

Giving with Gratitude

"I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give.

I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we
can spare." -C.S. Lewis

Stewardship involves returning to God what we have received from God. Rather than simply being a brief annual campaign for budgeting purposes, stewardship reflects the belief that **everything** we possess comes from God and is a fundamental aspect of our faith journey and daily life. It includes sharing our financial resources to support Good Shepherd's mission and to spread Christ's gospel throughout the world. Everyone needs to experience the hope and love of Jesus Christ, which is made possible through your generous financial contributions. Our efforts rely on each person considering their resources and contributing even a little more to expand our ministry.

We have previously emphasized the importance of your contributions to the church. You will soon receive a pledge card by mail, which we kindly ask you to return to the church office. The mailing will also include materials designed to help you better understand stewardship as a spiritual discipline.

In the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, the prayer of the congregation following the giving of the weekly offering reads:

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Church Events

Sunday Worship
@ 9:30 am

Every Tuesday morning Puzzle with the Pastor @ 10:00 am

- Bible Study Wed, @ 5:00 pm
- WELCA Nov15
 @ 9:30 am
- Finance Comm. Nov 18 @ 10:00 am
- Pr. Jennifer's Installation Nov 22 @ 1:00 pm
- Church Council Nov 25 @ 6:00 pm

This prayer emphasizes the act of offering oneself to God, who is described as possessing enduring love for humanity, and highlights that this commitment is made with a sense of gratitude and appreciation. Thank you for your generous support of Good Shepherd.

Blessings, Pastor Jennifer

"Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost."

-Ignatius of Loyola

Prayer Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers...

Doreen, Betty, Tony, Floanne, Diana, Kim, Carroll, Joan K., Kathy, Virginia, Margaret, Brad, Ann, Wally, Blanca, Diva, Donna, Eddy, Leslie, Leo, Olivia, Jim, Kaye, Brandi, Ethan, Vic, Jena, Marcia, and Roy.



Food Donations for Centralia School District Neighborhood Resource Center

Help 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, 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.

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

Faith Sharing in Your Daily Life

- · Ask someone you may have hurt for forgiveness.
- Model Christian behavior when you coach or attend your child's sports event.
- Speak up against injustice, evil and verbal insults. Be clear that your perspective is informed by your faith and belief in a loving, forgiving God.
- In moments when god is blasphemed, speak up and say "Excuse me, you're talking about Someone who is very important to me."
- In talking about the weather or scenery, marvel at the intricate beauty of God's creation.
- Carry tracts or cards of encouragement and distribute them when appropriate.

President's Report

When I think of the month of November, I automatically think of Thanksgiving, turkey, pie, family and home, all things to be thankful for. Unfortunately, as each vear passes. we see Halloween decorations, costumes and large amounts of candy and advertising that start in late September. Then in mid-October we see Christmas all around on TV in stores and Christmas catalogs start to arrive. We forget that between these two holidays is "Thanksgiving Day. "Just like Halloween this holiday is only celebrated for one day, but all we see advertised is holiday food in the stores and possible some decorated paper products. It is even hard to find a turkey decoration to hang on the front door. We seem to have forgotten how important this holiday is.

Last year at this time, we had endured terrible hurricanes. This year, Palisades and Eaton fires destroyed many homes, and both the economy and wildlife were significantly impacted. We also elected a new President, and this has caused much controversy and conflict in our society. No matter how you regard this situation, we must come together and find a way to live in peace. We also started a call committee to call a new Pastor to Good Shepherd. Joyfully, we will be installing Pastor Jennifer this month. This is the Number one thing we are thankful for at Good Shepherd. Let us not stop there; let's make a promise to personally take time each day to remind ourselves of just one thing we are thankful for.

If we do this, just think how thankful we will be by the time the next holiday comes. Can you think of a better way to celebrate "Thanksgiving " all year round? How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity Psalm 133:1

Lord, thank you for your grace in the midst of trials and for the peace that walking through them together brings. *Strength & Grace

"Happy Thanksgiving," Jessie DeVito, President Church Council



11th – Frank Roberts 17th – Joanne Petteys 25th – George Petteys

reasurer Report

We have paid all the bills presented in September 2025, and the checking account ended the month at \$27,809.

Envelope Giving from January to September was \$56,532. Again, the month of September was a strong \$6,776, which was \$108 over the monthly budget. Keep up the good work, you faithful givers.

Through September, Good Shepherd has spent just over \$3,240 more than it received in income. There has been \$15,000 transferred from the Endowment Fund in October to purchase the new air conditioner coils and cover the increase in the pastor's salary.

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

Properity Report

I have been working with Herb from Yaeger Services, and he is attempting to obtain a new coil to replace the damaged one that OC Air Conditioning installed in 2023. Herb thought he had a new coil from a company in Riverside, but when he opened the box, it was damaged, so we are waiting for that company to expedite a new coil for Yaeger Services to install.

Killian and Marv cleaned the spider webs off the wall and windows of the front of the Church, Killian has checked the gutters and roof tops for pine needles, and he and Marv have trimmed the limb that fell on the Preschool playground and disposed of the branches. Killian and Marv have finished replacing the ceiling tiles in the kitchen and Foster Hall. They also replaced the smoke alarm batteries in Foster Hall, and they need to get some carbon monoxide units for Rooms one and two.

Bernadette was on campus on Friday, October 18^{th,} to look at the Preschool equipment, tables, chairs, and toys to see if her new employer would be interested in buying some of our supplies for their new school. There are now two trucks in the east parking lot, and Miguel and Joel contribute to the Church to park their trucks overnight.

Pastor and Jessie have purchased some trash barrels for Minni's Market that will be used on October 25th on the campus property from noon to 7 pm. Please volunteer for setup and cleanup.

Fausto has fixed the sprinkler problem near the Preschool gate, and he and Marv have replaced sprinklers around the campus. Sharon continues to prune roses and clean up around the campus. Since turning off the power supply to the electrical outlets, she has noticed fewer homeless people on site. Thank you, Joanne, for the Sunday cleanup.

Sharon Castellaw, Property Chair

Good Shepherd Book Club



We will discuss "Where Butter Flies Wander" by Suzanne Redfearn. The book discussion will be led by Phyllis on November 20 at 4:00 at Phyllis' home.

We thank Joanne Pettey for our October discussion full of interesting facts on Seed Banks throughout the world and a fun bingo game as it related to our October Book – "Wild Dark Shore, A Novel" by Charlotte Mc



Women of Good Shepherd

Thanks to all who helped make up the treat bags for our regular groups, but also for making up trick and treat bags for the church's Truck and Treat night on Friday, October 31. We made a total of 181 bags at our October meeting.

Our **next meeting** will be Saturday, **November 15, at 9:30**. We will be

making up our holiday treat bags and health kits. We hope you can come.



Mark Your Calendar for December

You Are Invited

Heaven Comes Down For Christmas

Women of Good Shepherds
Annual Tea and Luncheon
Saturday, December 15
Christmas Message by Pastor Jennifer Zahnow
Music by Destiny Coleman

Fellowship, Games, and Singing, along with a lovely Luncheon and tea.

What to bring – Unwrapped Toy for the Buena Park Fire Department "Spark of Love".

Invite a friend!
RSVP Cathy Choma or Luana Pearson



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



SOCK OF LOVE CAMPAIGN

The Buena Park Homeless will need socks as the weather gets colder. Women of Good Shepherd will be collecting new socks during November and December. When you go out shopping, please purchase and donate new socks for our campaign. We are looking for men's

socks in grey or dark colors.

Please look for the basket with fall colors on it.





