



Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

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September 2020 Newsletter

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Words from the Pastor

By: Pastor Khuong Chau

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope this message finds you well. As we are still facing the ongoing pandemic, I would like to remind you to trust in God and be a prayer warrior:

1) Trust in God

In 2 Chronicles 20:3, Jehoshaphat “was afraid, determined to seek Jehovah”. He was not an extraordinary man; he is just an ordinary person. The first step to take in trusting God’s help—in Jehoshaphat’s day and in our own day—is to acknowledge our weaknesses. Turning to God and sincerely giving all of our feelings can be a good medicine. It is simple to tell God that, “I’m scared. I am angry. I am a lonely child. I’m exhausted.” We are called to trust in God. When everyone around us is troubled, our neighbors panic, we need to remind each other that we are serving a loving, merciful, sovereign God who is not moved by this pandemic (Psalm 91). As we give all our worries to the Lord, we will experience peace, which is above all understanding (Philippians 4:6-7). And when

we experience that kind of peace, the life and hope we have in the Lord will be revealed (1 Peter 3:15).

2) Pray to God

As I said in the sermon of August, no person can reach their full spiritual potential without the power of prayer. Great leaders of the Bible were people of prayer. Abraham prayed for Sodom. Moses prayed for the children of Israel. Joshua prayed for guidance. Hannah prayed for a child. Solomon prayed for wisdom. Joseph prayed for understanding. Peter prayed for vision. We cannot do what we are called to do unless we are people of prayer. We need to pray for one another because in the dark night of the soul, it’s really hard to pray for yourself. So, let our prayers for each other abound through intercessions and e-mails and every means available to us. We must first and foremost be a people who pray for one another.

Due to the pandemic, most of the students from preschool through high school must participate in distance online learning and they have struggle with the instructions from these online courses. Some parents need to go to work and do not have time to help their children with their online classes. Also, many parents have very little to no experience with this new technology and some do not even know how to use e-mail to contact the school. In fact, some families don’t even have internet at home.

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John Wesley said, "Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can." Good Shepherd Church needs to stand up and help these children and their parents. We sometimes need to step out of our comfort zone, even to take the risk to help people. God loves us and we want to love our neighbors by our real actions. We are grateful because we have Ms. Lynn Nguyen, Ms. Ana Flores, all teachers and volunteers who help run the program to help the children for their classes. Please keep them in your prayer.

May God bless you and protect you and your family!



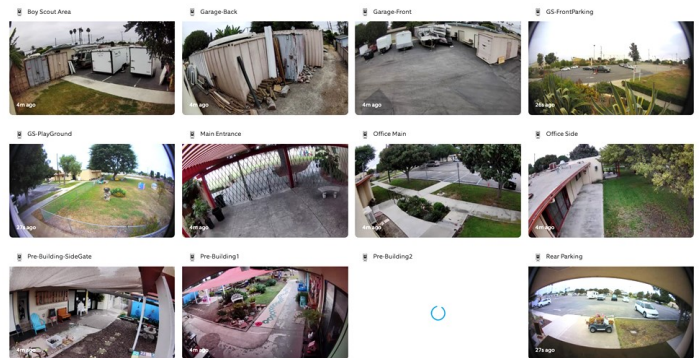
A Short News About Our Church Campus

May God continue to send many blessings to you, and that you do not catch COVID-19. Pastor Khuong Chau and Tony Le, Trustee Chairman, have been working very hard to make our campus safe for you, our children, and our teachers. We met with the Westminster Police Department to devise a plan to minimize the influence of homeless people coming onto the church property and keeping you up at night. Ten motion detecting cameras have been set up and are monitored on a computer program called "Ring". We have personnel monitoring people movement on the cameras day and night. We can talk to unauthorized persons who are on the property and warn them that the Police will be called if they do not leave the property. The Westminster Police have been very responsive day and night. Good Shepherd Church has signed paper authorizing the police to arrest unauthorized personnel who should not be on the property. We are happy that the wild parties after hours have stopped.

We are thankful that many of our neighbors have helped us to be successful in controlling the homeless. Most of the homeless persons have been routed out of Stanton according to the Westminster Police. Terry Priester still monitors the yard and picks up cigarette butts, papers and cans several times a week.

Bill Somsak,
Lay Leader

Cameras



September Birthdays & Anniversaries

3rd - Sirena Starkey
6th - Randy Miller
10th - Linda Priester
22nd - Kiera Somsak
25th - Sammy Christian
28th - Phil Maggs

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

AFH—Della Rosa

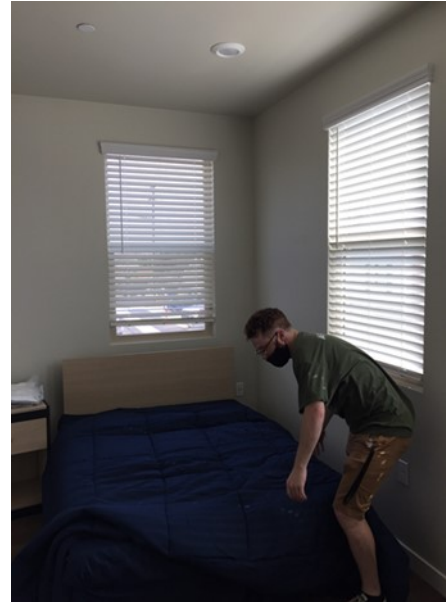
On Monday, August 24th, I volunteered to help put the donations from the community (including Good Shepherd!) in the new units at American Family Housing's Della Rosa complex for the homeless. Everyone who is moving into these apartments has been homeless for more than a year. They have worked with people and agencies that help everyone to resolve their problems that left them homeless so they can find affordable shelter. Now they are in a good place to have a new home. Each unit has a complete kitchen, a tub shower in the bathroom, bed, dinette set and heat and air conditioning.

Here are some pictures of the complex and the volunteers. The volunteers were all impressed with the throws that Carol and the Shepherd's Hands had made. When they took each one out of the bag, they would always hold it up for everyone to see.

- Linda Priester



(The kitchen.)



(Josh, one of the young volunteers, making the bed.)



(Volunteers holding the throws that Carol and the Good Shepherd's Hands made by the AFH truck.)



(Volunteers collecting their list of what goes in each unit.)



(Patio with BBQ for everyone to use.)

Good Shepherd School



Good Shepherd School is anticipating a promising year in 2020-2021. In the last three weeks, we have welcomed nine new families in our preschool program. We are now ready to open another classroom. God's will, we will start a waiting list to open the third classroom.

We are so excited and so ready to spread the Word of God to new families. We are also so looking forward to create new and great memories that the children's little minds will cherish in future years. We feel so blessed and honored at Good Shepherd School because we can make a difference in the children's life.

For the new school year, we will continue using a curriculum that meets the state foundations. We use a research based curriculum called Core Knowledge, and Zoo Phonics that help us to prepare the children for kindergarten along with Bible stories, and the Fruit of the Spirit. We will also continue to incorporate the "Nature Explore" curriculum to our program. The children will be exposed to a more natural learning environment that will prepare them for their elementary years and help them to appreciate God's creations such as animals, bugs, trees, and plants. Besides the physical development, the children will be exposed to the love of God throughout their time at school. It is the sharing

of God's love and God's creations that makes Good Shepherd School different from other schools. And we feel so proud to be able to offer extracurricular activities that other schools are not able to offer. Our After School Program Day Care room is almost ready. It just needs a few more touches and it will be done.

Special thanks to The Perez Family (this family has been sending their three children to Good Shepherd since they were in preschool).

They helped us by donating a big rug, a bookshelf, and other stuffs that we really needed to decorate/put the classroom together and make it nice, inviting and cozy for the children. They also helped us paint some of our furniture pieces. It's such a blessing to share this world with people like them.

Thank you so much for keeping our school in your prayers.

On the news...

Sept. 7th - School Closed

Sept. 8th - First Day of Preschool

Sept. 9th - Elementary Children Zoom Meetings Start

Blessings,
From the Staff, Children, and Families at
Good Shepherd School

SEPTEMBER 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 8am Online School Prog. 7pm New Beg. Church	2 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church	3 8am Online School Prog. 10am Bible Study 7pm New Beg. Church	4 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church	5
6 8:30am 1 st Ser. 10:30am 2 nd Ser. 1pm New Beg. Church	7 8am Online School Prog.	8 8am Online School Prog. 7pm New Beg. Church	9 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church	10 8am Online School Prog. 10am Bible Study 7pm New Beg. Church	11 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church	12
13 8:30am 1 st Ser. 10:30am 2 nd Ser. 1pm New Beg. Church	14 8am Online School Prog.	15 8am Online School Prog. 7pm New Beg. Church	16 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church	17 8am Online School Prog. 10am Bible Study 7pm New Beg. Church	18 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church	19
20 8:30am 1 st Ser. 10:30am 2 nd Ser. 1pm New Beg. Church	21 8am Online School Prog.	22 8am Online School Prog. 7pm New Beg. Church	23 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church	24 8am Online School Prog. 10am Bible Study 7pm New Beg. Church	25 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church	26 7pm New Beg. Church
27 8:30am 1 st Ser. 10:30am 2 nd Ser. 1pm New Beg. Church	28 8am Online School Prog.	29 8am Online School Prog. 7pm New Beg. Church	30 8am Online School Prog. 7pm Living Hope Church			

*Due to COVID-19, the schedule may change during the month.