



IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIP

My brothers and sisters: About three weeks after you read this we will welcome our new pastor. This is a good time to remind each other that church is about relationships with a loving God and with each other.

There is a terrible tendency for church to become "things" – buildings, traditions, by-laws, budgets, denomination, meetings schedules, resolutions. There is a need and a place for these "things" when they are used to help and serve people in relationship. Tragedy happens when people are used/required to serve these "things" instead of serving God and His people in loving relationship.

Welcoming a new pastor is a unique and special time for developing relationship. It will require spending time in face to face-one to one-family to family time listening to what is most important to our new pastor and his family and then sharing your story and what matters most to you. Relationship requires love and time together. It require time, intention and planning – it won't happening automatically by itself.

We serve a God who loves us in and through our relationships with each other.

Yours in His Service
Pastor Ron



PASTOR RON: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday –
9am to 12:30pm and Saturdays by appointment.

PASTOR ALLEN: Monday & Friday - 9 am to 12:30



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is coming soon!

**July 11 - July 15, 3 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
for children age 3 through 5th Grade.**

Volunteer today! Register kids!

Volunteer sign ups and registration forms are available in the church lobby and office. You can also register online at www.svlcmoval.net
Invite your family, friends, and neighbors!

We still need some volunteers so if you're being led to help - contact the church office:

Early Childhood Helper: assist with preschool and kindergarten age kids
Game Leader: plan and lead the Game Site
Registration Leader: Set up Registration Site in the church lobby
Snack Leader: plan and lead the Snack Site and coordinate food and servers
Staff Dinner Coordinator: plan and prepare dinners for staff
Team (Group) Leaders: lead a group of kids from site to site

Props needed for VBS: Antique table dinner bell. Also helpful, any farm-themed decorations, stuffed farm animals, cow pattern plastic table cloths, straw patterned table cloths, large sun flowers, etc. Call office for details. We welcome any donations to help with the cost of VBS over and above your regular weekly offering. Just drop them in the offering earmarked for VBS. Thanks!

And don't forget — keep our VBS in your prayers!





QUILTING FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Hello everyone, we have been so busy sewing that we have had to look for more storage space. What a wonderful problem this is. We have so much going on that it would take all our space to list it all.

We want to thank Bernice Bennett for giving all of Dennis's quilting supplies to us. We have already shared his books at last the meeting and some of the material. We are also using the templets, and other supplies along with the cutters. We would like to thank Julie Reed for the bed ruffles. All of you are such a blessing to our group and we treasure your donations to us.

If you would like to stop in and see us working or join in and help us you would be very much welcomed. We meet in the fellowship hall on the fourth Saturday of each month except in October (2nd Saturday) and no meetings in November and December. If you have any questions just call Linda Olson at 276-0373.

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11650 Perris Blvd.; Moreno Valley, CA 92557-6563



The Holiday Craft Boutique this year will be held on Saturday, Nov. 19th from 8 am—2 pm.

Crafting workshops (starting at 5 pm in the hall) to make items for the Boutique are scheduled for:

June 10
August 12
September 9
October 14

If you have any questions or if you'd like be a vendor, contact Paula Winn at 951-485-4305.

Better Health Article of the Month: Bulk up Your Brain

Exercise is not only good for your body, it can also build up your brain.

A long-term study followed 1,583 middle-aged men and women for 20 years and found that those who exercised regularly were more likely to have larger brains in their later years – and, therefore, a lowered risk of age-related cognitive decline. Those who didn't exercise during those 20 years had actually lost gray matter. According to the researchers, our brains shrink as we age and that loss is related to an increased risk for dementia.

A smaller, short-term study found similar results. The study had 30 normally sedentary participants, aged 60-79 years, old mild aerobic exercises for six months, while another 29 participants did only toning and stretching exercises. The 3D MRI images taken before and after the study showed that in just six months, those who did the aerobic exercises had increased brain volume in both gray and white matter.

Those who did only stretching and toning exercises showed no increase. The researchers concluded that cardiovascular fitness helps preserve or even build up brain tissue in older, aging adults; as a result, it can help maintain cognitive functioning as well.

Sources: *The Week* and *Journal of Gerontology*



PRE-CONFIRMATION EARLY COMMUNION CLASS

Non-confirmed youth entering 6th grade and higher this fall are invited to a class preparing them to take Holy Communion. The classes will be held on June 5th and 26th, from 5 to 6 PM, in the conference room at the Church office. They will be taught by Pastor Allen Deinert. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Allen at the church office or his cell phone: 951-233-4973.



Don't Forget!

Sunday, June 19th



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS:

Members of Thrivent Financial are eligible to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars to a church or charity of their choice. Have you remembered to designate your Choice Dollars for 2016? Undesignated dollars "expire" after March 31. Go to thrivent.com and click the MyThrivent button on the upper right side of the site and direct your Choice Dollars. Both the church and school are registered to receive Choice Dollars and Shepherd is grateful to those who have contributed through this program.



The youth are asking for donations of the following items to be made into care packages to hand out to the homeless:

bottled water new socks granola bars handkerchiefs or bandanas small bars of soap.

Un-Apologetic Column 35

Eyes Wide Shut



I have an embarrassing confession. My favorite disciple has always been Thomas. Yes, THAT Thomas. The guy who refused to believe Jesus was alive until he saw it with his own eyes. We don't get a lot of information about Thomas in the Gospels or anywhere else in scripture. His claim to fame is, and the label he now wears is that he was "Doubting Thomas." Aside from his refusal to accept the resurrection of Jesus without proof, Thomas is the one recorded in John 11:16 as grumbling that if Jesus was going to go to Galilee and raise Lazarus despite the danger, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." We all know that type of guy, don't we? He was kind of the Eeyore of the disciples. Thomas is believed to have travelled to India after Christ ascended, and tradition holds that he was run through with a lance that ended his life. Thomas asked the hard questions. What's interesting is how Jesus reacts to his questions. Jesus didn't tell Thomas "Just go and have more faith." Jesus showed Thomas the proof he was seeking. He allowed Thomas to put his hands in the nail marks, and his hand on the wound created in his side when the Roman soldiers pierced him with a spear. In other words, he offered Thomas evidence. And this is why I believe Jesus is not advocating for "Blind Faith" in the famous passage of John 20:29. All Jesus would have had to do was tell Thomas to have more faith if people took the passage to mean what they think it teaches. There would have been no need for Jesus to actually offer proof to Thomas.

Never in Jesus' ministry did a genuine seeker ask for a sign and get turned away with the phrase "Just have faith." Jesus always prefaced his teaching or claims to authority with a sign or wonder to authenticate his claims. He didn't expect people to believe without evidence. And the records of the Gospels also make sure we do not have to have blind faith. This point is presented in both the Gospels and the Epistles.

If you look at the beginning of Luke's Gospel, he starts off with very close to the same phrasing that John ends his Gospel with:

"Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught."- Luke 1:1-4

Compare this to the end of John's Gospel:

"This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true. Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written."- John 21:24-25

Both authors go out of their way to state that they are eyewitnesses, or are reporting eyewitness testimony. Peter makes the point in his second epistle:

"For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty." 2 Peter 1:16

Peter again puts a premium on being an eyewitness to the events he has seen. These events are recorded for us, so we do not have to rely on blind faith. There is no reason that I can see from Scripture that would compel someone to believe that they must trust blindly. As I have said before, we should rejoice in the fact that our Holy book can be tested, and verified. Other faith systems don't have this luxury.

Next month, I'll conclude my reasoning on why people would be hostile to evidence supporting their own view of Christianity by examining what it means if the claims made in the Bible are actually true.

Thanks for reading, and I'll see you next time!

Yours in Christ,
Drew

Meditative Moment

Summer months can be busy and stressful. The warmer weather means an abundance of outdoor activities to partake in, events to attend, and vacations to take – and not nearly enough time to do them all!

Let us be mindful that in the midst of the hustle and bustle of life, we can find peace and comfort in God's mercy - His love for us through the forgiveness of sins – and for His complete control over all of life's circumstances. "My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will never be shaken." (Psalm 62:1-2)

**Congratulations and God's blessings to our members and friends
graduating this Spring & Summer 2016:**

From College/University:

Whitney Carrigan with a BS from Concord University
Sara Klepps - with honors from California State University - San Bernardino, with two Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Criminal Justice. She has been accepted into the Masters of Social Work program at CSUSB starting in September.
Rachel Jan Schatz from Northern Arizona University with a degree in Criminal Justice
Ryan Schatz from Northern Arizona University with a degree in Electrical Engineering.
Hannah Stange graduating magna cum laude from San Diego State University with a B.S. degree.
Kaelyn Stevick from Michigan State as a Veterinarian.
Aki Tanaka from Cal State Fullerton with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing

From High School:

Hannah Brabson
Jarod Kerr from Valley View

From Middle School:

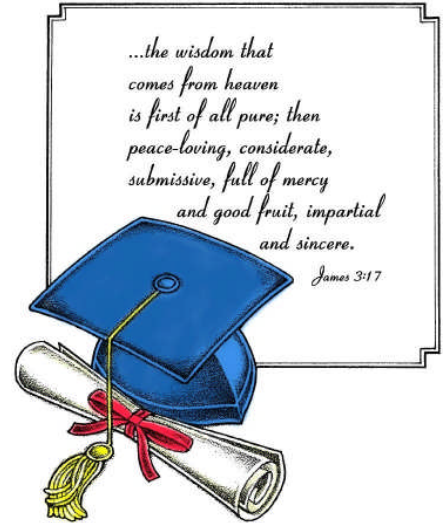
Yennie Cannon
Courtney Hamann
Samuel Kennedy from STEM Academy Riverside.
Jordan Kerr from Mountain View

Elementary School:

Jeremiah Ross from North Ridge

Kindergarten

Dominick Ross from North Ridge and Shepherd of the Valley.



May 6, 2016

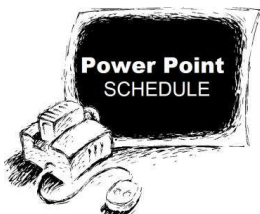
SVLC Friends, Greetings to all!

Hope all is well on the other side of the country. We're doing fine. Ruth Ann is hangin' in there, but as the number of chemo infusions increases her recovery time increases as well. But, it's working. The cancer growth has been slowed down. She is looking forward to a five week (Or More?) Break this summer. Several of the kids and grandchildren are visiting for Mother's Day this week-end. That always cheers her up.

Tristan is soon to graduate (I Hope!) From High School. He has no plans for the immediate future. He's working at Arby's Restaurant nearby. Funny thing though - he still hits me up for "a few bucks" routinely... Ha! I don't mind too much. His Senior Prom is coming up and he's saving up for that.

Life for me hasn't changed all that much - except the climate I minister in. This past winter wasn't bad at all though - can't complain. There are many really great people here, just like Shepherd. We're in the middle of "Stephen Ministry" training of six new Stephen ministers! It's a great program...take a look at it. Pastor Ron is familiar with it. Drew Covert would be happy to know we've completed our second Apologetics teaching series (I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist, & Truth Project). I'd highly recommend them both! Oh, and I found a Cursillo program not far away! Many of our men have been through an older version of Cursillo years ago.

Blessings to all! Pastor Dennis Krueger



If you need to change your schedule, or have any questions on how to run the system, please contact Drew Covert at 951-525-8111 or email lcmsdrew@roadrunner.com. Thank you all for your service to our Church and our Lord!

First Service:

June 5	Gerry Klepps
June 12	Josh Hamann
June 19	Mike Olson
June 26	Bud Kenefick
July 3	Gerry Klepps
July 10	Josh Hamann
July 17	Mike Olson
July 24	Bud Kenefick
July 31	Josh Hamann

Second Service:

Marvin Niles
Drew Covert
Abby Covert
Jim Wilson
Marvin Niles
Drew Covert
Abby Covert
Jim Wilson
Drew Covert



NEXT LUTHERAN CURSILLO WEEKENDS July 14-17, 2016 for Men and July 21-24, 2016 for Women

Seek the LORD
and his strength;
seek his presence
continually.
Psalm 105:4, NRSV

Cursillo is an organization serving the Lutheran churches of Southern California to develop leaders in the Lutheran church through training and spiritual renewal. There is no cost to you to attend a weekend but you must be a baptized member in good standing at a Lutheran church. You will be paired with a sponsor who has been through a Cursillo weekend and have your pastor endorse your reservation request. We recommend praying about it first, then talk to your pastor or others who have attended Cursillo about what you may be able to gain from attending a Cursillo weekend before applying. Check their website for more information: www.lcsocal.org.

2016 FLOWER CHART

If you'd like to donate flowers for the altar, sign up on the board hanging in the church lobby. Indicate what the flowers are for - anniversary, birthday, in honor of or in memory. Take a slip with ordering instructions. Flowers are ordered by you from Bradley's/ Flower Box (242-1519) and they deliver them to church. Each large bouquet is \$26. Small bouquets for the altar are \$19 each. Questions? Call the office.



Joseph Project - Community (Citywide) Food Bank

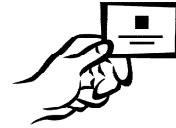
Shepherd is working with other churches in Moreno Valley with this community food bank that provides food for the needy every Thursday from a distribution center at the Koinonia Evangelistic Center, 21866 Brill Rd., Moreno Valley (951-867-3050). Volunteers are needed to help out with distribution, sorting, clean up, etc. at the center. Contributions to the Joseph Project will be gratefully accepted through Shepherd. Please pray for this ministry and volunteer your time and talents! Contact Larry Alexander for more information.



**DON'T FORGET YOUR FOOD
DONATIONS FOR CAP - Moreno Valley's
Community Assistance Program
EACH SUNDAY!
Thank You!**

JOIN IN THE CHALLENGE

Join us in choosing a time (maybe even 10 or 15 minutes) of any day of the week that is best for you individually and lift your silent (or loud) voices to the Lord. Ask for His touch on Shepherd, our Pastors, the members of our congregation, our school, and our community. His promise is clear - if His people gather together in prayer, He will hear our prayers. Let's do it!



INVITE OTHERS TO OUR CHURCH AND SCHOOL!

Business cards are available in packets of 10 in a basket in the church lobby. Take a pack and pass them out to friends and neighbors who need a church home or a preschool for their children.

**NEEDED FOR NURSING HOMES:
Magazines and greeting card fronts.
Bring to the church or office.**

SPECIAL NOTICE

Your pastors, your lay ministers and the church office want to know when someone is hospitalized or home bound. There have been instances of not finding out for several days. We would rather hear from several sources than none at all so, PLEASE - PLEASE pick up the phone or e-mail us whenever there is an opportunity for ministry to members or to family or friends.



**Thursdays at 9:30 AM
In the Fellowship Hall
Presented by Suzy Langhorne
Certified Instructor
FREE! Please join us.**

SAVE BOX TOPS FOR OUR SCHOOL!



Specially marked box tops are worth \$.10 each when redeemed from Box Tops for Education. Encourage friends & family, near & far to help, too. Thanks for taking the time to help our school.

The sponsors appearing on the back cover of the newsletter help defray the cost of printing the Shepherd's Staff, please give them your consideration when possible.

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June 2016

Sunday Worship: 8 AM and 10:45 AM - Communion: 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H) 7:00 PM MV Chorale Dress Rehearsal (S)	3 10:00 AM School Chapel (S) 6:30 PM Pack 210 Promotions (S)	4 8:30 AM Cursillo Grouping @ Panera Bread
5 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class (O-H-PS) 12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H) 4:00 PM MV Chorale Spring Concert (S) 5:00 PM Pre-Communion Class (O)	6 10:00 AM First Place TLC (H) 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)	7 6:00 PM School Board (O)	8	9 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)	10 10:00 AM School Graduation & Promotion (S) 5:00 PM Craft Workshop (H)	11 8:30 AM Cursillo Training - Grace Huntington Beach 9:00 AM Knights of the Holy Spirit Bible Study (H)
12 9:30 AM Adult Bible Class (H) 12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H) BP Screening between Services	13 9:00 AM Women's Koffee Klatch @ Brandon's 6:00 PM School Staff (O) 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)	14 1:20 PM Ireland Trip Begins 7:00 PM Lay Ministers (H)	15	16 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)	17 5:00 PM Marcy's Preschool Graduation (H)	18 8:30 AM Cursillo Training - Grace Huntington Beach
19 9:30 AM Adult Bible Class (H) 12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H) HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!	20 10:00 AM First Place TLC (H) 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)	21 7:00 PM M & M Board (O)	22	23 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)	24 8:48 PM Ireland Trip Ends	25 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Brandon's 8:30 AM Cursillo Training - Trinity Riverside 9:00 AM Quilting for LWR (H)
26 9:30 AM Adult Bible Class (H) 12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H) 5:00 PM Pre-Communion Class (O) BP Screening between Services	27 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)	28	29	30 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)		



The Shepherd's Staff

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES: Sunday: 8:00 & 10:45 AM

"Preach the Gospel at all times. If necessary, use words." — Francis of Assisi

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**RON KRAFT & ALLEN DEINERT, INTERIM PASTORS
LINDA WILLIAMSON, SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

May 8, 2016

June 2016

Dear Congregation of Shepherd of the Valley,

The consideration of a Divine Call is not something that I take lightly. As I prayerfully contemplated the call that the members of Shepherd of the Valley voted to extend to me on April 10, I was blessed with the helpful discussion with and wisdom from others as I examined the needs of both Shepherd of the Valley and Trinity, as well as my own strengths, weaknesses, and abilities.

After much deliberation and prayer, the Lord of the Church has led me to accept the call that you have extended to me to serve as your pastor.

As I and my family prepare to make this big transition in our lives, we ask that you keep us in your prayers. I also ask that you would keep the people of Trinity in your prayers - that God would guide and comfort them as they enter this new chapter for their congregation.

At this time, I do not have an exact timetable as to when my last Sunday at Trinity will be or when we will move to Moreno Valley, as we must work out logistics, such as finding a home to rent. Some of it is out of our control, but we will do our best to get there as soon as possible and will be in contact as details fall into place. My best guess would be that we will arrive in Moreno Valley in early July.

I look forward to joining you in ministry as you continue to spread the Gospel to all people and serve your community. We are excited about this new chapter in our lives with you as our church family!

Your fellow servant in Christ, Pastor Anthony Paul Yearyean

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE!

Pastor Yearyean's installation as our pastor will take place on Sunday, July 3rd at 4 pm. A catered meal will follow the service. If you plan to partake in the meal, please fill out one of the yellow flyers included in the weekly announcement folders. They are also available in the church and office. We are asking our members for donations to help with the cost of the meal and other expenses so if you can help with this, please note it on the flyer also. And remember, this will be a catered meal, we will be paying for each one signed up so if you sign up and find you cannot attend, please let us know. **Please sign up by June 24th.**