



Shepherd's Link

September 6, 2009

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

Volume 3, Issue 36

Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church



Senior Pastor
Dave

Sonnenberg
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Associate Pastor
Jon Hundt
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Summer

Sunday Worship

9 a.m. Traditional

11:15 a.m.
Contemporary

10 a.m.
Sunday School for All

Thursday Worship
7 p.m.

A FAMILY WHO PLAYS & STAYS TOGETHER

By Penny Risen

When people move to town, they list finding good schools, doctors, restaurants, spots for recreation right up on the top. Many add finding a welcoming church family to that priorities list. We all need a sense of community, and finding a place to nurture our families' spiritual life is a great blessing.

Since joining Good Shepherd's family in 1990, our three sons have been involved in lively and sometimes challenging Youth activities. In addition to Sunday School, musical groups have given all three boys the chance to grow creatively. When this Summer's ELCA Youth Gathering Team traveled to New Orleans, our 17 year old was excited to hang out and serve for an entire week with kids he's known since elementary school. Yes, the Good Shepherd Youth program's been a huge blessing to us.

If you and your family haven't become involved yet, you have my personal invitation to do so this Fall. Send your kids and invite their friends for fun outings as well as service. Say you'll chaperone or drive for a trip — they are great times, take it from me as a parent.

We staff will do our part to keep you informed, so you can be involved! Our families with children at least 2 years old through High School Youth will receive a special **Youth Link Newsletter** in the mail this coming week. Extra copies for anyone will be available on the Welcome Center, and we'll post it and updates on our Web site.

Inserted in Youth Link is a full-page, September through December Youth & Family Calendar of outings and events, as well as Youth music group rehearsal times and a sneak preview of Christmas Pageant plans. Check it out, keep it handy, post it on your fridge! Planned for September, our Sunday, Sept. 13 Rally Day Picnic for the entire church family (see Page 4) — and more:

— **Upper Elementary Youth: Duckpin Bowling & Kids Day Off.** Monday, Sept. 28, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Youth Room. A \$10 fee covers lunch and bowling, plus

REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

RETURNS ON SEPT. 13

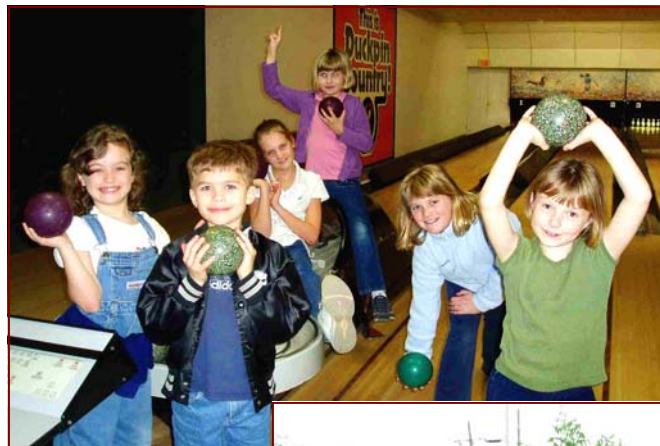
8:30 and 10 a.m. Traditional

11:15 a.m. Contemporary

10 a.m. Sunday School for All

~ ~ ~

12:30 p.m. Rally Day Picnic
Next Sunday in Shepherd's Hall



Can you identify these kids above at a Youth outing circa 2005? The six and their families still share in worship, service & fellowship at Good Shepherd. Two are pictured again in July, as part of a Youth Gathering Team clean-up in New Orleans' damaged Ninth Ward.



we'll play games, see a DVD and do crafts. Grades 3-5, sign up with Pastor Jon: pastorjon@goserve.net

— **Middle School Confirmation Youth: Retreat at Camp Kirkenwald**, Friday at 4 p.m. through Sunday, Sept. 18-20. Parents: Contact Frances Foltz if you can drive, chaperone or organize meals — 301-869-1780.

— **High School Youth: Awakening Festival Concert**, Saturday, Sept. 26, from 10 a.m., with a lock-in through worship Sunday, Sept. 27. Reserve spot with Pastor Jon.

**ON SALE TODAY
BY OUR TEENS:
P.J. Pizza Cards**



Help our Youth Gathering Team with this great deal — Papa John's Fundraiser "Buy One, Get One" Cards. Purchase a pizza card in the Lobby today between worship services; on Sundays throughout September; from any High School Youth, or contact Pastor Jon in the Office: pastorjon@goserve.net.

Here's how the \$15 card works: For every large carryout pizza a person buys, he or she receives a free large pizza of equal or lesser value. The card is good to October 2010 at 50 MD, VA and DC Papa John's, and pays for itself with one order.

A hefty \$10 of each card sold goes to church and helps defray remaining costs of July's mission trip to ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

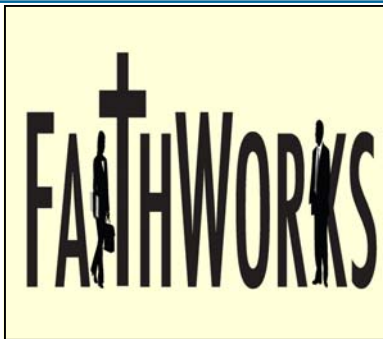
Learning & Serving

THANK YOU, TEACHERS

We offer our appreciation to all those who contributed to our fun, service-focused Summer Sunday School. Elementary grades staff were: Teresa Bowen, Elise Bowman, Frances Foltz, Kim George, Kim Helmey, Micki Hultquist, Danielle Laffman and Vicki Schmidt. PreK staff were Marion Mengedoht, Philip Meuschke, Stella Munuo, Solveig Peteron, Analise Setorie and Danette White.

— **10 a.m. Adult Group: Creative Crafts Caring & Sharing Ministry.** Crafters are working on Christmas stockings for Holiday Giving of Gaithersburg. Work on a project here, or gather a materials kit to stitch at home. Contact CCCSM group leader Vicki Schmidt, vicki@goserve.net, or Carole Weikert, cweikert@wap.org. **In Room 209.**

— **No Sunday School today for children or adults.**



AN EXPLORATION
IN BOOK OF JAMES

WORSHIP SERIES
AT GOOD SHEPHERD
8/30 — 9/28

Sept. 13: Sunday School Rally Day for All

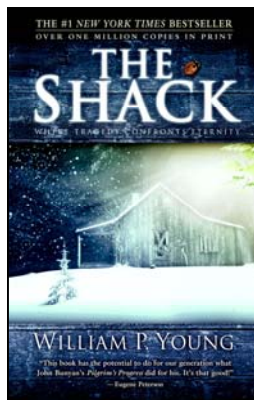
Sunday School begins for all ages at 10 a.m. Please take your students directly to classes in Upper and Lower Education Wing. Signs will direct grades/age groups. Questions or concerns, contact Frances Foltz, frances@goserve.net

New Series Begin in September for Your Journey of Faith

FOR ALL ADULTS

"Finding God in the Shack"

When & Where: 10 a.m. Sundays in Shepherd's Hall
Offered: Sept. 27 through Nov. 1
Leader: Dan McDermott
Cost: Buy a paperback locally, or reserve a copy for \$10 at email listed below. Why not start reading now to be ready for class?



Turn out for our discussion of this remarkable Christian-themed novel by William P. Young. You'll be surprised at the new ways you'll look at the face and nature of God. Insights Good Shepherd classmates share are always thought-provoking.

For information: Adult Education Chair Meredith Walters, walters630@aol.com

Pr. Foltz's Bible Study & Forum

"What Do We Believe?"

When & Where: 10:30 a.m. Thursdays in Room 200
Offered: Sept. 10 through Dec. 17
Leader: Pastor Fritz Foltz
Cost: No course fee

Pastor Fritz Foltz's always lively, challenging study group begins Sept. 10 with a series of discussions on "What do we believe?" All will find the give-and-take of this group invigorating. Pastor Foltz explains: "The hope will be to get beyond the superficial to the truly profound meanings that relate to our everyday lives. We'll begin with Creation and move to Sin" during the weekly sessions. Details to come on Pastor's Fritz's next online Bible study.

For information: fritzfoltz@embarqmail.com



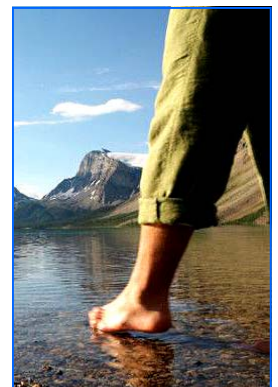
FOR SPECIAL INTERESTS

Men's Study & Fellowship "Comprehending God in Adversity"

When & Where: 7:30p.m. Tuesdays in Lobby Library
Offered: Sept. 15 through Dec. 5
Leader: Marlin Strand
Cost: No materials fee, but men can pick up the best-selling paperback of "The Shack," which will be referenced in discussion by this group.

Take the first step in a new relationship with God — join in! This very popular and approachable men's group is back, kicking off with an overview of plans and fellowship on Tuesday, Sept. 15. They'll spend an eight-week Session One Sept. 22 through Nov. 10 on "Confronting the Triune God." Session Two from Nov. 17 draws life perspectives from contemporary theologians.

For information: marlinstrand@aol.com

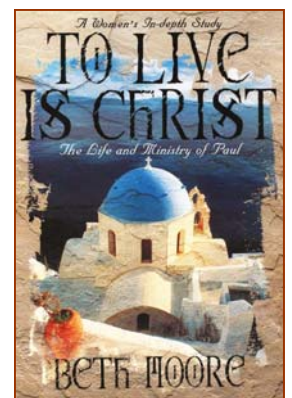


Women on Wednesday

"To Live Is Christ: Life and Ministry of Paul"

When & Where: 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays in Shepherd's Hall
Offered: Sept. 9 through Nov. 18
Cost: \$20 materials fee; cash or check payable to GSLC

"To Live Is Christ" by Beth Moore is an 11 week, in-depth study of the life and ministry of Paul. Reserve your spot now. Come join this welcoming group of women, not only to discover Paul but also to form lasting friendships in faith. **For information:** Leader Stephani Eaton, stephanieaton@msn.com.



(More groups described on Page 4)

Looking Ahead at Good Shepherd

Sunday, September 6
World Hunger Sunday
Summer Schedule Ends;
No Sunday School

9:00a Worship
 11:15a Worship

Monday, September 7
Labor Day: Office Closed
Happy Birthday John Maisel

Tuesday, September 8
 10:00a Seniors' Steering
 6:30p Quilting
 7:00p Social Ministry
 7:30p Praise Band

Wednesday, September 9
 9:00a Quilting
 7:00p Stephen Ministry
 7:00p Women on Wednesday
 Bible study group begins

Thursday, September 10
 7:00a Breakfast Devotions
 9:15a Bulletin Folding
 10:30a Pr. Foltz's Bible Study
 7:00p Midweek Worship
 7:30p Chancel Choir begins

Fri., Sept. 11 & Sat. Sept. 12
Sunday, September 13
Healing Sunday;
Sunday School Rally Day;
Happy Birthday Carl

8:30a Worship
 10:00a Worship
 10:00a Sunday School for all
 11:15a Worship
 12:30p Church Picnic in
 Shepherd's Hall for all

Monday, September 14
 5:00p Bells of Joy
 6:45p Shepherd's Bells
 8:00p GS Ringers

Tuesday, September 15
 12:30p Seniors' Luncheon
 6:30p Quilting
 7:30p Men's fellowship &
 study

7:30p Church Council
 7:30p Praise Band
Wednesday, September 16
 9:00a Quilting
 7:00p Women on Wednesday

Thursday, September 17
 7:00a Breakfast Devotions
 9:15a Bulletin Folding
 9:45a Sisters in Grace
 10:30a Pr. Foltz's Bible study
 7:00p Midweek Worship
 7:30p Chancel Choir
Fri., Sept. 18 & Sat., Sept. 19
 Confirmation Retreat

Sunday, September 20
Stephen Ministry Installation
 8:30a Worship
 10:00a Worship
 10:00a Sunday School for all
 11:15a Worship

Monday, September 21
 5:00p Bells of Joy
 6:45p GS Chimers
 6:45p Shepherd's Bells
 8:00p GS Ringers

Tuesday, September 22
First Day of Autumn
 6:30p Quilting
 6:30p Preschool Back to
 School Night

7:00p Book Club
 7:30p Men's fellowship
 & study
 7:30p Praise Band
Wednesday, September 23
 9:00a Quilting
 6:30p Preschool Back to
 School Night
 7:00p Stephen Ministry
 7:00p Women on Wednesday
Thursday, September 24
 7:00a Breakfast Devotions
 9:15a Bulletin Folding
 9:45a Sisters in Grace
 10:30a Pr. Foltz's Bible Study
 7:00p Midweek Worship
 7:30p Chancel Choir
Friday, September 25
Saturday, September 26
 8:00a Synod Assembly
 hosted at Good Shepherd
3:30p Synod Worship —
all are welcome
 10:00a Awakening Music
 Festival & HS Youth Lock-in

Save These Dates



SEPT. 7: Good Shepherd Office is closed Labor Day.

SEPT. 10: Seniors / Retirees Trip to U.S. Marine Museum. GSLC bus leaves for Quantico, VA, at 9 a.m. Museum is free; only cost is lunch. Trip coordinator is Frank Walkuskie: 301-977-4236. **Coming up for Seniors:** Trip to an apple festival in

Pennsylvania on Oct. 10. Contact coordinator George Groninger: 301-926-6363.

SEPT. 26: Fall Synod Assembly. Good Shepherd members and friends are invited to the 3:30 p.m. worship service in the sanctuary, which will close the daylong ELCA event hosted in our facilities. For info or if you'd like to help with event hospitality that day, contact Penny Risen in Office: penny@goserve.net.

SEPT. 28 to OCT. 3: Photo Directory Appointments. Call Michele DeLuca in GSLC Office at 301-869-1780 to reserve for your spot with Olan Mills Studios. Photos will be taken in Education Wing.

OCT. 4-18: New Member Classes. The first session begins with lunch in Shepherd's Hall and an introductory talk by Pastor Dave from 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Oct. 4. Classes are 10-11 a.m. on Oct. 11 and 18, with acceptance in worship on Oct. 25. If you wish to join our Good Shepherd family, please see Pastor Dave or email him: pastordave@goserve.net.

JOYFUL NOISE! Join a Music Group

If you sing or ring bells — or wish to learn! — please come to rehearsals beginning this week for our many musical groups and ensembles. New members are welcome; no audition is required.

— **Chancel Choir, Thursdays, beginning Sept. 10 at 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the sanctuary.** An intergenerational choir which sings all styles of music during 8:30 and 10 a.m. Sunday services. Adults as well as Youth from age 13 are welcome. Choral experience is a plus, but not necessary. Childcare available until 9 p.m. sharp. Info from Director of Music Peter Schmidt: pwsch1@aol.com or leave voicemail at 301-869-1780 x107.

— **Bells of Joy, Mondays, beginning Sept. 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.** A five-octave hand bell ensemble for teens in Grades 7-12. Info from Director Lisa Foecke, lisafoecke@verizon.net or call her at 301-414-0075.

— **Good Shepherd Chimers, Mondays, beginning Sept. 21 at 6:45 p.m. in Room 209. (Joyful chimers seen at right.)** A three-octave hand chime ensemble for Grades 4-6. Contact Director Jeanne Wernly: wernly75@verizon.net or 301-330-5833.

— **Shepherd's Bells, Mondays, beginning Sept. 14 at 6:45 p.m. in sanctuary.** A three-octave hand bell ensemble for adults, beginner to intermediate skill level. Info from Director Ralph Bunge, ralphbunge@msn.com, or 301-424-1762.

— **Good Shepherd Ringers, Mondays, beginning Sept. 14 at 8 p.m.** A five-octave hand bell ensemble for advanced adult and teen ringers; directed by Jeanne Wernly, see contacts above.



Community

HELP WANTED ***Childcare Aides for Thursday Morning & Evening in Nursery***

Good Shepherd is looking for a person(s) willing to work in our Nursery on Thursday mornings from 9:45 to 11:45 a.m., while parents attend Bible studies in classrooms nearby. Children are preschool age and under. Pay is \$15/hour. The job begins in mid-September.



We're also looking for a caregiver in the Nursery on Thursday evenings from 6:45 until 9 p.m. sharp. This will enable us to provide care for small children during the 7 p.m. Thursday Evening Worship in Shepherd's Hall, as well as for children of Chancel Choir members during rehearsal. If interested in either or both jobs, please contact Vicki Schmidt in GSLC Office: 301-869-1780 or email: vicki@goserve.net.

Making a Difference for Babies in Need

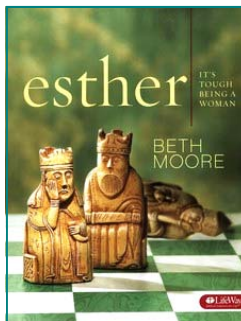
In order for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to invest in our community's children, we're partnering with Gaithersburg HELP and St. Martin's Catholic Church to collect things for infants now through Sept. 27. **Please help by donating:** Baby food Stages 1 & 2; disposable diapers (all sizes), and baby formula (all kinds). Drop off items in our Lobby near the Welcome Center. For details, contact pastorjon@goserve.net.

FAITH JOURNEY Groups Starting in September

(Continued from Page 2)

Sisters in Grace: "Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman"

When & Where: 10 a.m. Thursdays in Room 204/206. Childcare available from 9:45 - 11:45 a.m. in Nursery
Offered: Sept. 17 through December
Leader: Nancy Danielson
Cost: No course fee. Reserve a study guide at office@goserve.net or call GSLC Office.



This group of mothers with young children launches into the DVD-clip Bible study by popular Christian leader Beth Moore — "Esther, It's Tough Being a Woman." New members are always welcome in a group which shares God's Word as well as fun events with the kids!
For information: nfdanielson@msn.com or call 301-972-5230.

Phoebe Circle: "Psalms: Conversations with God"

When & Where: 9:30 a.m. on 1st Tuesday of each month in Lobby Library
Offered: Oct. 6 through June 2010
Leader: Betty Heflin
Cost: No course fee.

This women's group resumes a study of Psalms from a booklet started earlier this year. (New members can see Betty Heflin for an extra copy.) Later in the Fall, group study will focus on the Christian-themed novel, "The Shack" by William P. Young.
For information: Leader Betty Heflin, btbhef@comcast.net or you may call 301-926-7052.

Join Us Next Sunday for Rally Day Picnic

Burgers and hotdogs sizzling over grills on Shepherd's Hall deck, plus fun and games for kids!

We're planning a rousing start to Fall for our entire Good Shepherd family. Rally Day on Sept. 13 opens the new season of Sunday School for all ages as well as the return to gathering and praise after Summer's renewal, so we'll celebrate with food and fellowship. See you there and we'll catch up.



Please bring some food to share after Contemporary Worship, about 12:30 p.m. We'll provide the hamburgers, dogs (or vegetarian option) and drinks. Tell us what you'll make — side dishes, fruit & veggies or desserts.

SEND IN YOUR PIX

Share photos from your Summer during the picnic! We'll loop a slide show on the big screen. Email digital travel or just-plain-fun photos now: penny@goserve.net

LET US KNOW YOU'LL COME TO OUR PICNIC

SIGN UP at clipboard on the Welcome Center in Lobby, OR RSVP to penny@goserve.net. Please list which item you'll bring to share.

THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP

WILL BE OFFERED YEAR ROUND

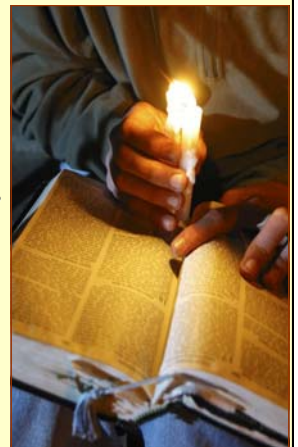
7 - 7:30 P.M. IN SHEPHERD'S HALL

Our simple Thursday worship which began as a Summer experiment is now offered each week

EVENING WORSHIP

INCLUDES:

- ~ Same sermon as coming Sunday
- ~ Holy Communion
- ~ Hymn singing with piano accompaniment
- ~ Casual attire welcome



JOIN US IF YOU'LL BE AWAY SUNDAY!

Shepherd's Link

Email news, ideas & photos for Shepherd's Link newsletter to penny@goserve.net. Each week we highlight special areas: ie, Pastor's column, Youth, Seniors, Green Ministry, Music Ministry, Service, etc. Deadline is Tuesday before each edition.