

Names are removed after 4 weeks

REMEMBER IN PRAYER...Pastor Gary, Good Shepherd Lutheran Preschool, Good Shepherd Lutheran School and our church leaders.

Undergoing cancer therapy ...Daryl Barnett, Gary Lee Boswell (son of *Gloria Holst*), Craig Wells

Under convalescent or hospice care...Tim Simpson
(Minn Simpson’s son)

Undergoing surgery, various tests, treatments, recuperating and continued comfort...Eloise Cooley (Marcia’s Cooley’s mother), Pastor Leslie Soyster, Florence Huff (Carol Jackson’s mother), Ron Schultze family, Connie-Kieffer-Collins, June Goldberg, John Yanuklis, Susan Ghezelayagh
(*Sigrid Bremer’s mother*), Bob Hasley

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, Richard Deobler

Facebook News

If you have a Facebook profile, I encourage you to join the group "SVLC Youth-Simi." This will provide up-to-date youth news and events straight to your computer!!

August Youth Events!

Please be sure to stop by the Youth Board on Sundays after service to sign up for upcoming events or contact Lauren by phone or email.

2-6th -Elementary: Day Camp/VBS



"Keeping Earth"

Wed Aug 4th -High School: Samaritan Center



Sun Aug 8th -All Ages: Ice Cream Sunday



Sun Aug 15th -High School: Beach Day



Wed Aug 18th -Elementary/Middle School: Game/Relay Day

RELAY FOR LIFE



Relay will be October 23 & 24, 2010 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. Anyone may walk, from the young to the old. If you would like to join our team you can register at www.main.acsevents.org/goto/sov. If you are interested in sponsoring one of our walkers or have any questions, please contact Julie Honda at 341-3866 or email at R6Hondas@Roadrunner.com.

Relay for Life

A quilt is being fabricated to honor persons who have survived or died from cancer. If you would like to honor or remember someone with a square on the quilt, please contact Dorothy Fee at 805-523-2743 and she will be happy to help you.

Quilt



New in Simi Valley

Still Waters Cafe

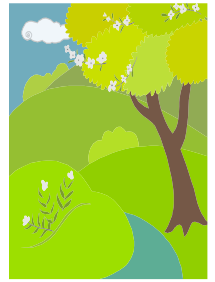
“A **no cost** dining service to those who are suffering economic hardship, homelessness or who are lonely and wish to have a dining companion”

Amenities at the café:

- **Mealtime is served beginning at 5:00p.m.–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



Angel Food – There is meals which can Simi. Menus feeds 4 people for seven are no restrictions.



a wonderful servant-ministry providing low cost be ordered on line and picked up locally here in vary from month to month but the standard order days for \$30!! **Anyone** can order the food: there www.angelfoodministries.com

THE HOMELESS NEED YOUR HELP!!

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church feeds the homeless at the *Samaritan Center* the *1st Wednesday of every month from 4:00-6:00 p.m.* This is a church service project and we need your help. We need volunteers to do the following: buy and deliver food to the Samaritan Center, serve food or just donate money. If you would like to help, please contact Yvonne Baird at 584-2521. Thank you for your prayers and support for this important ministry.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Preschool There's still time to register for the fall!

In October, our preschool will be **celebrating 40 years** as a ministry of the congregation. As the needs of our preschool parents and children have changed, our school has changed and expanded to meet these needs.

We believe that each child deserves the opportunity to grow and develop in a safe, loving and stimulating environment. Children are treated with warmth and respect, and learn to appreciate their value and importance in God's world.

Our goals are to help children grow in their sense of self-worth, to recognize their strengths and abilities, and to develop physically, intellectually, emotionally and spiritually.

The staff are educated in early childhood education, and are dedicated Christian people who enjoy working with young children in a positive, effective manner.

Class size is small, and we offer a well-balanced, carefully constructed program designed to meet the needs of preschool children.

We offer both full day and part day schedules, and accept children between the ages of 2 years 9 months and 5 years of age.

Call the preschool office at 526-9069 for more information. Better yet, pass this information on to friends or neighbors who are looking for a good preschool experience for their young children.



Luther's Attic...

is a thrift store in Moorpark at 189 High Street that helps support Good Shepherd Lutheran School. Give donations, shop and/or volunteer your time!! It all helps our Christian school ministry here in Simi Valley. For further information call 805-523-7188.



School News

Good Shepherd Lutheran School

A Christian community challenging minds and nurturing hearts since 1979



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www.gsls-simi.com

August

2009-2010 Good Shepherd Spirit—Service in Action



Students in grades K-3 sing at the Hanging of the Greens Advent worship service at Trinity.



Students in grades 6-8 lead worship services as part of the student worship band team.

Leadership students deliver hair care products to Care and Share as part of a school service project.



Lutheran Schools: Reaching In to Church Families and Reaching Out to Community Families

Our churches have a gift of faith and support to share. Both Shepherd of the Valley and Trinity Lutheran Churches offer a chance to support church families as they raise their children while also bringing in community families to assist them in raising children of faith. Fulfilling Christ's Great Commission to "go and teach" with our preschools and K-8 school cannot be underestimated.

But, the importance of these ministries IS often overlooked and seen as the job of only the people working in the schools. It is often hard for church members to see the big things happening in this ministry because most of it is happening Monday through Friday during regular work hours. But, it is happening. The energy and life that the children entrusted to our care bring to the church is immeasurable.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School extends an invitation to all church members to come on by and see for themselves what is happening at our K-8 school. You can support these Christian education programs by sending your children and telling others about our great Lutheran schools and how they can impact a child's or family's life.

We look forward to seeing you at your schools in the Lutheran school system of Simi Valley.!

OPENING SERVICES FOR 2010-2011 ON SEPTEMBER 1

Opening services for the 2010-2011 school year of Good Shepherd Lutheran School will be held Wednesday, September 1 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.

TEACHER AND STUDENT PREPARATIONS BEGIN ON AUGUST 23

On August 23, the Good Shepherd faculty reports back for duty to prepare for the 2010-2011 school year which begins September 1. Teachers will spend these days in Bible study, faculty meetings, classroom and lesson preparation.

Teachers in grades K-5 will also be making home visits to each of our students. Middle school teachers will plan a middle school welcome back barbeque and orientation to be held on Monday, August 30.

**REGISTER NOW FOR 2010-2011
526-2482**



On behalf of the Aileen Brekke Family, we wish to express our appreciation to all of her Church Family, that remembered her in love, prayers and support. We can't begin to thank Pastor Gary enough for going beyond the call of duty at the hospital, and then with the beautiful "Celebration of Life Service".

Thank you for all that helped with the set-up, food and service at the reception, under the wonderful directions of Wendy Blalock. God bless each and everyone of you, whether you attended the service, sent a card or said a prayer.

In Christian appreciation & love, John & Nancy Roth and The Brekke Family



2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 11:00-Traditional 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	2 9:00-VBS Day Camp 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Patio 7:00-Al-anon-YR 7:30-Al-ateen-Choir	3 9:00-VBS Day Camp 10:00 SVLC @Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone	4 9:00-VBS Day Camp 4:00-SVLC @ Samaritan Center 7:00-Youth -YR	5 9:00-VBS Day Camp 10:00-SVLC@Attic 3:00-SWC (Team 1) 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-class	6 9:00-VBS Day Camp <i>Pastor off Lauren off</i>	7 10:00-SVLC @ Attic 10:00-AA-Library 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
8 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 11:00-Traditional 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	9 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Patio 7:00-Al-anon-YR 7:30-Al-ateen-Choir	10 10:00 SVLC @Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-SVLC Council	11 7:00-Youth -YR	12 10:00-SVLC@Attic 3:00-SWC (Team 2) 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-class	13 <i>Pastor off Lauren off</i>	14 10:00-AA-Library 11:30-Women's Combined Study 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
15 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 11:00-Traditional 1:00-NA 2:00-Covenant Players-Sanct. 7:00-Al-anon-CR	16 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:00-Stephen Ministry Train-CR 7:00-BSA #698-Patio 7:00-Al-anon-YR 7:30-Al-ateen-Choir	17 10:00-SVLC@Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-Men's Group @ Home-Town	18 7:00- Youth - YR	19 10:00-SVLC @Attic 3:00-SWC-Hall 5:00-SWC-(Team 3) 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon-Class	20 <i>Pastor off Lauren off</i>	21 10:00-AA-Library 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
22 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 11:00-Traditional 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	23 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:00-Stephen Ministry Train-CR 7:00-BSA #698-Patio 7:00-Al-anon-YR 7:30-Al-ateen-Choir	24 10:00-SVLC@ Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00- Property Mtg. Library	25 7:00-Youth -YR	26 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 3:00-SWC-(Team 4) 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:00-Stephen Ministry Train-CR 6:30-Al-anon-Class	27 <i>Pastor off Lauren off</i>	28 10:00-AA-Library 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
29 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 11:00-Traditional 1:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	30 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:00-Stephen Ministry Train-CR 7:00-BSA #698-Patio 7:00-Al-anon-YR 7:30-Al-ateen-Class	31 10:00 SVLC @Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone				



SUMMER READING -

What is your pleasure? Murky mysteries? Exciting adventures? Steamy romances? Does your interest run to Christian novels? Do you prefer paperbacks or hardbacks?

Well, guess what? Your Library book cart is featuring some wonderful summer reading this month. Lie out on the patio in the evening with a good book, take one to enjoy at lunchtime, snatch a few pages while waiting to pick up your kids, relax at bedtime. Whatever your preference, we have something for everyone.



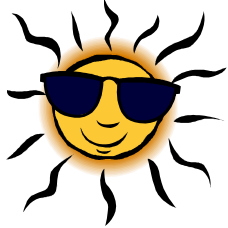
And don't forget the children! We have many good books for them as well, including humor, excitement, Bible stories and more.

Most paperback novels do not need to be checked out. But look inside the cover to see if there is a library card for you to sign and leave in the box. Remember, if you want to enjoy the book, others will too. So please return it in about 2 weeks.

And good reading!

SCRIP IDEAS

Now that our cold watermelon from the cream and other frozen Starbucks would work too.



famous summer heat is with us, how do you plan to stay cool? Ice market sounds good. (Vons, Ralphs or Albertsons) So does ice goodies from Coldstone Creamery. A cold concoction from

A dip in the ocean or pool would certainly help cool you off. And Target, WalMart and Macy's have great deals on swimwear for the whole family. Get out of that hot kitchen with a relaxing meal at one of Simi's air cooled restaurants. We have a good assortment of gift cards for that.

And please don't forget the sunscreen (Walgreens, CVS, Rite Aid).

It doesn't take too much thought or imagination to discover ways to use gift cards for all your purchases. And whenever you do, you are also making sure your church is benefitting as well with a donation, not from you, but from the vendor! If you find it difficult to increase your pledge to help with the church's budget at this time, this is the perfect answer on how to become responsible church members. It is simple, quick and guaranteed painless! See us at the Scrip table on Sunday between services. We are usually on the patio, but if the weather is too miserable for us to sit outside, we will be in the Library, just off the patio. See you soon!



Welcome to... The Covenant Players

We are blessed to have the Covenant Players ministry using our facilities for their workshop again this year. They will be with us from June 30th thru August 18th. **Please** take advantage of their **no cost** drama plays. They will inspire you!

Tuesdays at 6:45p.m in Eichele Hall

Thursdays at 6:45p.m in the Sanctuary

Saturdays at 6:45p.m in Eichele Hall

One Organization - Two Distinct Missions

[Ministry of Faith](#) - Since 1963, Covenant Players has pioneered the use of drama as a communications resource in the church. Units of Covenant Players travel throughout the world communicating the reality of the Gospel in churches of all denominations. To read more about how Covenant Players can support your ministry with the power of live drama, [click here](#)

[Education and Communication Using the Dramatic Arts](#) - For over forty years, Covenant Players has used the dramatic arts to support the work of educators and social workers throughout the world. When there is a need to address universal human themes - whether in the classroom, a group home, or counseling center – Covenant Players can meet those needs. To read more about how Covenant Players currently serves in culturally diverse and pluralistic settings and fully respects the separation of church and state, [click here](#).

