
Agapegram

September 2018



ETERNAL SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Gifts to the Church

"[Christ] himself gave the apostles, as well as the prophets, as well as the evangelists, as well as the pastors and teachers, for the purpose of training the saints for the work of serving, in order to build up the body of Christ." Ephesians 4:11 EHV

This verse from Ephesians reminds us that God provides servants of the Word to His church so that the life giving Gospel of salvation in Christ would be known and that we would be prepared to live faithfully as His people. A similar point is made in 1 Corinthians 12 where Paul is speaking about God's giving of Spiritual Gifts and then, in verse 28 he states that some of those "spiritual gifts" are actually people (apostles, prophets, and teachers). So we find this truth in Scripture, that God considers *people* to be a gift to His church.

While the two passages above deal with "professional church workers", I think it is safe to say that the idea of people being gifts of God goes beyond called church workers. All of those people that the Lord gathers together in a local congregation are gifts that He gives one to another.

The scriptures use the imagery of believers being part of a body, but let's not miss the fact that parts of bodies are most certainly gifts. Having sight, hearing, hands, feet, etc. are all great gifts from God (Just ask anyone who had lost the use of one of those parts for a true appreciation of these gifts). So, when we speak of the body of Christ and see our fellow believers remember that they are also God's gifts to you.

It just so happens that the same Savior who gave you the gift of eternal life, is about to give you many more gifts. We've had quite a few new faces among us in worship since the New Year and many of them are joining as new members this month. Let's give thanks to God for these "gifts" to us as we welcome them warmly into our fellowship.

"Let us also consider carefully how to spur each other on to love and good works. Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have the habit of doing. Rather, let us encourage each other, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:24-25 EHV

Pastor David

Comfort Dog News

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.” 2 Corinthians: 3-4



The Comfort Dog team is eagerly moving forward as we prepare our hearts and minds toward getting the Comfort Dog and beginning this ministry. As we wait, we are trying to share this compassionate ministry with the community through presentations and attending public events. We are also getting our team positions in place so we are ready to go when we do get the dog. Although we still don't know when that will be, we trust it will all happen in God's perfect time.

On a related note, this summer, Rudy and I attended the Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dog Ministry Annual Convention in Northbrook, IL. It was an amazing event with 500 humans and 90 K-9s in attendance! The Hilton Hotel was a gracious host as we pretty much took over the whole place. It was unbelievable with 90 dogs attending the key note addresses, the worship services and breakout sessions that you never heard a peep from any of them (the humans made a whole lot more noise than they did!). Two days of learning, networking and sharing concerns with other like-minded Christians was very beneficial and well worth attending. We hope next year we can send more members of the team to experience this wonderful and inspirational event.

We have a few upcoming events in September as follows:

- **September 5 – Sue Blount and I will give a presentation to the Seneca Rotary Club**
- **September 7 and 8 – the team will be offering dog biscuits, bandanas and beanie babies at the Westminster Apple Festival. We will also hand out Comfort Dog Ministry brochures and share information with those who stop by our table – come see us!**
- **September 16 or 23 after late service – required Handler meeting – specifics of being a Comfort Dog handler.**

To date, we are about \$2400 short of our next goal which will secure our dog. If you have a heart for this ministry and want to help us reach our goal, please consider donating. You can make your check payable to ESLC with Comfort Dog ministry written in the memo line.

Thank you for your generosity, support and prayers! *Kyra Carbone, Top Dog*



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9TH:
HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH + PARENTS ARE INVITED to an information meeting for the 2019 NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING! Meet us in Room #300 after the late service for some food and see what the Gathering is all about! Contact Deaconess for more info or visit lcmsgathering.com for more details!



Deaconess Musings

Christ Is Everything

*Guard me, O God, for I take refuge in you. I say to the LORD,
“You are my Lord. I have no good apart from you.” ~Psalm 16:1-2 EHV*

Often times we find ourselves unsure. Unsure of the world. Unsure of our nation. Unsure of ourselves. Unsure of what is yet to come. Unsure of _____ (you fill it in). We feel the need to find assurance in things, people, places, and experiences claiming to solve all our problems and fears. We take actions that further seek to find confidence in ourselves, and to rely on personal feelings and thoughts as justification. And the result? We fail. Time and time again. That once shining and gleaming assurance turns to rotten and rusty despair or pride. And the vicious cycle begins again.

However, David, inspired by the Holy Spirit, writes in the psalm that in the Lord alone is found refuge and good. That sure and certain confidence we yearn for is found in Christ alone. Turning away from our idols of others, things, and ourselves, we see our failings and sins against our God. In His gracious mercy, our God does not leave us mired in the deep pit of our sin. Christ stoops down and picks us up, dusts us off, and proclaims the words we need to hear the most, “Your sins are forgiven. You are mine. I died for you. I rose for you. I will keep you forever.”

That, my brothers and sisters, is sure confidence. Your faith, given to you in your baptism and sustained by the very body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist, is in that same Christ. In no other place is your confidence found. He upholds your faith, strengthens it, and keeps it firm. Do not doubt it. For if Christ, our Creator and Redeemer, promises to keep you, it is done. Finalized over two-thousand years ago across the sea.



Kingdoms will rise and fall. Our feelings will wane and crumble. Christ is forever.

There is no good apart from Christ. But in Him, there is the forgiveness of sins and the promise of life everlasting. Amen.

~Deaconess Holly

SPECIAL FAMILY EVENT
“THE CHILD IN EACH OF US”



SOLO PIANO CONCERT featuring *Michelle Rowland*
at Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church

Friday, Sept. 21st at 7:00 PM

Please join us for a night of music during this special family event.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I pray that you all have had an enjoyable and safe summer so far. During this time of rest and relaxation, the Council has continued to be hard at work. I thank God for the men and women of Eternal Shepherd who have answered the call to serve as Council officers and Board chairs. They work hard and do it with joy which makes my job easier.

Here are a few items that were discussed at our last meeting:

Church sign - who would have imagined that getting a road sign would be so difficult? Bob Massa has been doing his best to get all the pieces in place and his tenacity is commendable. Miracles do happen so continue to pray that the church sign project will be completed in the near future!

Pastor Hammer has reached out to Rev. Mark Schroeder, District Facilitator for the Southern Region of the LCMS, who will work with us to develop a strategic plan for the future. Rev. Schroeder will be visiting with us in the near future to help us move forward with this plan. In the meantime, Pastor Hammer and I are forming a small ad hoc planning committee who will then meet with Rev. Schroeder to get this venture started.

Council has voted to adopt a Child/Youth Safety Policy for Eternal Shepherd. An ad hoc committee has been assigned to draw up the policy to be presented to Council and the Congregation for approval.

The slate of 2019 Council candidates was presented to council for a vote and all were approved unanimously. They are:

President- John Cochell
Vice-President- Pastor Phil McLain
Treasurer- Shannon Cox
Secretary- Debbie Krueger
Board of Stewardship Chair- Sue Hauser

Please come to the next Congregational meeting planned for November 18th, where you will have the opportunity to ratify this selection with your vote.

The United Way Read and Feed summer program was a huge success and they have indicated that they would like to come back next year to do it all again. Thank you to Cecil Murray and the Board of Outreach for overseeing the program and many thanks also to Nicole Beattie for her involvement as well.

As always, please take a moment to thank a Council member when you see them for their dedicated service to our church and to our Lord. Amen!

*In His Service,
Rudy Carbone
Council President*



ETERNAL SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Board of Stewardship Presents
MILE MARKERS ALONG LIFE'S HIGHWAY
A FINANCIAL PLANNING WORKSHOP

Saturday October 6, 2018

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Free Lunch

Guests Welcome

Has your world changed as you traveled by these predictable mile markers along Life's Highway?

Marriage Children Education Career
Senior Parents Grandchildren Retirement
Loss of a Loved One Kid's Education
Poor Health

Is the road always level, straight and smooth? Will your life change again? Be prepared – know the options! Recognize opportunities!

Speakers

Pastor David Hammer	A Biblical View of Financial Management
Thrivent	Thrivent Financial
Bob Massa	Financial Planning for Retirement
Sean Kelley, Dir.	Griswold: In Home Care
Rich Hesemann	Wise Spending and Credit Card Use
Kerry Blount	Young Adults Honoring God with Personal Finances
Scott Toussaint, Atty	Wills, Probate, Trusts, Powers of Attorney
Pastor David Hammer	A Pastor Speaks to the Issues of the Final Farewell

PLEASE SIGN – UP on the bulletin board so we have an accurate count for lunch.

If you are bringing guests, just sign your name with + 2 etc.

Looking forward to seeing you there,

Board of Stewardship ~Janet Walker, Sue Hauser, Luwanna Johnson, Donna Lang, Marilyn Robertson

All My Fountains

by Kerry Blount

“Listen!” My hiking partner, following about 15 paces behind me, stopped dead in his tracks and leaned forward expectantly, tuning his ears for some unusual sound. After a moment he shook his head and looked at me quizzically. I motioned for him to join me where I was standing, and resumed my own attentive stance. He came up quietly and cocked his head, bursting into a smile as he caught the unmistakable sound of trickling water in the boulder field just above us. Our water bottles were almost empty, and we both scrambled carefully into the huge rocks, looking for the source of the watersong. “Over here,” he called. Sure enough, he had found a little spring of water percolating from under the rocks and dropping into a series of small erosion basins; the water was crystal clear and ice cold (though we ran it through our filters before quenching our thirst and filling our bottles). “Ah, the elixir of life!” he said. And it was.

Our bodies were created needing clean, refreshing, life-giving water. In His infinite wisdom, God created a variety of sources of water to supply our physical needs: springs and fountains, streams and rivers, pools and lakes, rain and snow among others, all intricately tied to the cycle He established for recycling and replenishing the life-sustaining waters of the Earth.

Our souls were created needing pure, refreshing, living water. In His infinite wisdom, the One who made us provides a single, unique source for that essential substance: Himself. There is no other source. He reveals Himself to Jeremiah as “the fountain of living waters” (*Jeremiah 2:13 and 7:13*). To the writers of the Psalms He reveals Himself as the source of “the river whose streams make glad the city of God,” though there is no river in Jerusalem (*Psalms 46:4*), and as He who “gives them drink from His river of delights,” for He Himself “is the fountain of life” (*Psalms 36:8-9*).

If that wasn’t clear enough, He presses the point by getting personal. Immanuel takes on a human body and walks among us, informing the Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well that “Everyone who drinks this (well) water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (*John 4:13-14*). Then He went into the temple court during a major religious festival and said this: “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him” (*John 7:37-38*). And even after ascending back to heaven, He reminds the apostle John—and us—that He is the source of “the river of the water of life” that flows from His heavenly throne (*Revelation 22:1*).

So come; drink from the one Source. Allow His healing water to flow through you and bless the world with the vitality that comes from refreshing your soul with the water of life. Become a part of God’s great watersong, the music of living water springing up to eternal life.

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“As they make music they will sing, “All my fountains are in You.”

Psalm 87:7

Fountains – source / water from the rock / water “springing up” (John 4:14) / “river whose streams make glad the city of God” (Ps 46:4) – no river in Jerusalem / You give them drink from Your river of delights, for with You is the fountain of life (Ps 36:8-9)

“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” You are the source of the living water within me (John 7:37-38)

You are the river that refreshes the people of God wherever they may dwell

You are the source of the “river of the water of life,” which flows from Your throne (Rev 22:1)

“Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?” (James 3:11)

Jeremiah: “...they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters.” (Jer. 2:13 and 17:13)

“As they make music they will sing, “All my fountains are in You.” Psalm 87:7

In the desert of sorrow and sin,
Lo I faint as I journey along.
With the warfare without and within,
See my strength and my hope nearly gone.
I thirst. Let me drink.
Of the life-giving stream let me drink.
‘Tis the Rock, cleft for me.
‘Tis the water, the water of life.

O Thou God of compassion, I pray
Let me ever abide in Thy sight.
Let me drink of the fount day by day
“Til I join Thee in mansions of light.
I thirst. Let me drink.
Of the life-giving stream let me drink.
‘Tis the Rock, cleft for me.
‘Tis the water, the water of life.



Alaska Missions—Alaska, 2018 memories

PRAISE You, Father...PRAISE You, Jesus...PRAISE You, Holy Spirit...for your response to the Alaska Mission Team's prayer partners prayers; and to the prayers for the kids in pictures taken by ESLC kid prayer participants.

Just one example of my prayer partner: On Sunday, I shared my prayer partner, Elaine's, prayer for the mission trip with Pat, our team leader, who said we have to have the whole team aware of this beautiful powerful prayer. So we prayed Elaine's prayer with whole team and later in the week, on Thursday I believe, one of the college coeds came to me & told me how Elaine's prayer had been answered in her experience this week. Marissa had recently lost an extremely significant and long time Aunt Beka, who had been extraordinarily influential in every phase of her growing up years. Marissa, without her even asking, said that God brought another "Beka", an adult member of the team, into her life and Marissa credits Elaine's prayer for that replacement "Beka" from God!!!

On Monday a gentleman came to the church where the mission team was setting up for VBS. He introduced himself as John Stone, telling us he got a text from Shelly, a teacher in the Chevak school, who was on vacation for the summer. Part of the team was staying at Shelly's apartment and the whole team was preparing & eating meals in her apartment. Shelly, in her text to John, told him that the VBS team was in town and that he, John, should get food for the team. John took me to his home and gave us frozen salmon & chicken legs each enough for 15 people. John then took me to the store and bought hamburger patties, hamburger buns, condiments to feed 15 people and enough hot chocolate packets for the balance of the week. Because of our understanding of the cost of food in Chevak, we were overwhelmed with John's generosity.

137 kids showed up for the first VBS session and very soon joined the team in singing and dancing to Pat's music. They were animated at the Bible verses, Bible stories, skits and very participative in the review Q&A. Our teen leaders, including new team participants, who shared their individual life difficulties, were enthusiastically received by the village teens.

Seven years ago we had met Joe Jeff, when he was in a somewhat inebriated state, we gave him a Life Reference Bible and Jeff told me, later that 1st week, that: "My mom caught me reading your book"!!! This year, Jeff built a pool hall in Chevak. The teens and some younger kids come during the day, up to midnight, and adults, after midnight, come in the evening. Some of the teens look up to Jeff and have talked with him about their issues. Where the teens may get into trouble, Jeff has told them that he has "been there & done that", spent time in jail when he got into similar trouble and told them in no uncertain terms to stop those activities or they will wind up in jail as well. It was Jeff's birthday and I decided to take a chance and told Jeff that I had a birthday present for him, but that the present was unusual in that in order for him to use the present, he had to give it away.

I gave Jeff a box of Life Reference Bibles, like the ones which the VBS team had delivered to each home in the village, and asked Jeff, that when it was appropriate, to give one of the Bibles to a troubled teen who had talked to Jeff about the teen's problems and show the teen how to use the 20 page reference section on problems in life, in the Bible, of where to find Bible passages about their problem issues. When we left, Jeff told me that he had already given out 2 Bibles. I gave Jeff my e-mail address so he can let me know when he needs another box of Bibles. So we now have a year-round somewhat "Evangelistic effort" coordinated by a sometimes "spirits-filled" guy in the Chevak pool hall, who is placing Scriptures in the hands of troubled folks!!!

Monday evening we had 7 participants in the men's Bible Study. Drew, a team member from Texas, who had suffered through 5 years of drug and alcohol addiction, told his experiences to the men. These men listened in abject silence and as they began relating to Drew, they also began recounting their own life's failures and for the first time in our seven years in Chevak, there were adult men tearing up as they shared with the group. On each successive night most of these men returned for a continuation of these intensely cathartic replenishment moments.

Daniel Connelly, with Character Under Construction (CuC), joined the team on Thursday. That evening we met with Jean, K-12 school guidance counselor, and 4 village volunteers who have a heart for helping the village kids develop "Cupic values", which are posted in the school. Jean & the volunteers were excited to see how the CuC elementary, middle and high school lessons actually taught "Cupic values"!!! On Friday, Jean gave Daniel a tour of the school and they decided to implement CuC's, 30 – 45 minute sessions during the school day, in the 6th and 9th grades when school is back in session in late August, and then build on this initial start-up. Daniel & Jean also met with Samson, administrator for the Village Elders Counsel. Samson and the Counsel had been wanting to have some way of teaching "Cupic values" to the entire village. He was very enthusiastic after learning how the CuC can be used to teach "Cupic values" and wants Daniel to set up lesson sessions in the JVP (community hall) starting in the fall. This answers a 7-year-old prayer to provide a year-round effort bringing a "PC-acceptable" Christian presence into classrooms during the school day and into the general community in the evening!!!

Daniel had been told by his pastor friend in Bethel, who has his own plane & will fly to Chevak to help coordinate CuC, to meet John Stone in Chevak. This is the same John who came to the church on Monday. We would have had a difficult time finding John, so Daniel could meet him, but God brought John to us!!! John is arranging for Daniel to have a place to stay and food to eat in August!

~Thanks & Blessings, Frank

New Church in the Central Plateau of Haiti

Pastor Mura has been conducting Bible Study classes in a region of the Central Plateau and will be starting a Lutheran Church there. They "found" 3,000 people, refugees of the 2010 earthquake, living off the land, with no school, no church, no medical care facility. They speak and read Creole. The first church service was last month led by Pastor Mura who also conducts services at Pas Bonbon and Laotchikit. It is a two hour walk, as the way to get there is not accessible by motorcycle or horseback. We are sending enough money to purchase 100 Bibles in Creole – which is their highest priority. Pastor Mura and Samuel travel together and teach from Luther's Small Catechism (LSC) "What does this mean" twice a month. At a later date when all have access to Bibles, we will supply LSC so every family will have one for home study. The name of the church is "Rocky Road Lutheran Church" and will be in fellowship with the LCMS. Pastor Walta started the Lutheran church in Laotchikit in 2011 and now has 650 members of which 450 are children. The church in Pas Bonbon has about 200 members and 96 children are registered in the school ESLC established this year. Where else on this planet can we bring so many to Christ in the solid doctrine of the LCMS? Ask Lars how you can help.



ESLC Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you know that our Eternal Shepherd congregation has a Prayer Shawl Ministry?

It is a low profile, time intensive service of love and concern for our members, their family and friends. Several women in our congregation create prayer shawls and pocket prayer shawls for congregational members to give to family and friends that are hurting in some way.

The pocket prayer shawls are intended for pocket or purses to remind the person to take all their concerns to the Lord in prayer. Quite often this can be given to someone who is traveling, is anxious about something, or just because. You are invited to pick one up for yourself.

The prayer shawls come in many different styles and colors. Any member of the congregation can give a prayer shawl. The recipient does not need to be a member of Eternal Shepherd – just someone that you are concerned about and praying for. We ask that if you give the prayer shawl personally that you pray with them as you give it. While the prayer shawl is being made, many prayers go up to our God asking that the recipient will cast the cares, anxieties, etc. on the Lord, that the recipient will feel the support, comfort and care that the Lord is providing as well as his faith being sustained and strengthened.

This ministry works as a self-service Kiosk. You will find the prayer shawls and pocket prayer shawls in the fellowship hall along the wall by the closets. There are plastic bins in which the prayer shawls are stored. We ask that if you take a prayer shawl that you record it on the log found in the box telling us your name, the date and the person that you are giving it to. The pocket prayer shawls are found in a shoe-size bin. There is no sign log for these; only the number made is being tracked.

How can you help?

First of all, you are the ones that see when someone would benefit from this gift. Please do not hesitate to select and give a prayer shawl.

Secondly, we ask that you pray for this ministry -- that there will always be a prayer shawl available when someone needs it.

If you are interested in actively participating in this ministry, either by donating yarn or creating these prayer shawls, please contact Sue Hauser or Kyra Carbone. Learn to Crochet classes are being planned for October before Women's Bible Study on Thursdays and perhaps Learn to Knit classes in the spring. More information will be provided later.



MISSION NEWS

Looking for Adventure ?? – FAQ's About a Mission Trip

Q: How far is it to Tegucigalpa, Honduras?

A: The flight from Atlanta to Tegus is just under 3 hours.



Q: What is the weather like in Tegucigalpa in February?

A: Mostly sunny with a high around 80 degrees and a low in the upper 50's at night.

Q: What are the accommodations like at the mission house?

A: The 10 year old mission house accommodates approximately 90 missionaries in 5 bunk rooms with multiple showers, sinks, & toilets in each. It also houses WGO headquarters, dining facilities, meeting rooms, brigade supply areas, full kitchen with cooks, WGO staff quarters, and multiple porches with views.

Q: What type of work does the mission team do?

A: We are part of a medical mission with an evangelistic outcome; meaning we bring medical, dental, optical, & pharmaceutical services, plus children's ministry and several service projects.

Q: Where do we work and how long?

A: Our work is done at brigade sites which are located in local churches. We spend all day Mon. & Tues at one site and Thur. & Fri. at another. Sunday we worship at a local church and dine at a local restaurant. Wednesday, we are tourists.

Q: Do we need to know Spanish?

A: No. As part of the cost, multiple translators are provided for each of the areas where we serve.

Q: What is the cost?

A: Approximately \$1775.00 for the week which includes everything except breakfast at the airport on departure Saturday and lunch & dinner on return Saturday.

Q: Do I need any shots?

A: None required by the U.S. govt. However, we would recommend a current tetanus shot.

Q: How large is a mission team?

A: Normally a team is 30-35 people. Our team consists of short-term missionaries from 3 churches (ESLC--SC, Christ the Rock--IL, & Trinity--FL.).

Q: How many people are going from ESLC at present?

A: We presently have 9 people signed up for this trip with 15 airline seats being held.

Q: Can we ask friends to go?

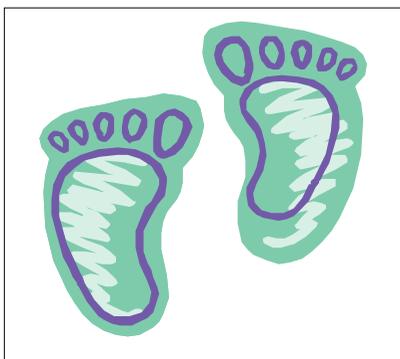
A: Most certainly.

Q: What clothes do we need?

A: Medical scrubs are provided for everyone for brigade days. Travel/Sunday/Wed. – Modest skirts or pants for the women & slacks/jeans for the men (Honduran men do not wear shorts). Shorts are fine around the mission house.

Q: Who do I contact for more information?

A: Pastor Ray Ramsburg, 904-583-1214 or bonsairev@charter.net



**BABY BOTTLE DRIVE FOR THE
FOOTHILLS PREGNANCY CARE CENTER**

**ALL BABY BOTTLES ARE DUE
BACK BY
September 2, 2018**

The Foothills Pregnancy Care Center Baby Bottle Drive is drawing to a close and if you haven't done so already, **please don't forget to return your baby bottle by September 2nd.** There is box in the Narthex lobby to place your filled baby bottle.

Thank you to all who participated this year. Fifty-eight baby bottles were taken home by members back in May and many have already been returned filled with coins, cash or checks. The total contribution to the Pregnancy Care Center will be determined over the next month and will be published in the next Agapegram. Last year we raised \$4253 for this worthy cause so let's try and top it this year with your generous donation!

For those of you who have yet to return your bottle, please note that if you plan on writing a check as part, or all, of your donation, **please make out your check to ESLC with FPCC in the memo line.** On behalf of the Foothills Pregnancy Care Center, thank you for your participation, your contributions, prayers and your support. If you have any questions, please call Tracy Cochell at 404-433-7338.

Hello, Eternal Shepherd Family!

As many of you already know, I have been going to school at Concordia University Irvine in SoCal for the last two years getting both my Masters degree in Theology as well as a certification to be a Director of Christian Education (DCE). All of my pre-internship classes are now complete, which means it's finally time to try out all I've learned!

My DCE Internship site is Salem Lutheran Church and School in Orange, CA. The great news is that I'll only be about 15 minutes away from my school, and my professors (along with an *entire network* of DCEs from the Pacific SW District) will be right there to help me. And, no worries - I'll be sending updates to Pastor Hammer to keep you all in the loop about what I'm doing out there.

I've had a couple of conversations with the Salem staff. They are wonderful, and are very eagerly awaiting my arrival. I'm already being treated like family! Pastor Roger Frick is the senior pastor there and will be my supervisor during my internship. While I'm at Salem, I'll be focused on serving their middle and high-school youth, as well as working with their many music and theatre programs!

From all that I can see now, God has said yes to *every single one* of my prayers about my internship experience. And looking back, I can see how He has been preparing me for this very moment. It feels so great to say with confidence that I'm headed in the right direction. What an awesome God we serve! I am *beyond* excited for this new opportunity, and I know that God is present in every step of my journey. It seems I'm going to be very well taken care of by my new Salem family.

As I prepare to move mid-September, please note that my official ESLC send-off services will be held on Sunday, September 2nd, which will also be my last Sunday at Eternal Shepherd (until I come visit, of course!). That being said, I want to send out a *huge* "thank you" to the whole congregation. You all have provided me with so much support, encouragement, and love - even from the beginning - as I have done my best to lead the high schoolers here at ESLC for the last 8 years. One of my goals for this next year is to make my home-church family proud! I sure am going to miss everyone, especially the teen class!

A special note for my teens: *You all are amazing, gifted, brilliant, important, and hysterically funny. You have brought so much joy into my life - literally changing the course of it - and I wouldn't trade my time with you for anything. As I've gotten to watch you grow into young men and women of Christ, I want you to know that it has been an enormous blessing to see your hearts for Jesus start to develop and take action. Take that momentum and keep going. Keep learning. Keep trusting Him in all you do. He'll never let you down. Thank you so, so much for showing up, for loving me past my crazy, spurring me on toward this calling, and teaching me so much along the way. Never forget how loved you are. God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.*

*Much love,
- Katie Baumann; DCE Intern at Salem Lutheran Church*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

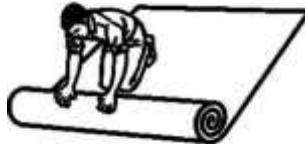
Please consider becoming a volunteer for the Meals on Wheels Program. We are in need of volunteers for the 2nd and 5th Fridays of the month. Anyone interested can contact me on my cell phone at (512) 363-7280. ~Thank you, Lane Wilson



Dear friends at Eternal Shepherd, Perhaps some of you have noticed the condition of our carpeting in the main fellowship hall and hallway. It has been 15 years since the carpet in these areas was installed and is now looking its age. The Scrip Committee as part of the Stewardship Board has considered starting a fund to gather monies to be set aside for replacing the carpeting in the above mentioned areas.

We are proposing that all Scrip profits will be designated to “The Carpet Fund”. We will continue to carry Ingles and Walmart \$100.00 cards and will update our current Scrip list. Please give prayerful consideration to using this service. If you haven’t looked at one of our order forms recently please take a new one and check the availability of most of our local merchants. It is important to note the percentage of profit that some of the merchants give to Eternal Shepherd.

With the holidays approaching giving gift cards is a popular choice. PLEASE consider purchasing them right here at church and we will give all of the profit to the Carpet Fund. We would also welcome a direct gift to the Carpet Fund. To write a check please make your check out to ESLC and put Carpet Fund in the memo line. ~Thank you



*The Scrip Committee
Elisabeth Baker
Libby Dunlap
Sue Hauser*

Hospitality Happenings for September

September late service schedule:

9/2 Sue Watson

9/9 Ann Cochell

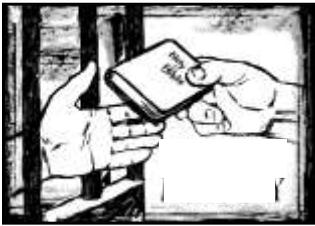
9/16 Kate Wells

9/23 Sue Williams

9/30 Rosie Caprio



Thinking about joining the hospitality board? Please see myself or Marlene Bell with any questions. *In his service, Sue Williams*



DETENTION CENTER OUTREACH MINISTRY:

Saturday, Sept. 8th ESLC is planning a visit to the Men's and the Women's sides of the Detention Center in Walhalla. **We will need cookies for this ministry** (30 baggies with regular cookies – 4 cookies to a bag). These cookies are a small way of sharing God's love and are much appreciated by those who receive the goodies. **We will meet at ESLC Sat.,**

Sept. 8th at 10:00 AM for logistics & prayer and then on to the Center to make our 11:00 AM appointment. *Thank you for your support of this ministry.* Questions, contact Cecil Murray and **cookie angels please contact Elaine Grotheer.** **The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.**



FOOD BANK NEWS:

Please help us in collecting preferred needed canned, or boxed grocery items each month. These items will help restock the Golden Corner Food Pantry's shelves. Each **September's** preferred product is **"Canned Vegetables"**. Please place items in the one of the trash cans marked Food Bank down by the main Fellowship Hall. *~Thank you for your generosity and support.*



Greeting Cards— Birthday! Get Well! Encouragement! Praying for You! Sympathy! Thinking of You! Cancer/Difficult Times! Anniversary! Baptism! Thanksgiving! Christmas! Please be sure to check out the cart in the Fellowship Hall. They are still \$.50 a card and \$5.00 for a whole box. Thank you for your support.

SCRIP CARDS

Please remember that **Scrip cards make great gifts and earn money for Eternal Shepherd at the same time.** Please see your scrip ladies today or pick up an order form located by the Scrip box in the narthex. *~Thank you for your support.*



SPECIAL GIFTS/MEMORIALS

In *July* the following gifts were given:



In loving memory of *Chuck Giordano*
the Choir Fund received a gift of \$100.00

In honor of *Jewel Foster*
the Comfort Dog Ministry received a gift of \$50.00

In honor of *Rick & Loan Kruse's wedding*
the Honduras Mission Fund received a gift of \$75.00

Other Gifts:

The Alaska Mission Fund received gifts of \$65.00

The Capital Campaign Building Fund received gifts of \$420.00

The Choir Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$290.00
and gifts of \$130.00 from the Dog Biscuit Sale

The Debt Reduction Fund received a gift of \$50.00

The Elders Fund received a gift of \$100.00

The Food Bank Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Haiti Mission Fund received gifts of \$652.50

The Honduras Mission Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Hospitality Fund received gifts of \$225.00

The Operation Christmas Child Fund received gifts of \$1865.00

The Pastor's Discretionary Fund received a gift of \$1,000.00

The Special Missions Fund received a gift of \$20.00

The Youth Fund received a gift of \$20.00

Little Lambs Tales

“Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.” 1 Timothy 4:12

We began our school year on August 21st and I am once again reminded how even though our preschool children are so young, they set a great example for us on how to live as Christians. They love one another without bias. They speak words of kindness to one another and encourage us to likewise use encouraging words. As they listen to the Chapel message, they listen with an open heart, trust and have faith in the message they are hearing.

We are blessed here at Little Lambs Preschool to be using the Concordia Press Curriculum materials which will guide our lessons through the messages we hear during our Chapel time each week. How fortunate to be able to base our academic lessons on our Christian faith. It is such a gift and we love to share this gift with our beautiful children.

Some dates to keep in mind for September:

- **Sept 3 Labor Day (no school)**
September 19 Farm Day
September 27 & 28 Donuts with Dad (8:30-8:45am)

Do you shop at Ingles? Do you use a printer? If so, you have the ability to help our Preschool! Connect your Ingles card to Little Lambs. You can do this online at Ingles Tools for Schools or by signing the sheet in the Narthex. Our school ID number is 11415. If you need help with this process please stop by the Preschool Office and I can help you or see Roberta Port after church service for assistance. ***Please be aware that you must sign up for the Ingles Tools for Schools Program every year.***

When your printer cartridge runs empty, bring it to the church and you will find a box to place those in as well.

It is amazing how these little things that you can do provide a great benefit to our Preschool program.

Most especially, we ask for your continued prayers for all of us at Little Lambs Preschool. We appreciate all the support you continue to give to us and know that it is because of your support that Little Lambs Preschool continues to thrive!

*Blessings in Christ,
Gina*

SERVICE TIMES

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
(Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays)

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
& Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship Service
(Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays)



THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor: David Hammer
Deaconess: Holly Lustila
Secretary: Celeste Entrekin
Preschool Director: Gina Cote
Choir Director: Rick Schmidt
Choir Accompanist: Michelle Rowland
Organist: David Phillips

MISSIONARIES

Joanna Johnson, Taiwan
Nate Esala, Lutheran Bible Translators
David & Dr. Arianna Shirk, Kenya
S.E.D. Missionaries to Peru

Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church
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Seneca, SC 29678