



The **WORD**
of the
Church of the Good Shepherd

Volume 46, Number 7

February 21, 2012

Church of the Good Shepherd
Sunday, February 26, 2012

First Sunday in Lent

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:13-22 and Mark 1:9-15

Witness: "The Saving Station"

Philip Bertolo Wood, Preaching

8:00 a.m. - Worship - Chapel

8:00 - Cabaret Rehearsal (replaces afternoon rehearsal)

9:00 - Adult Bible Study led by Senior Pastor Phil Wood - AEC. The class is studying the Gospel of Matthew.

9:30 - Youth Choir call time - MR.

10:00 a.m. - Worship - Sanctuary

10:00 - Children's Sunday School - Children go into the Sanctuary with their families, then leave with their teacher and class following "Communion for Children and Teachers."

11:20 - Children's Choir rehearsal - Music Room.

11:20 - Youth Bell Choir rehearsal - Sanctuary.

11:20 - Visit Health Ministries' "Walk" table - Patio.

11:20 - Men's Weekend Retreat sign ups - Patio.

11:20 - Nite-on-the-Town Cards for sale.

11:30 - Church Council - AEC.

No Youth Choir rehearsal this afternoon.

6:00 - Youth dinner - JH/Kitchen.

6:30 - UMYF - Jeff Bulgin and Jennifer Bulgin leading the program.

6:30 - Confirmation Class will be led by Pastor Steve (Confess).

6:30 - Lenten Study begins on "The Cost of Discipleship" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer in the AEC.

6:30 - Parenting Group - Lounge - The group will be doing a Bible based Lenten Study together.

8:00 - KNIGHTS - Rachel Skinner will be leading the program tonight.

Among the Church Family

In Our Prayers:

Continue to pray for the members of our Church Family previously mentioned and include: **Walter McNall** who is at home recovering from surgery; **Natasha Wen's father, Professor Chen**, in Taiwan who had surgery; **Brett Renfrew and family** as he prepares for neck surgery; **Betz Collins** who is home from the hospital; **Sonya** at Taylor Meats who has stage four cancer; and **Virginia** who is also in need of prayers.

Ash Wednesday Services

There will be two Services on **Ash Wednesday, February 22**: The first will meet in the Chapel at 7:30 a.m. for the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. The second will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel and will include music with the Ashes and Communion. The Witness, delivered by Pastor Phil, will be "The Starting Line." Begin your Lenten experience on one of our holiest days in worship.

Music in Sacred Spaces

Please join us for the final installment in the **Music in Sacred Spaces**, the Church of the Good Shepherd Concert Series, for this season on **Sunday, March 4, at 3:00 p.m.** Due to lack of attendance and support, the concert series will be scaling back its offerings to only two concerts a year - one in the fall and one in the spring. Please help us keep this series alive by supporting it with your attendance and by helping us build the audience by spreading the word and inviting friends to attend. We have the exciting opportunity to hear world-class musicians in our own sanctuary and chapel, musicians that perform with all the major local orchestras as well as in our local major venues. Your attendance is absolutely crucial to keeping this series going, as it is through your attendance and support that the series is funded. We try very hard to program music that everyone will enjoy by making the programs varied with a little something for all of you.

This final concert of this season on **March 4**, features the "Brandenburg Concerto No. 5" by J. S. Bach - a work for solo violin, flute and piano accompanied by string ensemble. Inspired by this work, Long Beach composer, Jenni Brandon, has written a work for piano quartet (piano, violin, viola and cello) entitled "Meditations" which will see it's world premiere this weekend. The program will also feature a transcription for piano sextet by violist Michael Lieberman of the "Adagietto" from Symphony No. 5 by Gustav Mahler. A varied program, with music that transcends generations, provides you the opportunity to reach out to member of the local community and invite them to our church! A requested donation of \$20 will be taken at the door, \$10 for students with a valid ID. Thank you for your support and for your help to keep music alive!

–Timothy Durkovic, Director of Music Ministries

Come to the Cabaret!

Coming soon to Jordan Hall – it's the 13th Annual Cabaret by the CGS Youth Choir. This year, we celebrate the commitment to community outreach and hands-on labor as personified by our youths' participation in the Sierra Service Project. Our show, "Building Up, Looking Out," features music with theme of looking outside oneself and making connections to other people both locally and in the world at large. Please join us in Jordan Hall on **Sunday, March 11, at either 5:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m.** for a delicious dessert and some spirit song and dance. A free will offering will be taken to benefit this year's Sierra Service Project trip.

–Janice Clark, Director of the Youth Choir

Sierra Service Project Stock!

The Youth are selling SSP Stock after church on Sundays. This summer, the Youth will be going to the Susanville Rancheria to repair homes and do other community improvement work in the town of Susanville. The rancheria was established in the 1920's, and members are descendants of Maidu, Pit River, Paiute and Washoe Native Americans. Invest in a sure thing and the future....purchase SSP Stock!

Men's Weekend Retreat

United Methodist Men announce "Men Like Us!" The weekend of **March 23-25**, United Methodist Men will be gathering at Aldersgate Retreat & Cultural Center in Pacific Palisades for food, fellowship, and fun, with some serious study thrown in for good measure. They will be exploring men of the Bible. A brochure is available with more details. Look for the United Methodist Men outside Jordan Hall each Sunday, or contact **Dave Raymond** at 626-445-4766.

Walk to Jerusalem for Your Health

Our Walk this year is an opportunity to start or increase your activity. Stop by the table on the patio after church. We have a sheet that converts many types of activity into walk miles. Together we will be moving and feeling good in the process as we, as a Church, "Walk to Jerusalem" for Lent.

ARE YOU STARTING TO WALK OR EXERCISE NOW? Maybe you have been idle for a while? If so, put a red star on your form and **EARN DOUBLE MILES!** Red pencils are available at the table.

–Health Ministries

Jerusalem: Center of the World

Come see the video, "Jerusalem: Center of the World," and then discuss the award-winning video with Pastor Phil. The film tells the epic story of the world's most incredible city, capturing the rich mosaic of the city's Christian, Jewish and Muslim communities. Covering a sweeping history of over 4,000 years, the video explores the founding of the city; the birth and convergence of the world's three major monotheistic religions; the key events in Jerusalem's history as described in the Hebrew and Christian Bibles, the Talmud, the Hagaddah, the Koran, and the Hadith. We will watch the video in three segments beginning **Wednesday, February 29, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** in Jordan Hall and continuing on **March 7 and 14**. Each segment will be followed by discussion. Nothing to read in advance, so just mark your calendar and come and enjoy and learn!

Good Shepherd Bike Group is Riding

Training rides for the **June 9-10 Bike Tour** will now be **every Saturday** beginning in the west parking lot of the church at **7:30 a.m.** Come out and join the CGS Bike Group for fitness and fellowship. For more information, contact **Mark Renfrew** (mrenfrew@me.com) or **Diane Lucas** (dlucasarc@gmail.com).

Parenting Group

The Sunday evening Parenting Group will be having a Lenten Study this year. Pastor Phil joined the group on February 19 to lay the groundwork of a Bible based study focusing on parenting all ages (children to young adults). The group will be meeting every Sunday, ending on Sunday, April 1, in the Lounge off Jordan Hall at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. for time of praying, sharing, reflecting, and challenging themselves as Christian parents.

Simply...

In the newsletter last week, you read about two Lenten Studies that I, assisted by Pastor Steve, will be leading. Here is a reminder of the study opportunities we are offering for Lent:

The Sunday Evening Study (6:30-8:00 p.m. in the AEC) commences on the **1st Sunday of Lent, February 26**, and will conclude on Palm Sunday, April 1. The volume to be studied is a classic, "**The Cost of Discipleship**" by **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**.

The second study, coordinated by Harry Heflin and in cooperation with our unit of United Methodist Men, will be on the **Holy City of Jerusalem**. This three-part series will meet on **Wednesday, February 29, March 7, and March 14**, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Jordan Hall and will include the PBS Video on the sacred site. Plan to participate in both!

And, parents, the Parenting Group will be doing their own Lenten Study at **6:30-8:00 p.m.** in the Lounge on Sunday evenings. (See article above.)

-Phil

2012 Flower Chart

There are still many open spots on the 2012 Flower Chart in the Narthex of the Sanctuary. Sign up to give flowers "in honor of" or "in memory of" loved ones or in celebration of an anniversary, birthday, special event or accomplishment. The cost of the flowers is still only \$40 (payable to "Church of the Good Shepherd") and the church office will place your order with ZuZu's Petals of Arcadia and have the personalized message in the church bulletin on the appropriate Sunday. After the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service that Sunday, you are welcome to take your flowers home with you, or leave them to be taken to Methodist Hospital where they will be given to help cheer-up some folks who haven't received any flowers.

UMW Fund-Raiser: Sister Act II

Ladies, mark this date on your calendar now: **Friday, May 11, 5:30 p.m., Sister Act II**. Ticket sales begin Sunday, March 11, and we recommend buying your tickets early as we will have a limited number of tickets to sell and you don't want to be left out!

Website Changes

The Church website has been in existence since 2004. It has taken a few years to 'catch on' with our constituents, but today I can report that there is much interest in the future state of the site and its value as a Web Ministry for our Church.

We have recently had the site assessed by our website providers, and results were extremely helpful. The assessment measured the site's competence in terms of Search engine optimization, Content, Navigation, Presentation, Performance and Best Practices.

We received an 81% rating (out of 100 possible score). As such, we have some work to do and are in the process of starting that. The greatest area of opportunity identified was in the area of 'Navigation'. As such, the Website team will be addressing this area very soon.

The purpose of this article is to let you know that some of the information you regularly seek on the website may be located in a different place than you previously found it. The main difference will be in the Menu on the left hand side of the home page. There will be less 'selections' with items grouped at levels within fewer of them. Pages which have been unused/unvisited will be eliminated.

The goal of the changes is to increase the traffic to our site, and to enable us to provide new functions and items of interest to keep our Web Ministry vital and moving forward.

–Marcia D'Amore, Webmistress

Deadline for articles for the newsletter is noon on the Friday before the publication date.

The WORD

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*open hearts,
open minds,
open doors*