



The Shepherd's Call

Vintage:

Casting the Ancient Anew

The Walk of Discipleship...

To be a follower of Jesus is no easy task. There is a reason that there were crowds of people interested in Jesus but who for whatever reason were unwilling to step out in faith to become his disciple. As United Methodists, our mission is: To Make Disciples of Jesus Christ, For the Transformation of the World. And it's that second part that is often so difficult for us to imagine.

Transformation into what? I feel that throughout my life and my ministry, I have had an answer to the question: "What are we transforming the world into?" The answer is the Kingdom of God. At times, I use the term Kindom of God because there is work that we are doing now—to transform this world, and there is the Kingdom that is yet to come.

SO getting back to the Kindom of God, what does it look like? For me, it is a community of faith that is open and welcoming to all who choose to participate. When I arrived at Good Shepherd—I came to serve the "Anglo" ministry and help to provide oversight of the Vietnamese Ministry. I soon realized that the term "Anglo"

was unhelpful in describing our English Speaking Congregation. Over the tenure of my Ministry with you here, our growth has largely come from Vietnamese families who are choosing to worship in English rather than in Vietnamese. When I look out at you all on Sunday mornings, I am proud of the work that we have done and are continuing to do to welcome everyone into our growing faith community. We reflect the evolving demographics of our neighborhood better than many other churches. There is a saying that Sunday morning is still the most segregated hour in the week. In our community it isn't! Praise God!

With that said, there are I believe next steps in the growth and evolution of Good Shepherd and sadly those steps no longer include me. As I have shared elsewhere, our Bishop has called and appointed me to Leisure World Community Church in Seal Beach starting July 1st. I have treasured my time with you all these past years and celebrate the work that we have done together and the growth and diversity that we have realized together.

June 2018 Newsletter

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Good Shepherd United Methodist Church



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Office Hours
Monday 10am-12pm
Tuesday 9am-2pm
Wednesday, Thursday 10am-3pm

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For more information, visit our websites:
www.gswumc.com
www.vngoodshepherdumc.com
www.preschool.gswumc.com

(cont'd)

The next step for Good Shepherd is an English speaking pastor who is also fluent in Vietnamese and can continue to bring our two worshipping groups closer together and ultimately into one bilingual congregation. This is, I believe, the work of creating the Kingdom of God here on earth that we are each called to participate in.

So I write one last time to say farewell. You continue to be a wonderful community of faith that continues to

grow in your expression of God's love for the world and I am proud to have walked with you these past years. I am sad to leave you but know that as I go, I make room for the next steps in the life of "your" (I still want to say "our") community.

We have done good work together and there are greater things that God has planned for Good Shepherd! And so I go in peace!

Blessings,

Rev. Johan Dodge

Announcements

June Meetings

Tuesday, June 12th
Trustee Meeting, 7pm

Tuesday, June 19th
Preschool Board Meeting, 6:15pm
Church Council Meeting, 7pm



June Birthdays & Anniversaries

1st | Julie Munroe
6th | Scott Fairweathre-Baxter
21st | Jane Butler
22nd | Laura Keller

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



Bible Study Group



The Wednesday morning Bible Study is taking a break until July 11th. We will meet on **Wednesday, June 6th**, at 10 a.m. to preview some DVDs and decide on a study starting in July. This is your opportunity to contribute your "two cents" about what we will study. Everyone who is able to attend a morning Bible Study is urged to join us.

Ladies Who Lunch

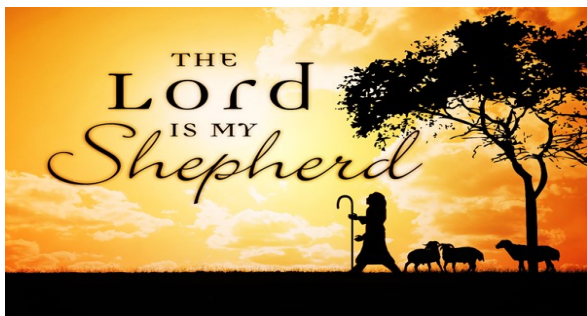
The next lunch gathering will be on **Friday, June 15th**. We will meet at **Uncle Pete's Café** at 12:30 p.m. All ladies of the church are invited. It's a good opportunity to spend some quality time with your church friends. If you're interested in joining our group, please contact Peggy Reardon at 714-897-5883 or perkypeggy@aol.com.



This is an article written as part of a prison ministry by my friend, May Sue. I thought that we are sort of in the position of waiting for Jesus to drive His “old pickup” to Good Shepherd and show us the future for our English Speaking Congregation.
—Linda Priester

Me & Me Me & Jesus Jesus & Me All of Jesus & None of Me

Written By: May Sue



Psalm 23:1-6 (NIV)

- 1: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall now want.*
- 2: HE makes me lie down in green pastures; HE leads me beside the still waters.*
- 3: HE restores my soul; HE leads me in the paths of righteousness for HIS name's sake.*
- 4: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for YOU are with me; YOUR rod and YOUR staff, they comfort me.*
- 5: YOU prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies, YOU anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.*
- 6: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.*

About 16 years ago, Richard and I began coming to Mohave Valley weekly to fix up the “old” desert double wide mobile home for us to move into. It was close to the Colorado River and located in a 50 plus year old community of mobile homes which he and his young family had enjoyed immensely “back in the day”. On one of those trips, we took our bicycles for a ride down a dirt road near us which had just been occupied by a flock of sheep for the winter

months. As we rode along, a just born lamb came running to the fence and acting scared and hungry. We could see the mother over about 50 feet away lying on the ground. I thought she was dead and said, “Let’s take this baby home and feed it or it will die.” Richard said, “NO! The mother is birthing a twin. If you touch him, she will not accept it back.”

Well even though I cried as we turned around and headed for home, I knew he was right. Just as we were nearly to the edge of the dirt road, an old pickup driven by one of the local shepherds turned and headed slowly down the dirt road toward the flock. We stopped him and shared about the little lamb. He thanked us and headed to “fix” it. I stopped crying and began to realize that our Savior and Shepherd, Jesus, always comes to our rescue just in time.

It was a great lesson for my own life. Since then, I’ve had the “old pickup” turn onto my dirt road and rescue me over and over and over again; not only physically but spiritually. Jesus doesn’t drive an old pickup, or does HE?

Jesus always shows up through His promises in the Bible and with the Holy Spirit to comfort and bring just what’s needed at the perfect time.

Never means:

“...not ever; not in any degree, way or condition”

John 6:35

“And Jesus said to them, “I will NEVER leave you. I am the bread of life. He who comes to ME shall never have hunger and he who believes in ME shall NEVER thirst.”

Hebrews 13:5-6

“Let your conduct be without covetousness, and be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will NEVER leave you nor forsake you.” So we may boldly say: “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”

The Love Chapter, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

“Love NEVER fails...”

Good Shepherd Preschool

The 2017-2018 school year has been a year of trusting God to provide. And we feel so blessed to be able to say that God has provided abundantly and that He has answered all of our prayers. We are also so happy because three new teachers have just joined our team. **God is good!!**



Registration is here.

We still have a few spots available for the summer so please help us by telling a friend about our preschool/school age summer program.

Fall registration is also coming along, some of the children that are going to kindergarten, are staying with us for the after school program.

The preschool still needs to fill out the spots of the children that are going to transfer to kindergarten; however, we have been getting several two year olds lately.

We have also been so blessed with lots of volunteers that have been helping us to keep up with all of the changes that are happening in our environment, animals, fundraisers, etc.

Please come and visit us, and meet/welcome our new teachers:
Ms. Vanessa, Ms. Andrea, and Ms. Ruth.

Thank you so much for your continuous support and prayers.

On the news.....

June 13th (Wed)...

Graduation gathering,
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

June 18th (Mon)...

Preschool summer program begins

June 21st (Thurs)...

School age summer camp begins

June 23rd (Sat)...

Monthly fundraiser,
tamales/pupusas/plant sale,
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

You can preorder the tamales/pupusas!



Blessings,
Good Shepherd Staff



June 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 6:30pm Zumba 7:30pm Viet. Bible Study - Member's House	2 12-5pm Viet. Computer Class Closing Ceremony 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
3 8am Vietnamese Service 10:30am English Service	4 3pm Viet. After School 6:30pm Boy Scouts Meeting 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Men's Huddle	5 9am Shepherd's Hands - Carol Bower's Home 6:30am-9pm Voting Day 3pm Viet. After School 6:30pm Zumba	6 10am Bible Study 3pm Viet. After School 6:30pm Zumba	7 3pm Viet. After School 7pm Women's Huddle 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7:30pm AA Meeting	8 6:30pm Zumba 7:30pm Viet. Bible Study - Member's House	9 9am-2pm Viet. Computer Class 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
10 8am Vietnamese Service 10:30am English Service	11 3pm Viet. After School 6:30pm Boy Scouts Meeting 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Men's Huddle	12 9am Shepherd's Hands - Carol Bower's Home 3pm Viet. After School 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Trustee Meeting	13 3pm Viet. After School 6:30pm Zumba	14 3pm Viet. After School 7pm Women's Huddle 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7:30pm AA Meeting	15 12:30pm Ladies Who Lunch—Uncle Pete's Café 6:30pm Zumba 7:30pm Viet. Bible Study - Member's House	16 9am-2pm Viet. Computer Class 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
17 8am Vietnamese Service 10:30am English Service HAPPY FATHER'S DAY	18 3pm Viet. After School 6:30pm Boy Scouts Meeting 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Men's Huddle	19 9am Shepherd's Hands - Carol Bowser's Home 3pm Viet. After School 6:15pm Preschool Board Meeting 7pm Church Council Meeting	20 3pm Viet. After School 6:30pm Zumba	21 3pm Viet. After School 7pm Women's Huddle 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7:30pm AA Meeting Summer Begins	22 6:30pm Zumba 7:30pm Viet. Bible Study - Member's House	23 9am-2pm Viet. Computer Class 10am-3pm Preschool Monthly Fundraiser 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice
24 8am Vietnamese Service 10:30am English Service	25 9am-3:30pm Viet. Summer Program 6:30pm Boy Scouts Meeting 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Men's Huddle	26 9am-3:30pm Viet. Summer Program 9am Shepherd's Hands 6:30pm Zumba	27 9am-3:30pm Viet. Summer Program 6:30pm Zumba	28 9am-3:30pm Viet. Summer Program 7pm Women's Huddle 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7:30pm AA Meeting	29 6:30pm Zumba 7:30pm Viet. Bible Study - Member's House	30 9am-2pm Viet. Computer Class 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice