

Welcome

to Shepherd of the
Valley Lutheran Church

September Newsletter

You are invited to share a *free* community meal with your neighbors every Thursday 5:00 p.m. at Still Waters Café located in Simi Valley at 4191 Cochran Street call 805-526-7577



Still Waters Café is looking for:

volunteers who are willing to commit to:

one Thursday a month from **4:45 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

There are many jobs that need to be done and now with summer approaching, our youth programs that volunteered are not in school. Jobs might include serving desserts, helping with dishes, being a runner, etc. If you are willing to commit to one Thursday a month, please contact Ray Valderrama at 527-4061 and your name will be put on the list.



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...

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Preschool,
Good Shepherd Lutheran School and our church leaders.

WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO

Patricia Stuen and family on the loss of her mother May DeJacommo.

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

Willie Cornforth (*Allison Graybill's Aunt*) Shirley Stienke,

Heinz Raaber (*cousin of Joanne Askew*) Carol Williams (*Al & Joanne Askew's daughter*)

Terry Labrum (*SVLC Preschool Director*), TLC Secretary Nancy Danowsky

Under convalescent or hospice care...

Tim Simpson (*Minn Simpson's son*) Rev. James Cherrill (*Cathie Badillo's uncle*), John Moore

Undergoing surgery, various tests, treatments, recuperating and continued comfort... Eloise Cooley (Marcia's

Cooley's mother), Pastor Leslie Soyster, Ron Schultze family, Connie-Kieffer-Collins, June Goldberg,

John Yanuklis, Becky Counts, Kent & Rosalie Fredrick, Jenny & Marvin Kidd, Dewey Blowers.

Our Military Personnel now serving:

Joe Anderson, Dan Balaun, David Bond, Jeffrey C.A. Bower, Wayne Combs,

Tyson and Blake Crosby, Nisha Dean, Shane Denning, Richard Deobler, Robert Deobler,

Travis Girard, Nick Goldsmith, Jorden Gutowski, Mike Hultman, Michael Kidd,

Frank King, Chris Labelle, Brett Launer, Brian Lowen John Parker, Brian Richardson,

Jonathan Scholberg, Raymond Schooler, Captain Ted Slocum, Allen Steinke

Cpl. Brett Tyre, Sgt Elliott Van Marion, Thomas Weaver, Matthew Wilkins



Thank you for your service



My Dear Fellow Pilgrims,

Not long ago, one of our members, who is quite an accomplished archer, showed me a picture of her most recent attempts with bow and arrows. She had done very well, with a picture showing all the arrows either in or near the center of the bull's eye. My own archery accomplishments pale in comparison to the skills demonstrated by this individual. In reality, the only way I could come close to the center of the bull's eye would be to first shoot the arrow and then draw the bull's eye around where the arrow landed.



In the original Greek of the New Testament, the word used for “sin” is an archery term that means “missing the mark.” That’s an interesting definition of “sin” – in God’s goodness and love God has established “the mark, what it means to live God’s way. Any attempt to live God’s way then that falls short of the bull’s eye and misses the mark is therefore a sin. That’s an interesting concept.

Through Jesus God has indeed set the bar high in Jesus’ example of Godly living. The basis of Jesus example is, of course, love -- love of God and love of neighbor. Yet as simple as that sounds in theory, in practice it is incredibly challenging. Often we fail, we miss the mark, we sin. Instead After awhile, instead of trying to hit the bulls eye we may give up in frustration and simply lower the bar of expectations by drawing the bulls eye around wherever our attempts take us. Yes, it is far easier to lower the bar than to take an honest look at ourselves and try to adapt our lives to be more like Jesus. When we do this it may make us feel better about our selves, but it is still a sin.

The good news is that there is forgiveness. Even when our attempts fall short and we try to change the rules or reset the bar, God forgives us and invites us to try again.

Will we ever get it right? Yes, but never 100% of the time. Hitting the mark by truly loving and forgiving others as we have been loved and forgiven feels great. Knowing there is forgiveness and opportunity to try again when we fail is priceless.

Your partner in Ministry,

Pastor Gary

NEW MEMBER CLASS



Sunday, Sept. 25th and Oct. 2nd & 9th @ 12:00 noon

If you are interested in becoming a member at Shepherd of the Valley, or just in learning more about our faith, the new member class is the place to be ☺ Please, RSVP by Sept. 18th by calling the church office 805-526-7577 or speak to Pastor Gary ☺



Words For Women



A Newsletter for the Women and Friends of
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

A special thank you to the Endowment Committee. They have blessed us again with matching funds from our Waffle Breakfast. We will present a check for a total of \$900.00 to the Pre-School. These funds will be used to replace the kitchen floor, strip and wax the floors and contribute to new mini blinds for the rooms.



Upcoming Events

Hannah Circle 09/20/11 - 7:00 p.m. Join us for our new bible study at the home of Wendy Blalock - 5376 Diane St, Simi Valley 527-7412

Ladies Night Out - 09/30/11 at Senior Gomez - 6:30 p.m. Meet us for a night of fun and fellowship. If you are planning on going, please RSVP to Lisa Gearhart at lisagearthart@sbcglobal.net.



Ladies Fashion Show - 10/9/11 12:30 p.m. in Eichele Hall. Our very own ladies from the church will be modeling the latest fall fashions in all sizes and at outlet prices. If you like it you can order it right there on the spot. Cost for this event is \$25.00 per ticket. This will include a luncheon and show. Net proceeds will be donated to Shepherd of the Valley Pre-School for their much needed upgrades including new privacy stalls for the children's bathroom.

In addition to the Fashion Show, we will be selling tickets for a Quilt Raffle Drawing. The amazing women of our church, who design and sew these wonderful prayer quilts, spend their precious time and money creating the quilts to comfort so many friends and family who are struggling. Up for raffle are a Christmas Quilt and a Baby Quilt. Both are exquisite and will be on display. The raffle will take place on Wednesday Night 11/23/11 during the Thanksgiving Pie Social. All proceeds will go back to the quilters for supplies, so they can continue this much appreciated ministry. A special thank you to our quilters Leona Stewart, Lynn Featherston, and Gail Garon.



Friends in Need Bake Sale - 10/23/11 - Please bring your yummy baked goods on Sunday before the 8:30 service. All proceeds will go to the "Friends in Need" ministry here at church. We purchase grocery store scrip for Pastor Gary to give out when those who are in need visit him at the church office.

If you would like to be on our e-list, please email Lisagearthart@sbcglobal.net. We'll make sure your name gets added.



SPARK 3rd – 5th graders

We meet in the upstairs SAC room on Wednesdays from 7-8:15 p.m.
Please join us for a relaxing evening of fun, games, and bible study.

Friends are always welcome.

Thank you to all the middle students who joined us during the summer break! ☺
Call Adrienne Stuck at 520-6947(h).

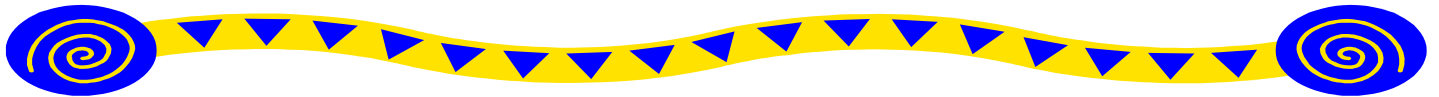


Relay will be October 15 & 16, 2011 at Rancho Simi Community Park. Relay for Life is the American Cancer Society's signature event. It is a 24 hour team event that raises awareness of cancer in the community and raises funds to fight cancer. Throughout the event, Relay for Life teams commit to keeping 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/shepherd. If you are interested in sponsoring one of our walkers you may also do that at our website www.main.acsevents.org/goto/shepherd. If you have any questions please contact me.

Julie Honda 341-3866 R6Hondas@roadrunner.com

Website www.main.acsevents.org/goto/Shepherd



Samaritan Center of Simi Valley

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
Serves a meal to the less fortunate at the
Samaritan Center – located on Royal Ave.

The 1st Wednesday of every month from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

This is a church service project and we need help.

We need volunteers to do the following: buy and deliver food to the Samaritan Center, serve food **or** 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.

Stamps – Stamps – Stamps...

On behalf of the Women's group, and in support of various charities here in California as well as around the country, please save used postage stamps. You can leave them on the envelope or clip about 1/4 inch around the stamps, pop them in an envelope or baggie and drop them off in the narthex the next time you visit our pretty little church.

It's quick; it's easy, and it means a lot to the folks we help.

Interface Ministry

As an ongoing ministry of SVLC we collect items for personal care bags at the monthly Women's Circles, or by taking your donation to the Church office. These items then go into a care bag and are given to Interface for their Battered Women's Shelters throughout the county.

The items needed to make a care bag are (in regular sizes): Shampoo, Conditioner, Brush, Comb, Lotion, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Soap, Deodorant, Tampons, Disposable Razors, Pocket Size Kleenex. In 2010 twenty bags were donated to Interface!

Individual size lotion, soap, shampoo etc. from motel/hotel stays are also appreciated as they are taken to the Samaritan Center for use. If you have any further questions regarding this ministry please contact Jennifer Wacenske @ 581-2923.



Christ Caring for People through People - That's the motto of Stephen Ministry.

The Stephen Minister's role is to bring God's love into the lives of people who are going through a difficult time or experiencing a crisis. What do Stephen Ministers do? They listen to you, care for you, support and encourage you, and pray with and for you. And in the midst of this confidential, one-to-one, caring relationship, God's healing love comes pouring through.

What you should know about Stephen Ministry

Shepherd of the Valley has a system for training and organizing laypeople to provide one-to-one Christian care to hurting people in our congregation called **Stephen Ministry**. All Stephen Ministers receive 50 hours of training in care giving and attend continuing education classes every month that prepares them to listen and care for anyone going through a difficult time. The name Stephen comes from St. Stephen, who was the first layperson commissioned by the Apostles to provide caring ministry to those in need, (Acts 6).

Stephen Ministry began in 1975 when the Rev. Kenneth C. Haugk, Ph.D., a pastor and clinical psychologist, trained nine laypeople at his congregation in St. Louis to be **Stephen Ministers**. They assisted him in providing distinctively Christian care to members of the congregation and community. These trained caregivers were so enthused about their ministry; they encouraged Dr. Haugk to offer it to more congregations. Since that time more than 500,000 laypeople have been trained as **Stephen Ministers** in 50 states, 10 Canadian provinces and 24 other countries.

If you or someone you know is facing a crisis--large or small--and could benefit from the caring presence of a Stephen Minister, call Pastor Gary at 805.526.7577.



celebrating 40 years

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Preschool

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

The summer has flown by - it's hard to believe that school is starting again. Some of our improvement projects have been completed - others will be starting soon, but the school is starting to look much better.

Our preschool year will begin on September 6th. We are starting with a few more children than last year, but still have room to grow. Mrs Susan will be teaching the 4 year old room and Ms. Ann will be working with the 3's again. Mrs. Carla will continue to work in the afternoons.

We have a wonderful program-designed to meet all of a growing child's' needs and help them lay a strong foundation for their future. If you have or know of someone who has a child between the ages of 2.9 and 5 years of age, please check us out.

The preschool number is 529-9069.

SVLC Preschool Director
Terry Labrum



ATTENTION: VON'S and RALPHS SHOPPERS

It is that time again, time to re-register with your grocery store in order to continue getting that extra donation for Shepherd of the Valley Church. Whether you have registered in the past, or are a new participant, it is necessary to re-register once a year.

For those who shop at Ralphs, go to www.ralphs.com and become a community partner. Our church's registration number is #90835.

Please sign up as soon as possible.

For Von's customers go to www.escrip.com

Remember, you can also buy and use Scrip for all your purchases and we receive a donation from that as well. It is double dipping and a great help to our benevolence program.

What a blessing it is in these difficult times to be able to receive donations from both Ralph's and Vons! All you have to do is swipe your rewards cards and the store will automatically send a donation to help us support the needy, but only if you take a few minutes to register on the internet. Your gift card will also enable us to receive a further donation to maximize our receipts.

If you have not as yet participated in this program, please visit us at the Scrip table on Sunday and we will be glad to help answer your questions.

Many thanks to all our customers for their faithfulness in purchasing gift cards on a regular basis for all their needs you are so very much appreciated.

Did you ever stop to think that everyone either has/had grandparents or are grandparents?

Library

Amazing isn't it?

Unfortunately grandpaernts are often viewed with stereotypes. The little old grandma baking cookies, the elderly grampa taking the kids fishing. Then there is the middle aged grandma at the mall with her teenagers, the middle aged grandpa teaching his grandson how to change the oil in his car or the new grandpaents holding their precious bundle and wondering at this miracle of God.

Being the best grandparent in the world is perhaps the most rewarding job we will ever have. The book cart this month has help for all of you out there - How to understand your teenagers, books to read the little ones, and self-help books to get you through the years. One of your most important jobs is to teach your granchildren of any age that God loves them and in turn they need to learn to love others. For this, books are your most important resource.

Check out our book cart during the month of October for ideas and support.

Remember, books need to be checked out and they also need to be returned within two weeks. Unfortunately we often read the book, put it down and forget to bring it back.

Please check through your shelves and return any books that are overdue. If you felt it was worth taking home to read, you need to give others that same opportunity.

Happy Reading ☺

Welcome back students

News from Good Shepherd

The Promise of a Lutheran School – Lutheran schools promise:

- Academic excellence
- A balanced curriculum
- An exceptional faculty
- To show children how to serve others
- To support families as they raise their children

And all of this is done in a community grounded in a common faith in Jesus Christ. Give your child the gift of a Christian education at Good Shepherd Lutheran School, accredited by two respected national organizations, WASC and NLSA.

2011-2012 Good Shepherd Registration – Registration for the coming school year, 2010-2011, is open to all. Call the school office, 526-2482, for more information.

Financial Assistance Program –It is the conviction of the School Board of Good Shepherd Lutheran School that no child should be denied the privilege of a Christian education because of finances. If you have any questions about our generous financial assistance program, contact the school office, 526-2482, or e-mail us, admin@gsls-simi.com.

GSLs School Tours Available – If anyone needs information about Good Shepherd Lutheran School, please call the school office, 526-2482. We will be happy to take you on a tour of our campuses and answer any questions you may have about our program.

PLEASE...HELP SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

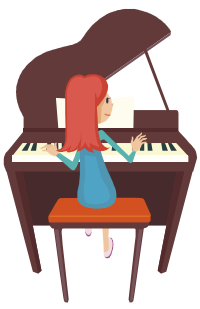


Luther's Attic...a thrift store in

Moorpark at 189 High Street that helps support Good Shepherd Lutheran School. Give donations, shop and/or **volunteer your time!!**

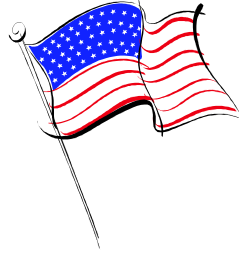
It all helps our Christian school ministry here in Simi Valley.

The proceeds from the store are split between the three schools that receive financial support from the store. The financial split is based on volunteer hours submitted by members from each of the churches (the more volunteer hours from your church the stronger the financial support). For further information call 805-523-7188.



Piano lessons with *Carol Jackson*
reasonable prices - please call 805-822-7344

September Calendar of Events 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 10:00-SVLC@Attic 3:00-SWC 5:00-Café Open 6:00-Stretch Tone 6:30-Al-anon	2 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins <i>Pastor Off</i>	3 8:00-Alanon 10:00-AA-Library 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
4 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 11:00-Blended 11:00-NA 6:30-Al-anon-CR	5 Labor Day Schools & Offices Closed 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-Al-anon 7:30-Al-ateen	6 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 10:00 SVLC @Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-SVCC Prayers	7 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 7:00- Youth Group 7:00-SPARK	8 GSLs Picture Day 6:00-Preschool 10:00-SVLC@Attic 11:30-NAOMI 3:00-SWC 5:00-Café Open 6:00-Stretch Tone 6:30-Al-anon 7:00-Stephen Min	9 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins <i>Pastor Off</i>	10 GSLs @ Parade 8:00-Alanon-CR 9:00-Still Waters Food Drive 10:00-AA-Library 10:00-SVLC @ Luther's Attic 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
11 SVLC Rally Day 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 11:00-Blended 12:00-Confirmation Parent Mtg. 11:00-NA 7:00-Al-anon-CR	12 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-GSLS Back to School Night-TLC 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Al-anon 7:30-Al-ateen	13 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 10:00-SVLC@Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-SVCC Prayers 7:00-SVLC Council 7:00-GSLS Back to School Night-SVLC	14 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 7:00- Youth – YR 7:00-SPARK	15 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 10:00-SVLC @Attic 11:30-Y.I.M.A.H. 3:00-SWC 5:00-Café Open 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon 7:00-Men's Group	16 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins <i>Pastor Off</i>	17 8:00-Ala6on-CR 10:00-AA-Library 10:00-SVLC @Attic 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
18 Sunday School Begins 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 9:45-Sunday School 11:00- Blended 11:00-NA 12:00-NOLA Mtg. 4:00-SWC Appreciation Dinner 7:00-Al-anon-CR	19 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698-Hall 7:00-Hannah Circle 7:00-Al-anon 7:30-Al-ateen	20 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 10:00-SVLC@ Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-SVCC Prayers 7:00-Happy Squares	21 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 7:00-SPARK	22 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 10:00-SVLC @ Attic 3:00-SWC 5:00-Café Open 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon 7:00-Property Mtg. 7:00-Stephen Min.	23 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins <i>Pastor off</i>	24 8:00-Alanon-CR 10:00-AA-Library 10:00-SVLC @ Attic 5:30-Simi Valley Christian Church
25 8:30-Traditional 9:45-Contemporary 11:00- Blended 11:00-NA 12:00-New Members 7:00-Al-anon-CR	26 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 6:00-Stretch N Tone 7:00-BSA #698 7:00-Al-anon-YR 7:00-Worship Mtg. 7:30-Al-ateen-Class	27 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 10:00-SVLC@ Attic 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-SVCC Prayers	28 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 7:00-Yourth – YR 7:00-SPARK	29 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins 10:00-SVLC @ Attic 3:00-SWC 5:00-Café Open 6:00-Stretch N Tone 6:30-Al-anon	30 6:00-Preschool 7:00-SAC 8:30- GSLS Begins <i>Pastor off</i>	

