



Good Shepherd *news*

March 2017 | www.sactownchurch.com

This Month //

3/1/17—Ash Wednesday Services @ 11:00AM & 7:00PM in the sanctuary.

3/2/17—GSSA Gathering @ 11:00AM in the Fireside Room.

3/4/17—Men's Breakfast @ 7:30AM in the Fireside Room.

3/5/17—Resume Café @ 9:30AM.

3/5/17—Purpose Mapping Survey Results presented @ 10:00AM in the Fireside Room.

3/8/17—Lent Midweek Programming begins @ 5:30PM in the Fellowship Hall.

3/12/17—Parents' Café presents "The Shack" discussion @ 10:00AM in the Arden Meeting Center.

3/18/17—Pause: A Retreat for Women from 9:00-11:30AM.

3/19/17—Purpose Mapping Project Community Panel @ 9:30AM in the sanctuary.

3/22/17—GS Kids Choir begins @ 5:00PM in GS Kids Room.

Pastor's Message

The Priesthood of all Believers is one of the most important yet least understood concepts emerging from Martin Luther's Reformation activity.

Most Protestants assume that it means that any true believer can go directly to Jesus and personally connect to him by faith. You can do that but that was not the issue Luther was focusing on.

When Martin Luther brought forward the biblical doctrine of the Priesthood of all Believers he was trying to destroy the "caste system" of medieval Christianity. In his day, it was taught that those who were ordained into a ministry office or became monks and nuns were superior Christians to everyone else. This heinous assumption was attacked by Martin Luther who boldly taught that a mother changing the diaper of a child was doing the true work of God while a monk mumbling a private mass in some side chapel was only serving the devil.

Luther used scripture to validate the daily lives and faithful service of ALL Christians and the equality before God of all true believers.

It was revolutionary.

And yet in some ways this emphasis on the Priesthood of All Believers has failed to take full effect in Lutheranism. In so many Lutheran congregations the laity serve on committees while the "spiritual stuff" is handled by the Pastor and other trained professionals. Many Lutheran Christians would be incredibly stressed if they were made to counsel someone and then pray for them.

One of the things that impressed me about Good Shepherd when I met you is that

(Pastor's message continued on next page)



Pastor's Message Cont.

here the people of God give and receive spiritual ministry much more freely. This is one of our best strengths and during Lent we are going to grow it in our lives and unleash it further in our congregation.

Please participate in the Wednesday night program; let the Holy Spirit unleash your full destiny as a minister of Christ.

The greatest part of living is to be used of God to help someone experience Jesus.

You were saved to do this work and this is your time!

In Christ,
Pastor Todd Wallace

Official Church Acts //

Deaths:

Bruce Gibson 1/26/2017

Baptisms:

Scott Rammel 2/19/2017

Winifred Rammel 2/19/2017

Eleanora Monroy 2/26/2017

First Communion:

Corey Beebe 2/19/2017

Ivy Branham 2/19/2017

From The Council //

March 2017

The Joshua Project is underway. We thank all of you that have given your input via the online survey or conversationally with Kristin Wiersma. Your participation is essential to this endeavor. Several questions regarding the project have been asked that I will address.

Mission Statement, Vision Casting, Purpose Mapping, what are they? Simply stated, a mission statement is where we are, vision casting is where we want to go. Purpose Mapping provides the tools for clarity and focus on how we get there.

Why are we doing this? The following is from Good Shepherd's Bylaws:

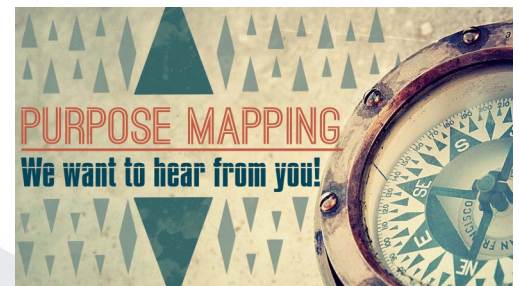
The duties of the Congregation Council shall include the following: (a) To lead this congregation in its mission, to develop and implement a written long-range plan, including goals and an implementation plan, and to evaluate its performance in light of its mission and goals.

This mandate would be a legalistic reason. However, there are other compelling factors involved. Leadership recognizes that Good Shepherd is a vibrant church with a long history and potential for growth, spiritually and physically. How do we remain flexible enough to adapt to a demographically changing environment? What legacy do we leave our children and their children? Are our ministries aligned to complement and enhance each other? How do we define and optimize our vision for the future yet respect the traditions of our congregation?

We will utilize the expertise, proven methodology and perspective of an independent third party as a resource. This Joshua Group consultant will use the input gathered from our members and other data to identify areas of affirmation, challenge and recommendations for future focus. Leadership will use this information to formulate a unique, appropriate and inspiring vision for Good Shepherd that will be presented to members of the congregation for additional evaluation and input. When our vision is affirmed, staff and leadership will create clear directives about where to put energy and focus regarding ministries, programming and budget development.

There is one more very important aspect to consider. A blogger said it quite well, "I would define vision casting as prayerfully and biblically leading a congregation to see how they might carry out God's plan for them to accomplish the Great Commission". Or as Pastor Todd said quite simply in his recent sermon series, "It's all about Jesus."

Yours in Christ,
Doug Stewart
Council President
stewartd@winfirst.com



Pray For Our Men and Women in the Military//

Ryan Baker * Heather Campbell * Joshua Cole * Matthew Cournoyer * Blake Fair * Daniel Harrison *

Michael Harrison * Zachary Jensen * Cody Johnstone * Alex Kraal * Kiel Lovekin * Cosme Munzo *

* Michael Nolan * Liam O'Brien * Matthew Sirko * Eamon Turnbull * Nathan Wallace * Christian Lucero *

Purpose Mapping Project Update//

March 2017

PURPOSE MAPPING
We want to hear from you!



The first step in the Listening Phase of our Purpose Mapping Project, the congregational survey, will close with a **summary of survey results presented by Project Consultant Kristin Wiersma on Sunday, March 5th at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room**. Thank you to the 270 Good Shepherd members who responded to the invitation to help strengthen our future as a congregation! We hope your participation has started you thinking about where God is calling our congregation, and helped you recognize and celebrate the good things going on at Good Shepherd right now.

Listening continues this weekend when more than 70 of our members will be privately interviewed by Kristin to share their hopes, dreams, challenges and vision of God's people at Good Shepherd, and with our **community listening panel on Sunday, March 19th at 9:30 am in the sanctuary** when our congregation will be blessed to hear from community leaders about the most pressing issues in the Arden Arcade area. This community panel discussion will deepen our understanding of the needs and concerns in our community as we define a ministry that is responsive to needs both inside and outside our congregation.

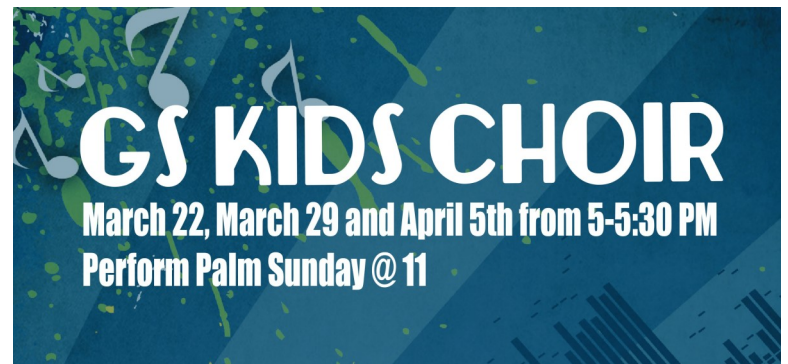
This project phase will conclude with a **review of Listening findings on Sunday, March 26th at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room**, after which Leadership will then begin work using identified areas of passion and energy, needs in and around our congregation, and strengths of our congregation to formulate a unique, appropriate and inspiring vision for Good Shepherd.

GS Kids//

GS Kids Choir: Calling Kid Singers Grades K-5!

GS Kids Choir is starting up during Lent for 3 sessions and a performance on Palm Sunday. Worship Director Jeff Schulz will be teaching the kids music basics, a worship song, and some pretty sweet hand motions.

Please sign up online and join us from 5:00-5:30 PM on March 22, March 29 and April 5 for rehearsals and on April 9 (at 11 AM) for our performance. Registration will be open at sactownchurch.com beginning March 6.



Help Us to Make VBS For Everyone!

Looking for a way to support kids in our congregation and community? Consider helping to financially support VBS.

The mission of VBS at this church is to provide a memorable and awesome experience with Jesus for kids in our congregation and community that is affordable for everyone. In order to make the experience awesome and memorable, we need your support.

Please consider donating at our \$500 (1), \$250 (2), or \$100 (5) level for VBS. You can donate as an individual, family, or as a ministry group. If you are interested in donating OR have questions about our VBS expenses or philosophy, please email Cathleen@sactownchurch.com.

iMPACT News //

iMPACT News //

Presidents' Week Camp

Staff spent 3-days (approx. 15 total hours) with 50 kids from the neighborhood. Thank you Good Shepherd for ALL your gracious food donations. The kids ate very well during our camp! We shared a total of 6-meals together and were able to send kids home on 2-days with personal lunch bags filled with fresh fruit, cereal bars and other snacks.

Volunteer Opportunities:

International Fair at Thomas Edison Elementary Fri., March 31st (5-8pm)—We love to support our local school by participating in this fun and special event that celebrates cultural diversity. Join staff and other volunteers to help set-up, cook and serve food, and/or clean-up. Contact me for more details and to sign-up.

Donations Needed- 100+ Deodorant Sticks



This month, we will be collecting deodorant for the middle school students at Thomas Edison. We are looking for new deodorant sticks (any size or scent) for both boys and girls. Please bring to the Giving Corner and drop off in iMPACT's donation box. We will collect on the following Sundays: March 12th, 19th & the 26th.



Shepherds' Field Garden—Plots Available

The garden is undergoing some updates with new leadership from IRC (International Rescue Committee). The chickens will soon be moved to their new 16'x42' run—and the lavender has been removed to make space for more plots/rows. With those changes, there's now room for a few more gardeners. Interested in plot? If so, contact me directly and I'll give IRC your request.

With gratitude,

Amy E. Smith

Director of Outreach Ministries
amy@sactownchurch.com



JOIN US FOR
COFFEE, TEA & TREATS
(FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH)

Resume Café is Sunday March 5th @ 10:00AM

March 2017

GIVING MADE EASY

You can now give from your smartphone in seconds using debit card, credit card or directly from your checking or savings account with our new service from Pushpay.

TEXT

Text 77977 with the message
GSGiving
Click the link in the response to make
a one-time or recurring gift

ONLINE

Go to sactownchurch.com
Click on the Give & Serve tab
Click on Giving Made Easy
Make a one-time or recurring gift

Kenya 2017 //

Dates	Location	Type	Cost
June 23 - July 2, 2017	Tawa	Family/Intergenerational	\$2,600 / person, plus airfare

If you are interested in joining your church on a mission trip to Kenya, or would like more information, email mallory@sactownchurch.com or fill out the interest form at sactownchurch.com. This is a wonderful opportunity for people of all ages!

GS Senior Adults//

March 2017



GS Senior Adults

MINISTRY

Senior Adults Gathering Thursday, March 2

11:00-12:20 in the Fireside Room following Bible study
Please bring a snack or bag lunch - drinks provided.
No sign up necessary!

Featured Program: PBS Video, "The Journey Ahead"



Please plan to attend this informative and thought-provoking program. In this video, which includes GS members Gin and John Edlund, "Courageous people share their personal stories of end-of-life decisions, hospice care, and how to navigate The Journey Ahead. A 17-year-old's organ donation wishes are honored, and five lives are saved. Meet the doctors, nurses, social workers, and clergy helping people move forward." The program includes Q&A with the Edlunds.

The GS Preschool Kids kick off the gathering with a few songs. What a joy!



Looking Ahead:

The next day bus trip visits **Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front, California National Park**, in Richmond, CA on **Wednesday, April 19th**.

Time: Leave from Good Shepherd at 9:30 am and return at 7:30 pm.

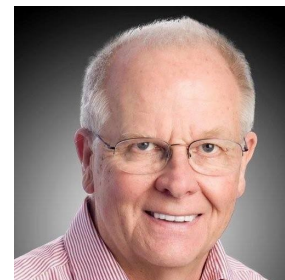
Cost: \$57.50 includes bus, the visit to the museum and a light lunch in Richmond, a side trip to Benicia and dinner at the Hometown Buffet in Fairfield on the way home.

"Explore and honor the efforts and sacrifices of American civilians on the World War II home front. Find out how they lived, worked and got along. Many faces, many stories, many truths weave a complex tapestry of myths and realities from this time of opportunity and loss."

To reserve your seat contact Lyla Hanson at 916-917-5187 or email lylahanson@aol.com.

Save The Date:

Pastor Joe Johnson will be here on **October 10 9am—3 pm**. Join us for a nice lunch as Pastor Joe inspires us along the theme of "staying fresh, fulfilling our destiny and embracing the 'elder' stage of spiritual maturity."



Giving Corner News//



saint john's
PROGRAM FOR REAL CHANGE

St. John's Shelter for Real Change is in need of **NEW** summer clothes for children. Size information will be available soon in the bulletin and at the Giving Corner. Your generous gifts are always appreciated and received with multiple thanks and hugs.

Many thanks to those who gave so generously to feed our Impact campers. We had an abundance of food and we are so blessed to partner in this ministry with all of you. **THANK YOU!**

IMPACT
Love God. Love Your Neighbor.

Good Shepherd Preschool //

March 2017



Dear Friends of the Preschool

It's hard to believe March is here. Your church preschool has three months left in our regular school year then we will begin our summer program.

We currently have openings for this school year and are accepting new enrollment. Please help spread the word about your church preschool.

This month we will also have our See's Easter Chocolate presale. The first Sunday to order will be March 12th, with opportunities to purchase on Sunday, March 19th and 26th.

Sunday, April 9th your church preschoolers will be part of the 11:00 am service to praise our Savior, Jesus. I hope to see you there.



Thank you to all who donate to your church preschool through Thrivent Choice Dollars, shop at Raley's/Bel-Air's Extra Credit program, or designate your offering to us. Your financial support is greatly appreciated.

Also thank you for all the prayers and cards sent to me as I was recovering from spine surgery. Your prayers and get well cards made a difference.

Sandy Oakes, Preschool Director

[916-483-0466](tel:916-483-0466)

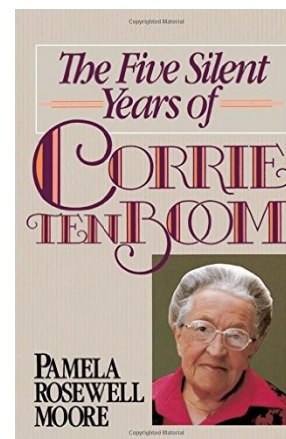
preschool@sactownchurch.com

Library Book Review// Submitted by Tom Brown

The author was the personal secretary and aid to Corrie from 1976 until Corrie's death, April 15, 1983. Pam was 32 and Corrie 83 when their companionship started. Both had a deep love for Jesus Christ. Pam was English, Corrie was Dutch. Corrie, born in Holland into a Jewish family, was the only surviving member from German concentration camps. With her strong belief in Jesus and love of mankind, she wrote the book, ***The Hiding Place***, which told the story of her family hiding in Holland until betrayed to the Nazis. The book's success launched Corrie into a worldwide ministry of speaking and book writing, always happy to share Jesus' love with others.

Corrie, sometimes called Tante, (Dutch for aunt), was living in Holland in 1976. Pamela, struggled to keep pace with the energetic 83 year old. A strong bond drew the young woman and the elderly Dutch evangelist/author close. The two moved to Shalom House in southern California in 1978 to be closer to Corrie's book and film agencies. "Father, let that great day soon come when Your Son comes on the clouds of heaven," was Corrie's daily saying.

Shortly after the move Corrie had her first of three strokes. Pam's duties switched to care provider. Their belief in Jesus got stronger. Despite losing her voice after the second stroke, Corrie continued to accept visitors and share the Bible verses by pointing at them in the Bible up to the day of her death.



The Good Shepherd Library is open on Sunday morning from 9:30AM to 11:00AM

Submission Information

Sign up for our weekly email by emailing your preferred email address to mallory@sactownchurch.com.
Submissions to Church News should be submitted by Wednesday at noon to mallory@sactownchurch.com.
Submissions to our Monthly Newsletter should be submitted to newsletter@sactownchurch.com.

THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS

WEDNESDAYS BEGINNING
MARCH 8 AT 5:30
ALL ARE WELCOME!

THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS

All are welcome to join us for dinner at 5:30PM. Then, at 6:15PM, we will start with a short time of worship in the sanctuary, then we will go to our assigned small groups for a time of getting to know one another, a chance to discuss with one another the topic of the evening, and then close in prayer, both with our small groups and with a special candlelit closing as a large group in the courtyard. Sign up today so we can get you into a group. We look forward to seeing you all on March 8!



Parents' Cafe Presents: "THE SHACK" - 5 WEEK DISCUSSION GROUP

Sundays 3/12-4/9 @ 10:00
in the Arden Meeting Center.
All are welcome!

PARENTS' CAFÉ PRESENTS: "THE SHACK"

This 5-week discussion group will be a spiritual conversation around the current movie, "The Shack," that is stirring up questions about God, faith, and theology. Join us at 10:00 AM in the Arden Meeting Center beginning March 12th. All are welcome!

Pause a retreat for women

Saturday 3/18 | 9:00-11:30
All women are welcome!

PAUSE: A RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Will be taking place on Saturday, March 18th from 9:00 — 11:30 AM. This mini-retreat is being hosted by (F)4. All women are invited to attend. Sign up at sactownchurch.com.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men are welcome to join us on Saturday, March 4 @ 7:30AM, for Men's Breakfast! We will see you in the Fireside room for breakfast and bible study.




REBECCA CIRCLE

Rebecca Circle will meet March 13, 2017 at 10:00AM at the home of Penny Zacher – directions by calling 488-4362. We are continuing with Ray Vander Laan DVD series. All women are welcome to join us!



Pastor Todd's new sermon series, **The Grace Awakening**, begins Sunday, March 5th at all services. Remember that you can go back and listen to any of Pastor Todd's sermons at sactownchurch.com on our "media" page.

Sunday Services at 7:45 am (Come As You Are), 8:30 am (Classic), and 11:00 am (Contemporary). Fellowship at 9:30 am. Educational Hour from 10:00am-10:45am: Adults (Fireside Room), IKON YOUTH (Ikon Room—6th-12th grade), Kids (GS Kids Room—age 2 thru 5th grade). Library open on Sundays.



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Contact Us

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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