



Shepherd's Link

July 8, 2007

Good Shepherd • 16420 S Westland Drive, Gaithersburg, MD • 301-869-1780 • growinginministry.com

Volume 1, Issue 27

Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

Senior Pastor
Dave
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Support Pastor
Terri
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Mission

We are called to encourage and equip each other to give of ourselves daily—serving the Lord Jesus, each other, and our community.

Vision

We fulfill our mission when we teach each other to "live under the SHEPHERD" - to Shepherd for the Shepherd."

Discipleship

Following the "SHEPHERD"
We are equipped to be
God's Frontline Servant

- S - stewards (time, talent, possessions)
- H - hands on service
- E - education
- P - prayer
- H - hospitality
- E - encouraging others
- R - regular participant
- D - devotional life

Stephen Ministry

...New Leader Being Trained

Don Wernly, a current Stephen Minister trained with the second class of Stephen Ministers, will be traveling to Pittsburgh this month for a week of training to become a Stephen Leader. Don will fill the leadership role vacated when Ruth Parr and her husband, Al, moved to Oregon.

When Don retired from the National Weather Service a few years ago he wanted to become involved in visitations to sick and shut-in members of the church. Don felt led to use his gifts in this way because the church, especially Pastor Dave, was so supportive to him when he was fighting prostate cancer. Pastor Dave suggested Don take the Stephen Ministry classes to assist him in his visitation activities. Don did as Pastor Dave advised. He began taking the Stephen Ministry classes while visiting sick and shut-in members. Every week he continues to visit Good Shepherd members and relatives of Good Shepherd members who are living at the National Lutheran Home. He also visits others who are institutionalized or shut-in. Don also meets weekly with a care receiver who was assigned to him after he completed fifty hours of Stephen Ministry training.

Don will be the sixth Good Shepherd member to be trained as a Stephen Leader. Pastor Justin Lathrop, Walt Eccard, and I received training and began the Stephen Ministry program at Good Shepherd approximately five years ago. Two members of the first Stephen Ministry class, George Groninger and Ruth Parr, were trained to be Stephen Leaders when Walt Eccard retired to North Carolina. Their help was invaluable when Walt left the area and again when Pastor Justin accepted a new call to northern Virginia.

George and I look forward to having Don join the Stephen Ministry Leadership Team. His enthusiasm, positive attitude, and love of the Lord are infectious.

We at Good Shepherd are blessed to have the support of Pastor Dave and the congregation for Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministry is "Christ caring for people through people!"

Brenda Kessler Stephen Leader

Farewell to the Old Fellowship Hall



Sunday, July 8

Our long-standing and beloved Fellowship Hall was the first building to bear the name "Good Shepherd Lutheran Church" and served as the sole worship and education facility for many wonderful years. We invite you to a special event on Sunday, July 8 to celebrate and give thanks for the past, present and future blessings of this hallowed space.

5:00 -- Potluck dinner (see below) and Hamburgers/Hot dogs on the grill

5:30 -- Special activity for young children

5:30 -- Worship/celebration service in the Fellowship Hall

6:00 -- All gather for groundbreaking
Potluck dinner needs....if your last name ends in:

A thru I: Please bring a cold side dish

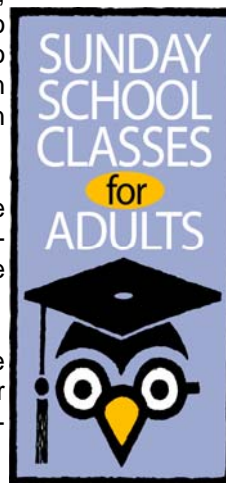
J thru R: Please bring a hot side dish (in self-warming container)

S thru Z: Please bring a dessert

Sundays, through July 15 -
Fellowship Hall -10:00 am
"If You Want to Walk on
Water, You've Got to Get
Out of the Boat" by John
Ortberg.

In *If You're Going to Walk on Water* John Ortberg teaches us how to step out of the "boat" of casual Christianity so that we can faithfully follow the Lord who is calling us out onto the risky, exciting waters of the high seas. Let Pastor Ortberg teach you how to

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Concerns

Annual School Supply Collection July & August



This important program organized by Community Ministry of Montgomery County (CMMC) helps low income children in our community get ready for school. Please spread the word & watch for upcoming sales on any of the following items:

new backpacks, 3-ring binders and dividers, spiral notebooks, marble composition books, wide-ruled loose leaf paper, 24-48per box crayons, colored pencils, pens, pencils, highlighters, markers, pencil boxes, pocket folders, glue, glue

stick, erasers.

Look for the school supplies collection box in the lobby area.

Do You Know.....

of a room to rent ? Elisabeth Light's friend, Linda, is looking for a room to rent. She works at King Pontiac on Rt. 355 near Shady Grove Road. She has her own transportation and medical benefits. She is looking for a furnished or unfurnished room. If you might be able to rent space to Linda, please call her on her cell at 240-483-2059 or call Elisabeth at 301-987-7682.

Hospitality Ministry

Reaching out to our brothers and sisters in recovery from addiction, just like any other disease, is our calling as ministers of Christ's church. For many years now, Good Shepherd has opened its' doors to individuals who are in search of the fellowship and understanding of others who, like them, know the pain and suffering of addiction to alcohol and other substances. Alcoholics Anonymous ("AA") was established in 1935 for the purpose of providing a place of anonymity where the open sharing of one's experiences with alcohol addiction is not subject to criticism and judgment; but rather where one receives encouragement and hope to solve a common problem. Participants follow a 12-step recovery program designed to methodically address and overcome the obstacles to recovery. Seven days a week, we have the privilege of hosting one or more 12-step recovery meeting groups, primarily for those suffering from alcohol addiction. Some of the groups are designed to help persons with dual or multiple addictions as well.

Over the years I have come to recognize many of the "regulars" who faithfully arrive each day to attend a meeting. By and large, they are dependable stewards of our facility and take seriously their responsibility to safeguard God's house. They are friendly, courteous and especially appreciative of our hospitality. Periodically, I receive notes of thanks included with monthly rent payments, made through the col-

Community Based Shelter

CBS Meals



ALERT....The staff at the Community Based Shelter has advised all supporting congregations that the shelter schedule has several summer weeks with no meals. If you would like to bring some bag lunches, a

portion of a dinner, or breakfast items (for a meal), CBS would love to hear from you!

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Cindy Hall @ 301-977-8022 or email: netcindy@aol.com to help out.

HELP

REMINDER:

Good Shepherd makes a special effort each June to help stock the **Germantown HELP** food pantry with peanut butter and jelly so that HELP is able to HELP low income families feed their children lunch during the summer months. **THERE'S STILL TIME TO BRING IN A JAR OR TWO OF EACH.** You will find a collection basket in the Helping Hands Corner near the church office. **THANKS!!**

lection of free will offerings at each meeting. Recently, one of the groups took up a special collection as a "love offering" to our church and delivered it to the office with a lovely thank you card. What a thoughtful gesture!

As someone who has become familiar with the program over the years, through the struggles of those close to me, I have seen firsthand the healing power of this "ministry." Meetings are usually adjourned with a time of prayer, followed by friendly fellowship and those in need reaching out and receiving guidance and support from a sponsor. The 12-steps of AA have much to do with surrender to and reliance upon God -- principles that all of us can apply to our daily living. We can be very thankful that God has used our home as a station of comfort and healing for those with this need. If you or someone you know is in need of the support of AA in this area, visit the local website at www.aa-dc.org, or call (202) 966-9115, or check our calendar for meeting times at Good Shepherd.

Updates

(Continued from page 1)

leave your comfort zone for a remarkable life of faith.

July 8 - "Good News for Cave Dwellers"

July 15- "Learning to Wait on Our Big God"

Each session includes a 15 minute video followed by discussion. Books available for \$13.00 and participants guide available for \$10.00. Purchase of books and study guide is optional. Even if you will not be available for the entire course, plan to come when you can. We'll be meeting in Room Z - the last room on the left on the upper level.

July 23 - August 26 - "NOOMA"- NOOMA DVDs are short films with communicators that really speak to us. Each **NOOMA** touches on issues that we care about, that we want to talk about, and it comes in a way that fits our world. Several new films have been released since the last time we ran the series, so be sure to join us as often as you can!

Every Single One

Saturday, July 21, 6:00pm - Saturday night at the Rio Center! Come join us for dinner/concert at the Washingtonian Rio Center. Meet at Good Shepherd at 6:00pm.

Sunday, July 29, 1:45pm - Tour of the Dennis and Phillip Ratner Museum in Bethesda. Meet at Good Shepherd at 1:45 pm (guided tour has been set for 2:30). Maybe late lunch/early dinner at Dave and Busters at White Flint afterwards? For more info regarding the museum go to www.ratnermuseum.com.

RSVP for both events to Joy Freund at 301-527-8719 or GSEVERYSINGLEONE@HOTMAIL.COM

Seniors/Retirees

Members and Guests of GSLC – 55 or Better

Tuesday, July 10, 1:00pm, Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 17, 12:30 pm Potluck Luncheon at Epworth Methodist Church. (Located next door and is handicapped accessible. They have been kind enough to offer their facilities for our monthly luncheons while we are under construction. Come and bring a dish to share. **Please park in the rear parking area and enter on the lower level. Someone will be at the door to show the way.**

Saturday, Aug 11, 2:00pm Picnic & swimming at the home of Janis Brose (Erick Erickson's sister), 11839 Enid Drive, Potomac, MD. The main entree will include Crabs, Bratwurst & Hamburgers. The Cost is \$15:00 per person. We have a limit of 35 people. if you did not sign up at the picnic and wish to attend, contact Erick at **301-309-1615**. All you need to bring is your swimming suit.

Arts Ministry

Are you an arts-n-crafts nut like me? I dabble in just about every art form and would love to hear about some of your favorites. My desire is to form a ministry arts program that utilizes the talents of our members in a variety of ways. Here are a few ideas

Knitting and crocheting – we had great success last year with the "Caps for Newborns" program...how about forming a prayer shawl ministry? I'd like to kick this off in September.

Sewing - our "Quilts for Love" ministry has generated numerous quilts in the last 3 years. Or perhaps you have some fresh ideas for how to use fabric arts in ministry.

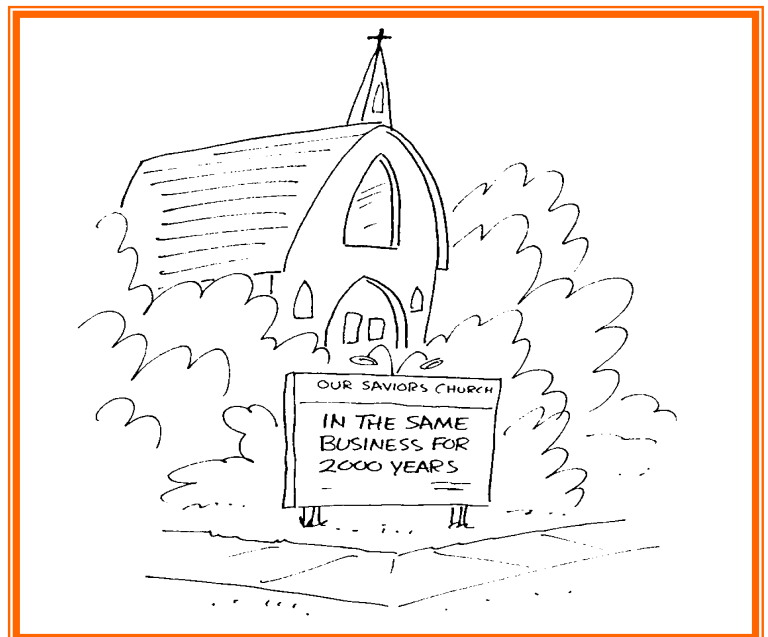
Banners - Wouldn't it be wonderful to adorn our new Sanctuary with new banners? I'll be looking to form a banner team in the coming year to come up with some ideas.

Painting and Graphic Arts – From time to time, we go on the search for talented artists who can create an eye-catching sign for inside or outside or who can add an artistic touch to a Sunday School classroom. Might this be your specialty?

Paper Arts – this has been a hugely popular art form in the last few years that could be used in a variety of ways... cardmaking, faithbooking, etc.

Floral and Garden Arts – have you taken a look at our sad, weedbeds..I mean..flowerbeds lately! They are crying out for attention. Once construction is completed we will absolutely need any of you with a green thumb to lend us your talents. Call me.

Please contact me with any comments or ideas you may have, especially if you have an interest in launching a particular arts endeavor. Let's put those talents to work! Vicki Schmidt, vickischmidt@goodshepherdonline.org; 301-869-1780.



Looking Ahead at Good Shepherd

Sunday, July 08

8:30a Worship
10:00a Worship
10:00a Sunday School
10:00a Adult Education
11:15a Worship

Monday, July 09

7:00p Social Ministry Mtg

Tuesday, July 10

12:00p Newsletter Deadline
1:00p Seniors' Steering Mtg
7:30p Praise Band

Wednesday, July 11

2:00p Staff Mtg
7:00p Stephen Ministry

Thursday, July 12

7:00a Breakfast Devotions

Friday, July 13

Saturday, July 14

Sunday, July 15

Fair Trade Coffee Sales
8:30a Worship
10:00a Worship
10:00a Sunday School
10:00a Adult Education
11:15a Worship

Monday, July 16

Tuesday, July 17

12:00p Newsletter Deadline
7:30p Praise Band

Wednesday, July 18

2:00p Staff Mtg

Thursday, July 19

7:00a Breakfast Devotions

Friday, July 20

Saturday, July 21

Sunday, July 22

8:30a Worship
10:00a Worship
10:00a Sunday School
10:00a Adult Education
11:15a Worship

Monday, July 23

Tuesday, July 24

12:00p Newsletter Deadline
7:00p Women's Book Club

7:30p Praise Band

Wednesday, July 25

2:00p Staff Mtg

Thursday, July 26

7:00a Breakfast Devotions

Friday, July 27

Saturday, July 28

Sunday, July 29

8:30a Worship

10:00a Worship

10:00a Sunday School

10:00a Adult Education

11:15a Worship

Monday, July 30

Tuesday, July 31

12:00p Newsletter Deadline

7:30p Praise Band

Wednesday, August 01

2:00p Staff Mtg

Thursday, August 02

7:00a Breakfast Devotions

Friday, August 03

Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, August 04

Wedding

Sunday, August 05

8:30a Worship

9:30a Blood Pressure Scrn

9:40a Children's Choir

10:00a Worship

10:00a Sunday School

10:00a Adult Education

11:15a Worship

Monday, August 06

VBS at Mill Creek Church

Tuesday, August 07

VBS at Mill Creek Church

7:00p Worship & Music Mtg

12:00p Newsletter Deadline

7:30p Praise Band

Wednesday, August 08

VBS at Mill Creek Church

2:00p Staff Mtg

7:00p Stephen Ministry

Thursday, August 09

VBS at Mill Creek Church

7:00a Breakfast Devotions

Friday, August 10

VBS at Mill Creek Church

Saturday, August 11

Sunday, August 12

8:30a Worship

9:40a Children's Choir

10:00a Worship

10:00a Sunday School

10:00a Adult Education

11:15a Worship

Monday, August 13

7:00p Social Ministry Mtg

4th Tuesday Book Club

We met most recently at Jannie Flickinger's home to discuss *Shadow of the Wind*. It is always fun to go to her home, and we all seemed to have a 100% agreement about enjoying our book. Remember we take a break in July.

This is a list of our future books.

August -*River Cross My Heart* by Breena Clark

September -*Vinegar Hill* by [A. Manette Ansay](#)

October -*My Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards

November -*A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini (if in paperback)

January -*Bowl is Already Broken* by Mary Kay Zuravleff

February -*Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking* by Malcolm Gladwell

We will meet again on Tuesday, August 28th. We are planning also to go to the movie "Kite Runner" later next fall when it is released for our fun extra event.

Join us any time, contact Beth Cole at bwcole75@hotmail.com to be added to the information email list.



Acolytes "Disrobed" for Transition

As we prepare the building for construction of our new sanctuary, many items are going into storage because we either have no need of them while we are under construction, or because we need space for other things during transition. In this latter category, all of the acolyte robes have been packed away (to make room for other things that need to be stored in the sacristy during the next 12-18 months). This means our acolytes will serve us in their 'street clothes' starting this summer and continuing until we're in our new facility. Thanks for your understanding for our 'disrobed' acolytes over the next year and a half!

Shepherd's Link

Please email articles for the next Shepherd's Link newsletter to link@goodshepherdonline.org Each week during the month will highlight special areas; i.e., Pastor's column, social ministry, music, youth, etc. Deadlines are Tuesday before the publication date.