Good Shepherd News

JULY NEWSLETTER

7082 CRESCENT AVENUE
BUENA PARK, CA 90620
714-827-6021

E-MAIL: GSLCBP@ATT.NET
WEBSITE: WWW.GOODSHEPHERDBUENAPARK.ORG

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: BIT.LY/GSLCBPCA
SUNDAY WORSHIP TIME: 9:30 AM

More Than an Hour on Sunday

From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised. Psalm 113:3

God's blessings surround us every day, and we are called to rejoice in them—not just on Sunday mornings, but throughout our daily lives. The Christian life is one of continual renewal, as God meets us each day with grace, mercy, and the promise to be present with us.

Martin Luther understood the importance of beginning and ending each day centered in God's Word. He believed that daily worship was not an obligation, but a gift—an opportunity to be refreshed, encouraged, and strengthened for the journey of faith. Resources such as Morning Prayer (Matins) and Evening Prayer (Vespers) in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW, pages 298–319) can help guide personal devotion, but they are only one expression of daily worship.

In Luther's *Small Catechism*, he offers a simple and practical pattern for worship at home. He encourages Christians, upon rising each morning, to begin the day in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to pray the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's Prayer, and to entrust the day to God's care. After prayer, Luther encourages believers to go about their work "joyfully," recognizing that daily tasks can become acts of faithful service to God and neighbor.

Church Events

Sundays @ 9:30 am
Worship Service

Wednesdays @ 5:00
Bible Study

July 4th Celebration
6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Women's Co-op Meeting
July 7 – 2:00 pm

Mini-Market July 11
4:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Women of Good Shepherd
July 18 – 9:30 am

Finance Committee
July 21 – 10:00 am

Church Council
July 28 – 6:00 m

Likewise, Luther encourages ending the day in prayer—giving thanks for God's protection, seeking forgiveness, and placing oneself once again into God's loving hands. By beginning and ending the day with God, Luther reminds us that faith is woven into every moment of life.

This raises an important question: What role does daily worship play in your life?

Worship is far more than attending church once a week. Worship is a daily response to God's love revealed through the crucified and risen Christ. It shapes how we think, how we serve, how we love, and how we engage the world around us. Through worship, God forms us into people who reflect Christ's compassion, mercy, and hope.

As Lutherans, worship stands at the heart of who we are. While our worship practices may vary, they all point us toward the same purpose: receiving God's gifts and being sent into the world as His people. Worship is not an end in itself; it is preparation for mission.

We are not called to serve ourselves but to be Christ's hands and feet in a broken world so that others may know His love and grace. Consider our mission statement: Rooted in God's love, we gather around Word and Sacrament, grow in faith, and go out to share Christ's love with all people.

Are we living it out through our worship? Through our daily choices? Through the ministries and activities, we share together?

Our time in worship should inspire and equip us for service beyond the church walls. As we gather around Word and Sacrament, we are renewed and sent out to love our neighbors, seek justice, offer compassion, and share the hope of Christ wherever we go.

May we see worship not as an hour on Sunday, but as a way of life—a daily rhythm of prayer, gratitude, service, and faith. When worship fills our hearts, it naturally flows into our homes, workplaces, community, and world.

Blessings, Pastor Jennifer

Faith Sharing in Your Daily Life

- Visit neighbors, friends, and colleagues when they are sick or hospitalized. Share a devotional booklet and offer a prayer.
- Deliver a meal or plate of cookies to a family or person struggling with loss. tragedy or illness.

Good Shepherd Leaders

Pastor Jennifer Zahnow

Church Council

Pres. Jessie DeVito.

Sect. Sharon Castellaw.

Treas. Richard Lutz

Outreach: Cathy Choma Christian

Education: Carroll Kolodzik

Worship: Terry Moyer

Property: Sharon Castellaw

Parish Life: Barbara Weber

Prayer Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers…

Anthony, Tony, Kim, Wanda, Carroll, Margaret, Ann, Baby Jasmine, Blanca, Diva, Eddy, Leslie, Leo, Mary C, Olivia, Kaye, Brandi, Ethan, Pam, Mary, Jena, Marcia, and Roy.

Please pray for the ELCA Presiding Bishop, Rev. Yehiel Curry, our Synodical Bishop, Rev. David Nagler, and our Synod VP, Jeff Cours

JULY BIRTHDAY'S



15th	Christy Ricalde
17th	Debbie Wilcox
23	Roz Tranberg
24	Jim Gomez
25	Stanley Johnson

President's Message

"FREEDOM"

This July 4th, 2026, will be the 250th Birthday of our country, our "*Free"* country. The majority of us have thankfully never known anything else as we have always had the luxury of living with freedom of choice. Because of this we must never forget what it has cost over the last 250 years to gain and maintain this gift of "*Freedom".*

We fought for the end of slavery, allowing the people of color to live free. We fought for women to be treated as equals and have the right to vote. We were given the freedom of religion to worship where and how we choose. Wars, were fought and men and women died to protect our country and our "*Freedom".* However, it is up to us to continue to protect these gifts. Everyday we are faced with choices, and it is our responsibility to choose wisely. Wrong choices have consequences and the alternative to *"Freedom"* is not pleasant.

I give thanks to God who created this wonderful world we live in and the brave men and women who fought and continue to fight to assure we keep the "*freedom"* we enjoy. As we are presented with hate and conflict both near and far, we hope for peace, love, and kindness to prevail. We must help when and where we can and pray constantly to God to help guard the "*freedom"* we have been blessed with. We must always remember:

"*In every human breast, God has implanted a principle, which we call love of Freedom; it is impatient of oppression and pants for deliverance; and the same principle lives in us."*

God Bless us all and God Bless America!!

PS: Hope to see all of you on the 4th. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for an evening of food, fun, games, and fellowship!

Jessie DeVito

Treasurer's Update For July 2026

Envelope Giving for May 2026 was $8,158 which is $1,491 over the monthly 2026 Budget. **Thank You for your faithful giving**. For May 2026 the Net Income was $12,626 and Year-to-Date $25,468. There was $7,250 transferred from the Endowment Fund in May. The church's pledge to the Synod is current. A double payment from the car wash was booked in May which increased the Net Income.

While the financial reports show the last full month of activity, they help the Finance Committee guide the church's finances. Between monthly reports, Kim, the bookkeeper, provides a weekly update of the checking account balance to ensure we are covering our checks.

Richard Lutz
Treasurer

Back-to-School Backpack Drive

Help students start the school year prepared and confident!

Good Shepherd is once again providing backpacks for the Centralia School District Neighborhood Resource Center. The Women of Good Shepherd will purchase the backpacks, and your donations will help fill them with much-needed school supplies.

Donation deadline: July 19

How you can help: Choose a backpack and make a donation to help fill it with school supplies.

Suggested donation amounts:
$10 $20 $50

Every gift helps a student begin the year ready to learn.



Property Update

Chris, the handyman, replaced the ceiling light fixture in Linda's Office with an LED light replacement system and replaced the leaking pipe under the sink that had cracked in Foster Hall's men's bathroom.

Killian cleaned out the gutters over the preschool rooms that were clogged with pine needles and replaced the organ lights over the pedals and where a light shines on sheet music for Robert. He and Marv took out one of the glass sheet coverings from the light fixture in the hallway in Foster Hall and Marv had checked out cost to replace the six openings. Chris had extra plexiglass, so Marv's family made a new covering that fit the area of the broken glass for free.

Marv continues to water, fix sprinklers and he is currently looking into replacing the letters on the A-Frame sign that are missing. Sharon removed the rat signs on Foster Hall's doors, cleaned the campus, prunes the roses and lilies and pulls weeds. Sharon and Jessie replaced the Church messaging sign and thank you, Joanne, for cleaning the campus on Sunday mornings. Thank you Irene for coffee and cookies on Sunday mornings too.

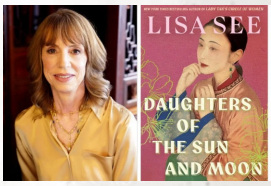
Sharon Castellaw
Property Chair

Women's Ministry



We all have a little Betsy Ross in us – so come and join us as we put treat bags and health kits together on July 18 at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall.

Good Shepherd Book Club



June was our last meeting before summer break, and it was a busy month for the Book Club

On Saturday, June 13, we went to see New York Times bestselling author Lisa See, known for works including *On Gold Mountain*, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, *Shanghai Girls*, *The Island of Sea Women*, *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*, and *Dreams of Joy*.

She is currently promoting her new book, *Daughters of the Sun and Moon*, set in 1870 Los Angeles. The story follows three Chinese women—Dove, Petal, and Moon—who arrive in a violent and unwelcoming city, each seeking love, freedom, or justice. As anti-Chinese sentiment builds toward the Night of Horrors, the women rely on courage, endurance, and friendship to find their voices and strength.





Daughters of the Sun and Moon will be our September Read. We will meet at Phyllis' home on Thursday, September 17.

Food Donations for Centralia School District Neighborhood Resource Center

Food is being collected for the Neighborhood Resource Center to provide meals for students and families in need during school holidays, when school meals are unavailable. Donated food will help these families get through the holidays. The following items are needed:

Spaghetti; Spaghetti sauce; Oatmeal Instant Quaker boxes; Cereal boxes, Granola bars; Mac & Cheese Instant boxes; Pancake Mix; Rice; and Beans.

If you cannot shop for these items but would like to donate money instead, please indicate the amount on your envelope offering with a statement FOR FOOD Donations, and we will be glad to shop for you. If you have questions, please see Barbara, Carol, or Cathy.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GOOD SHEPHERD

September 26 - Women's Co-op Day Retreat at Good Shepherd. This retreat is led by the women of Good Shepherd, Our Redeemer, Bethlehem, Mt. Calvary, Christ, and King of Glory. Please see Cathy if you would like to attend.

October 24 - Precious Life Baby Shower. Please see Cathy if you would like to help with this event.

October 31- Trunk or Treat. Please see Pastor Jennifer if you would like to help with this event.

December 6 - after worship, there will be a special event with food. Please mark your calendars. More information to come….

Stewardship Corner

The Greek writer, Nikos Kazantzakis, once told the story of an old monk who lived on one of the islands off of Greece.

One day a young man who was rock climbing on the island came across the monk and began conversing with him.

When the young man felt better acquainted, he asked the monk if he still wrestled with the devil. "Oh no," the devout old fellow said, "not anymore. I have grown old and the devil has grown old with me. He no longer has my strength. Now I wrestle with God.

"With God?" the young man queried, "you wrestle with God?

Well, let me ask: Do you hope to win?"

"Do I hope to win? Heavens no, I hope to lose!" he replied.

If that seems puzzling, think about Jesus' statement to the effect that to lose to him was in fact to win. Christ's precise words were: "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 10:39) .

Upon consideration, it makes perfect sense. To whom do we owe our existence anyway? To whom are we therefore ultimately obligated? Whose providential care ministers to us every second of our lives? And who will provide for us when our earth journey is over?

The grateful and wise person will say something like: "All that I am and all that I have of any consequence comes from God. Therefore I offer my life to God. Willingly, I lose my life to God. For God alone knows how to best use my life and whatever has come with it: my brainpower, my talent, my strength, my time allotted, and the resources God has allowed me to have for the days, whether few or many, I will have here on earth. So be it."

December 12 – Women of Good Shepherd Christmas Tea. Please see Cathy if you would like to help with this event.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
7082 Crescent Avenue
Buena Park, CA 90620

