



# The Shepherd's Call

APRIL 2018

## Vintage:

Casting the Ancient Anew

### The Season of Easter

Before Halloween, there are Christmas decorations up in the stores around us. Sure, there are lots of Halloween stuff for sale too, but the push has always been Christmas. After Christmas, Valentine's Day gets a heavy marketing push and then it's Easter, but the focus, at least as far as the stores are concerned are the weeks leading up to Easter. In the church, we're in the season of Lent so it seems weird to see all of the Easter candy and decorations for sale while we are in a time of repentance. And then of course, Easter Sunday arrives—and everywhere you look, there's an egg hunt—which is why we didn't do one ourselves. And then, as far as the stores are concerned, Easter is over and now it's Mother's Day. But for us in the church, we have to say: "Hey wait, not so fast!" We had 40 days of Lent, Easter needs to be more of a celebration! And in fact, there are seven Sundays of Easter.

This past Wednesday, I was doing chapel time with the children in our growing Preschool and we were reading the Gospel story of the

woman going to the tomb on Easter morning only to be told that Jesus wasn't there. Then Mary discovers Jesus standing there and she is told by Jesus to go and tell the disciples that Jesus is alive. And I shared with the children, that's our job too. We are called by Jesus to tell the world that Jesus is alive!

And on the first Sunday of Easter, we talked about the synergy between Easter Sunday and April Fools'. And how, on Palm Sunday, Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey would have looked foolish to the Roman authorities who were traveling with Pilate and entering the city from the other side. The first Sunday of Easter will fall on April 1<sup>st</sup> again in eleven years and I suggested on Easter Sunday that in those eleven years, we need to learn how to play the fool for Jesus. Of course, it isn't simply an eleven year goal, it's a goal that begins this year, it begins now. So, let's use these seven Sundays of Easter as a primer for being fools for Jesus.

Blessings,  
Pastor Johan Dodge

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### Good Shepherd United Methodist Church



8152 McFadden Avenue  
Westminster, CA 92683

Office Hours  
Monday 10am-12pm  
Tuesday 9am-2pm

Wednesday, Thursday 10am-3pm

Rev. Johan Dodge | Lead Pastor  
714.897.0100

goodshepherdwestminster@yahoo.com

Rev. Ase Nguyen | Vietnamese Pastor  
714.898.9108

vn\_goodshepherd@yahoo.com

Ana Flores | Preschool Director  
714.894.4330

For more info, visit our websites:  
www.gswumc.com

www.vngoodshepherdumc.com  
www.preschool.gswumc.com



# Announcements

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

4th—Lana Miller

6th—Bill & Lin Somsak

28th—Nancy & Robert Oleinik



Please let the office know if we're missing on any important dates!

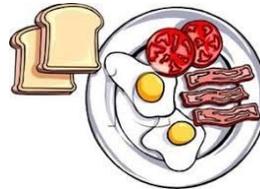
## APRIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>  
Trustees Meeting, 7pm



Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>  
Preschool Board Meeting, 6:15pm  
Church Council Meeting, 7pm

## LADIES WHO LUNCH



The “Ladies Who Lunch” are changing their monthly lunch get together to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month. That means the next outing will be on **Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>** at **12:30 p.m.** We will meet at Sunny’s Restaurant, 7148 Edinger Ave, Huntington Beach, CA 92647. We have a great time just meeting up for a relaxing visit with our church friends. All ladies of the church are invited to join us. Just let Peggy Reardon know so she will ask for the right size table for our group. You can reach Peggy at 714-897-5883 or [perkypeggy@aol.com](mailto:perkypeggy@aol.com)

THIS IS THE DAY  
THAT THE LORD  
HAS MADE; LET US  
**REJOICE**  
& BE GLAD IN IT

PSALM 118:24

# Good Shepherd School News



Hello everyone! Words cannot describe how grateful we are with the Lord. During the last two months, we have had 15 new preschoolers joined our program and most of them are two to three years old. Our program is finally growing and I can say that God has answered our prayers indeed!! Come and visit our school and see all of the new changes in our environment.

**We continue helping the environment and teaching the children of the importance of recycling by...**

The teachers have been working really hard to keep the new children and families happy. They have been also working really hard because we are not just getting the children ready for kindergarten. Nature, gardening, and animals are also part of our curriculum. And since spring has arrived and this is earth month, we have been planting different kinds of edible plants and fruit trees with the children. We have been also teaching them about the importance of taking care of our planet.



Ink cartridges, plastic bottles, overripe fruits/old vegetables/vegetables/ fruit peelings (we feed our bunnies and chickens with them)

## On the news...

- April 14<sup>th</sup>...Work Day (parents, teachers)
- April 20<sup>th</sup>...Earth Day Celebration
- April 21<sup>st</sup>...Preschool Monthly Fundraiser  
Plant,tamales/pupusas sale, 10-3pm

Thank you so much for your continuous prayers and support.  
**GOD IS SO GOOD!**





# April 2018

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>Easter</b> 8am Viet. Service 10:30am Eng. Service	6:10pm Zumba - Wesley Hall 6:30pm Boy Scouts Meeting 7pm Men's Huddle	9am Shepherd's Hands 6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall	6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall	7pm Women's Huddle 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7:30pm AA Meeting	6:30pm Zumba - Wesley Hall 7:30pm Viet. Bible Study - Member's House	9-2pm Viet. Computer Class 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice 5-8pm Bill & Lin's Somsak 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration
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