



The Shepherd's Call

DECEMBER 2017

Vintage:

Casting the Ancient Anew

Waiting...

Waiting...We don't like waiting. We don't. You...don't like waiting. I don't like waiting, mostly when I know my wife is supposed to be home, and then a half hour goes by, and then an hour, which is why I think it is often difficult for us to get into this season of Advent, a season that is all about waiting. And as we begin this Advent Season, I think it is helpful for us to remember that we are not waiting for Christmas. Advent began as a season of waiting for the wise men to arrive to the Christ Child and declare him King. Advent is the reminder that this world is not the world God intended and there is a King of the World who will yet come in final glory. It's that coming in final glory that we are waiting for. Over the last several weeks, we have actually been engaged in what has recently been called "Extended Advent" a prolonged time — 7 weeks instead of 4 weeks of pausing and reflecting on how we are called to wait.

As we begin our official 4 weeks of Advent, we begin with Mark's Gospel chapter 13, which ends with a summation of the last several weeks of our Sunday Morning Scriptures: "Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will

come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the door keeper to be on watch. Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he come suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep Awake." In just a few verses, we have the bride waiting for the bridegroom and the parable of the talents. All pointing to waiting, waiting, waiting.

My children are practicing waiting with their Advent Calendars. The first day, they received the instructions for a new Lego set...and that was all. We're now on day 4 as I write this and they are still waiting for enough pieces to begin building. The anticipation is difficult for them but they are learning patience. They are learning how to wait.

What is waiting like for you? How do you find peace amidst the times that you are required to wait for something or someone? Do you allow yourself to practice waiting to engage in anticipating as we move into this Advent Season?

Blessings,
Pastor Johan Dodge

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Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

8152 McFadden Avenue
Westminster, CA 92683

Office Hours

Monday 10:00am-12:00pm

Tuesday 9:00am-2:00pm

Wednesday, Thursday 10:00am-3:00pm

Rev. Johan Dodge | Lead Pastor

714.897.0100

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714.898.9108

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714.894.4330

For more info, visit our websites:

www.gswumc.com

www.vngoodshepherdumc.com

www.preschool.gswumc.com



Announcements

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



9th - Beverly Dietrich
13th - Preslee Richelieu
20th - Louise Fairweathre-Baxter
22nd - Jenna Niemczyk
22nd - Becky Somsak
24th - Whitey Cohenour
25th - Cheryl Knight
27th - Kayla Niemczyk

December Meetings

Tues., Dec. 12th - Trustees Meeting, 7pm
Tues., Dec. 19th - Preschool Bd. Meeting, 6:15pm
Church Council Meeting, 7pm



Christmas Potluck

You are invited to our Christmas Potluck on **Sunday, December 17th**, after the 10:30am service. Please bring a dish to share, beverages will be provided. If you're interested, there will be a signup sheet on Sunday.



Ladies Who Lunch

The Ladies Who Lunch are meeting on **Friday, December 8th** at 12:30pm at *Uncle Pete's Café* on Beach between Hazard and 13th Street, on the East side of Beach. Please let Peggy Reardon know at 714-897-5883 if you would like to join the group, everyone is welcome. This is your chance to enjoy a little holiday cheer and lunch with all your Good Shepherd friends. Please plan to come and visit a while, the food is always good here.



Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 24th
Eng. Christmas Eve Service, 5:30pm
Viet. Christmas Eve Service, 7pm



Landscaping Day

It's time to clean up the drought tolerant landscaping. These plants are usually dormant in the summer when it's hot and there isn't any rain. Now that it is cooler, it is growing season and we want the new growth to look as great as possible. Some people are meeting **Saturday, December 2nd** at 10am to remove dead plants and flowers and prepare for new plantings. Please join us with garden gloves, clippers, shovels and hedge shearers. If you have any questions, contact Linda Priester at 714-531-0504 or topriester@dslextreme.com or Tuan Nghiem Le at 714-306-1456 or binh_lam@sbscglobal.net. Come as soon as you can and go home when you get tired.



Good Shepherd School News



As another month went by so fast, we continue counting our blessings at Good Shepherd School. We feel grateful for all of the families in our program. All of them are being so supportive and are participating in all of the events and fundraisers of this school year. They are also helping us by volunteering and making snack or cash donations. God is good!

And as Christmas draws near, the children at Good Shepherd start to feel curious and excited as we tell them the real story of about Christmas. We also feel very excited as we start practicing the Christmas songs that we will sing in church on **Dec. 17th**. During this Christmas season, let the children teach us how to stay focus and make Jesus the real meaning of our Christmas.

Now and always, Good Shepherd School feels loved by each one of you, and especially the love of God. We also feel blessed and thank the Lord and all of you who helped to make all of these blessings possible.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers and help us whenever you have the opportunity!



You can continue to help our school by:

Donating-

Recyclables,

Empty Ink Cartridges,

Used but in Good Shape Toys

Liking Us on Facebook

Reviewing Us on Yelp

OR BY

Sharing the Information About Our School with Your Family, Friends, Neighbors, or Coworkers

Volunteering to Read Bible Stories to Our Children and/or Sing

On the News...

Dec. 5th - See's Candies Will Be Here Ready to Pick Up

Dec. 17th - Children Sing in Church


Dec. 20th - Jesus' B-Day Party (School Age)

Dec. 21st - Jesus' B-Day Party (Preschool)

Dec. 25th - Campus Closed

Merry Christmas from all the Children, Staff, and Parents of Good Shepherd School!

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall 7pm Viet. Bible Study @ Member's House	2 9-2pm Viet. Computer Class 10am Landscape Day 12pm Christmas Decorating 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
3 8am Viet. Service 10:30am Eng. Service 5pm Viet. Outreach After School Banquet - Wesley Hall	4 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:30pm Boy Scouts Meeting 7pm Men's Huddle 7:30pm Bible Study - Bjelland's Home	5 9am Shepherd Hands 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall	6 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall	7 3pm Viet. After School Program 7pm Women's Huddle 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7:30pm AA Meeting	8 12:30pm Ladies Who Lunch 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall 7pm Viet. Bible Study @ Member's House	9 9-2pm Viet. Computer Class 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
10 8am Viet. Service 10:30am Eng. Service	11 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:30pm Boy Scouts Meeting 7pm Men's Huddle 7:30pm Bible Study - Bjelland's Home	12 9am Shepherd Hands 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall 7pm Trustees Meeting	13 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall	14 3pm Viet. After School Program 6-9pm Viet. Pastors & Family Banquet 7pm Women's Huddle 7:30pm AA Meeting	15 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall 7pm Viet. Bible Study @ Member's House	16 9-2pm Viet. Computer Class 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
17 8am Viet. Service 10:30am Eng. Service 11:30am Christmas Potluck	18 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:30pm Boy Scouts Meeting 7pm Men's Huddle 7:30pm Bible Study - Bjelland's Home	19 9am Shepherd Hands 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:15pm Preschool Board Meeting 7pm Church Council Meeting	20 3pm Viet. After School Program 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall	21 Winter Begins 3pm Viet. After School Program 7pm Women's Huddle 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7:30pm AA Meeting	22 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall 7pm Viet. Bible Study @ Member's House	23 9-2pm Viet. Computer Class 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
24 Christmas Eve 8am Viet. Service 10:30am Eng. Service 5:30pm Eng. Christmas Eve Service 7pm Viet. Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day	26 9am Shepherd Hands 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall	27 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall	28 7pm Women's Huddle 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7:30pm AA Meeting	29 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall 7pm Viet. Bible Study @ Member's House	30 9-2pm Viet. Computer Class 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
31 8am Viet. Service 10:30am Eng. Service						