



Shepherd's Link

January 14, 2007

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

Volume 2

Senior Pastor
Dave
Sonnenberg

Support Pastor
Terri
Driver-Bishop

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

Building Update Forum Today, Sunday, January 14

The Building Committee invites the members of Good Shepherd to an information session in the Fellowship Hall today, Sunday, January 14 at 11:15 am or 12:15 am. A presentation of the elevation drawings of our proposed new facilities will be shared along with a sketch of the front of the new building. The building plans are moving forward and we are making good progress. A lot of work to go but construction is "in sight." Come and share in the excitement. And certainly keep up the giving. The generous giving of this church enables us to expand our facilities for increased witness in our community!

Annual Meeting Sunday, January 28

Please join us for the Good Shepherd Annual Meeting which will be held on Sunday, January 28. Annual Reports will be available in the lobby and on our website shortly. The meeting will begin at 1:15 pm with a chili, stew, salad, and dessert lunch at 12:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please note that the youth attending Work Camp this summer will be providing the food. There will be a free-will offering to help them raise some funds for their trip. Sign up in the lobby (on the clipboards) if you will be attending the lunch or contact the church office (301-869-1780 or office@goodshepherdonline.org).

Sermon Series

We continue our sermon series today (January 7- February 18), "Reaching out in a Pre-Christian World: Lessons for the 21st Century Christians from the Early Church." The series utilizes texts from the book of Acts. The sermons each week are posted on our web site www.goodshepherdonline.org.

C.O.W. Menu

Wednesday, January 17 the meal will be Spanish Paella, a mildly seasoned dish of either chicken or seafood slow cooked with saffron rice and topped with green peas, served with rolls,

butter and salad dressed of a light, citrus vinaigrette. A children's option will also be provided! Welcome Nikki!

Ministry Budget 2007 Presentation & Invitation to Hearings

It is with great joy, that **our church council will present to the congregation a balanced 2007 Ministry Budget of \$890,000.** This balanced budget will be voted upon at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28.

The budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting in broad ministry categories as opposed to line by line format. The broad categories were presented in the Stewardship Campaign Mailing in November and included:

1) Social Outreach and Benevolence Ministry; 2) Worship and Music Ministry; 3) Christian Education Ministry; 4) Children, Youth and Family Ministry; 5) Evangelism and IT Ministry; 6) Parish Life Ministry; 7) Property and Facilities Ministry; and 8) Administrative Support for Ministries. Amounts for each segment include allocations for professional program staff compensation, benefits, and expenses.

This is the same method presented last year, a method we found very helpful. It allows us time at the Annual Meeting to celebrate the past year's ministry, look forward to the excitement of how we will live out our mission in 2007, approve our budget for ministry, and give thanks for the chance to be partners in ministry. **If you have detailed questions about specific areas within the larger budget, we want to answer them!** We invite you to come to the budget hearings that will be held next Sunday and ask your questions there!

For those who want to preview the budget in line-item fashion and who want to ask questions, there are two opportunities available to you. **Please join us Sunday, January 21 at 11:15 am or 12:15 pm in the Fireside Room.**

Good Shepherd, growth is occurring in our church because people are taking their faith seriously, we are welcoming new people, and as a church, we are challenging ourselves "to be more than we are right now." Thanks in advance for your participation in these important meetings.

Every Single One A Ministry for Singles

Saturday, January 20, noon - Lunch and movie at Washingtonian Rio Center in Gaithersburg. Meet at church. RSVP to Joy Freund at 301-527-8719 or gseverysingleone@hotmail.com

Sunday, January 28, 6:00 pm - Dinner at Red Lobster, meet at church and RSVP to Joy Freund at 301-527-8719 or everysingleone@hotmail.com.

Sunday, February 4, 6:00 pm - Super Bowl Pizza Party at home of Joy Freund. Not a potluck this time folks! Cost is \$5.00 per person. RSVP to Joy at 301-527-8719 or gseverysingleone@hotmail.com.

Seniors/Retirees

For everyone age 55 or better

Tuesday, January 16, 12:30pm - Potluck Luncheon, Ring in the New Year with joyful friends. Please bring a dish to share. We'll have a short presentation by the "Just Come" Team 3, who have just returned from Florida.

Tuesday, February 13, 1:00pm - Steering Committee

*Wednesday, February 14, 9:00am - possibly a trip to Church of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC. Contact June Bingaman 301-869-1231.

Seen and Herd

Have you seen or heard something that has inspired your faith journey? Write out a short summary to share with the congregation. Send your article link@goodshepherdonline.org.

Welcome Pastor Terri! Please read about Pastor Terri in the bulletin insert.

We also welcome Gilda Oneto as our new nursery assistant, please stop by the nursery to greet her today.

Smith Concert Presents

Smith Concert Series will present Nancy Mulholland, flute, on a recital Saturday, January 20, 2007. She will be assisted by Kimberly Blanchard, piano, and Benjamin Mulholland, horn. You may remember Nancy, a former member of Good Shepherd. She will perform works by Tittl, Marais, Kronke, Faure and Ewazen. A reception will follow the concert.

Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministers continue to meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Continuing Education is held from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Supervision/support teams meet from 8:00 to 9:00 pm. Check out our webpage under Ministries, Small Groups,

January 24 and February 14 parts 2 and 3 respectively of "Ministering to Those Experiencing Losses Related to Aging" will be the topic of discussion.

Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to individuals in our congregation. They are trained Christian friends who are ready to support those who are facing challenges in life such as loss, divorce, illness, loneliness, aging, pregnancy, relocation, and many more.

Fourteen of our congregation's Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders are currently meeting with members. If you are interested in meeting with a Stephen Minister for one hour each week please call George Groninger, 301-926-6363; Brenda Kessler, 301-963-5910; or Ruth Parr, 301-977-7652; Stephen Leaders.

Determine Your Prostate Cancer Risk

According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), 1 in 6 men will develop prostate cancer. The following groups of individuals are noted to have a higher risk: men over 50, African-American men, and sons, brothers, and fathers of men with a history of prostate cancer.

TESTING: Prostate-specific antigen blood testing (PSA) and rectal examinations are useful in the early detection of prostate cancer. For males age 50 and over (or males age 40 and over with increased risk), discussion with a physician regarding the risks of and benefits of testing is warranted.

PREVENTION: According to the ACS, healthy lifestyle patterns may provide some benefit in the prevention of prostate cancer. The following is recommended: limited consumption of animal fat and increased consumption of lycopene (antioxidant found in pink grapefruit, watermelon & tomatoes). It is also recommended that prior to the use of dietary supplements, discussion should be held with your physician as it is thought that some supplements may possibly increase risk in some individuals.

Source: Vitality, Issue #4, 2006

Women's Ministry News

Many thanks to all who contributed a knitted or crocheted cap to benefit Save The Children's Caps to the Capital drive. An overwhelming total of 243 caps were collected and will surely benefit many around the world to help battle infant deaths from SIDS and other diseases. Talks are underway for ways we can continue to share our needlework.

In the meantime, join the Quilts for Love Ministry on Thursday evenings throughout January. Come anytime 6:30-9:00 pm to help cut squares, iron fabric, arrange quilt blocks, sew, knot and bind. Any help is appreciated, no special skills required. An enjoyable fellowship opportunity too! Quilts will be delivered to Lutheran World Relief this spring.

The next Dinner and Movie Night Outing will be held on Saturday, January 20. We'll be meeting at Regal Cinemas in Rockville, just a few miles south of the church. Stay tuned for details.

to read about our wonderful Women's Retreat last fall and see photos.

Questions or ideas concerning Women's Ministry Programs? Contact Vicki Schmidt at vickischmidt@goodshepherdonline.org.

Position Opening **Part-time Ministry Developer**

The Ministry Developer role is a Lay position designed to help support and enhance the "programming side" of the church. "Develop" means "make grow" often through working, teaching, training, preparing, educating, facilitating, nurturing. Through careful dialogue and planning with our staff leadership team, the Ministry Developer will focus their attention on key areas of ministry priorities that would clearly be enhanced with "extra attention and focused leadership." This position is intentionally flexible and will evolve based on our church's changing needs. Thus, the person in this ministry role must be creative, well rounded, flexible, have a passion for Christian ministry, and good leadership and training skills.

Interviews for the role of part time Ministry Developer will begin in early February. For a job description and/or to submit a resume, please contact Tom Turner, Personnel Chair at 301-253-6514 or tturner@myshorelink.com.

First Communion Instruction

Attention Parents of First Graders (and older students who have yet to receive first communion instruction): First Communion instruction is coming! It will be an interactive and fun experience as we help prepare our youth for an important milestone in their lives.

In just a few weeks, we will begin our instruction for First Communion. It will occur on *Wednesday evenings, January 31, February 7, and February 14 from 6:45-7:40 pm* in the Fellowship Hall as part of the Wednesday evening COW program. Parents are encouraged to be a part of the instruction time. Families are invited to join us for the evening meal which begins at 6:00 pm (Note: please sign up for the dinner in advance each week on the clip boards in the lobby or by emailing the church office at office@goodshepherdonline.org).

First communion will occur on Sunday, February 18 at either the 8:30 or 11:15 am service. A special time of pictures and a fellowship brunch will occur between those services to commemorate this special occasion for the children and their families.

A letter will be sent to prospective participants. If you are new to Good Shepherd, please let us know of your child's desire to participate. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave. If you know you will be there, simply call the office, 301-869-1780, or email.

Youth Activities

Elementary Youth News

C.O.W. Kids Club

Wednesdays, 6:45-7:40pm

January 17-Montgomery County Humane Society Guest Speaker. Learn about this wonderful organization and how they are helping animals.

January 24-Service Project- Pet treats and toys for the animals at the Society.

January 31- Thank You Craft Night!

February 7-It's Game Night. Join us for some wacky games including swimming hearts. Please wear clothes to get dirty in.

Fellowship and Learning Event

Winter Beach Party!

Monday, January 22, 9:00-4:00pm

Please bring a beach towel and feel free to bring a pair of shorts and sandals.

Cost is \$6 per person. Sign up by Thursday, January 18!

Sunday, February 4, 12:30-3:30pm- We're off to the Montgomery County Humane Society to deliver our goodies we made in kids club and to take a tour of the facility. Please join us even if you were unable to help make the goodies. We will have a free lunch before we leave for our visit.

Confirmation Youth

Saturday, January 20, 9:45am-12:15pm

Youth Volunteer Sunday at Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County. Sign up by **tomorrow**.

Middle Youth & Senior High

Tomorrow, Jan 15, 9:30am-5:00pm - Change in plans, see back page for details!

Senior High Youth

Once-a-Month Bible Study-The Losers Club

Contact Laura if you need a ride to your small group.

January 16, 7:00-8:00pm- Starbuck's in the Great In-door (off of Shady Grove Rd). Perfect for the Gaithersburg and Rockville peeps.

Tuesday, February 6, 7:00-8:00pm- Small group Bible Study at the Mt. Airy Coffee Shop. A perfect Bible Study for all who live in Damascus. Remember bring your Bible and the coffee is FREE! We'll be continuing our study of Loser Club: Lessons from unlikely heroes of the Bible.

Tomorrow, Jan 15, 2007 9:30am-5:00pm - Change in plans, see back page for details!

Work Camp Crew 2007—Hosting the Congregational Meeting lunch on Sunday, January 28, 12:30pm. Sunday, February 4, 9:00-10:00am—Work Camp Mtg.

Contact Laura Albanese for youth events: 301-367-7782
laura@goodshepherdonline.org

Looking Ahead at Good Shepherd

Monday, January 15

9:30a Middle & Sr. HS Event (see below)
5:30p Bells of Joy
6:45p Shepherd's Bells
7:00p GS Chimers
8:00pm GS Ringers

Tuesday, January 16

12:00 Newsletter deadline
12:30 Seniors' Luncheon
7:30 Building Committee

Wednesday, January 17

6:00 C.O.W. Dinner
6:45p Kids Club - Humane Society
6:45p Adult Small Groups
7:45p Worship

Thursday, January 18

7:00a Breakfast Devotions
10:00a Sisters In Grace
6:30p Quilts for Love
7:30p Chancel Choir

Friday, January 19

7:30 2x4 Dancing

Saturday, January 20

9:45-12:15 Middle Youth Event

Lunch—EverySingleOne's Lunch & Movie Event
Dinner—Women's Movie & Dinner Event
8:00p Smith Concert

Sunday, January 21

Fair Trade Coffee Sales
8:30a Worship Service
10:00a Sunday School
10:00a Adult Sm Gps—Parenting, Transformation, Acts
10:00a Worship Service
11:15a Budget Forum
11:15a Contemporary Worship Service

Monday, January 22

9:00-4:00 Elementary Youth Event
1:00 & 3:00 Lord's Table
6:45p Shepherd's Bells
8:00p GS Ringers

Tuesday, January 23

12:00 Newsletter deadline
6:30p Women's Ensemble
6:30p Quilts of Love
7:00 Women's Book Club
7:30 Praise Band Practice

Wednesday, January 24

6:00 C.O.W. Dinner
6:45p Kids Club - Humane Society
6:45p Adult Small Groups
7:00p Stephen Ministry
7:45p Worship

(First Communion continued)

let us know of your child's desire to participate. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Dave. If you know you will be there, simply call the office, 301-869-1780, or email, office@goodshepherdonline.org.

Plans Changed Middle & Senior Youth

Monday, January 15, 9:30am-4:00pm- Due to the lack of snow and the forecast for weather on Monday, we're changing our plans. Join us as we head over to Rockville Indoor Ice Rink for an hour and half session, then off to Rio for lunch and movies to see 1:20pm show, Freedom Writers (rated PG-13 for violent content and some thematic material and language). We'll return to the church for a short discussion of the movie. Parents: pick up is 4:00pm. Please bring \$15 to help cover cost of movie and skating rental and bring money for lunch (\$10ish).

Simple Affordable Home

You may qualify to buy a simple, decent and affordable home. Application sessions for Habitat for Humanity begin Monday, January 18, 6:30-9:30pm. Call 301-990-0014, x 26 by Tuesday, January 15 to register.

New Classes—Sign Up Now!

It's not too late! Three new small groups began meeting last Sunday, but it is not too late to join in. The classes run through Sunday, February 11, so even if you will not be able to attend every session, come and be a part of it as often as you can. We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity for good conversation, making new friends, and strengthening your faith. Check out the offerings at our website, www.goodshepherdonline.org, choose "Ministries", then "Christian Education", and lastly "Adult Education" from the left side-bar menus.

You're Invited to a Baby Shower!

Women of Good Shepherd are invited to a baby shower for Connie Mitchell (our contemporary service graphics tech) on Saturday, February 10, 2007, from 2:00-4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Tuesday, January 30 to Anne Crawford (anne_crawford@hotmail.com), Marilyn Branton (brantonmarilyn@comcast.net) or Danette White (danettew04@yahoo.com). Come for food, fellowship and a chance to wish Connie well on her soon-to-be born daughter, Sylvia Marie!